



Starting the New Year 2016, PHF met with small groups of rural farmers to discuss the New Strategy.

H4H March 2016 Newsletter

PHF Pays It Forward with New Strategy



First farmer signs contract for New Strategy

The Harvesting 4 Haiti Foundation (H4H) has been providing financial and business assistance to the Haitian organization, Planting for Hope and Future (PHF) since 2013. The goal of this project is to empower Haitians by creating opportunities, independence and self-reliance. The project began with Phase 1, renting land to begin model farms in Southwestern, Haiti. The primary objective of this initial phase was to create model farms where farmers could observe farming techniques that would help them multiply yields, which has been incredibly successful. Many farmers in the area were so impressed with the fantastic harvest, in the middle of a horrendous drought no less, they asked for assistance from PHF. Now we're on to Phase 2, referred to as the **New Strategy**. Fifteen farmers initially met with PHF and all would like to be part of this program. PHF plans to add farmers as the H4H budget allows.



Farmer has big smile after signing, walking toward hope for a new future.

Land in Haiti is expensive, rarely sold, and passed down from generation to generation. Peasant farmers, even though they may own their own land, many times can not afford to buy seeds or fertilizer. Making matters worse, seeds and fertilizer have now doubled in price from last year due to the drought of 2015. Agricultural knowledge is another resource passed down by families, and is badly in need of new techniques and knowledge to increase yields. Therefore, PHF has planned the New Strategy, that will benefit both the rural farmer and PHF, creating a type of micro-financing. PHF will be purchasing seeds and fertilizer, in addition to sharing the agricultural knowledge of its experts, and the farmers will be providing their land as well as contributing all workers for planting, weeding and harvesting. After the harvest, PHF and the farmers will share a percentage of the profit. Even though PHF will now need considerably more acres to farm in order to become self-sustaining, this plan is paying it forward, helping rural farmers get started, as the H4H donors have done by helping PHF begin their dream of eventual independence. *"Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9*

Success, Even During 2015 Drought

March 1, 2016

Even though Haiti has seen the worst drought in 35 years, with farmers losing up to 70% of their harvest in some areas, PHF has remarkably done well. In 2015, 2,730 doz. eggplant were harvested and 323 doz. watermelon on Farms 3 & 4. Farm 2 has had seven plantain harvests since June, 2015, and Farms 3 & 4 are now ready to harvest 5,000 plantain in April. This is an extremely significant event, knowing that food insecurity is one of the highest in Haiti's history. PHF has persevered, finding a way to continue growing food, bringing it to the markets - an unbelievable accomplishment. PHF will continue to farm these model farms as long as their rent contract remains. Both H4H and PHF are grateful to God, as He has blessed this project abundantly.



Female retailer loading car with plantain bunches from Farm 2.



Farms 3 & 4 will be harvesting 5,000 plantain in April

Welcome Rosena, New Intern Begins

H4H and PHF would like to welcome Rosena Berlus, a volunteer intern, and graduate from Service Evangelization Education & Development (SEED). She has started with the New Strategy, wanting to add to her experience, working alongside the PHF team that has earned much respect within the agricultural community in Southwestern, Haiti.



Rosena signs volunteer contract with PHF team.



Rosena's first day on the job, helping contracted farmer weed new eggplant seedlings in nursery.