

The Haitian Project, Inc.
Community Update: Million Dollars Down the Hole, Again.
October 2, 2013



Top: Junior staff member Odson François breaks muddy ground on the playground drain while Volunteer Andrew Hyrcza removes standing rainwater; Volunteer Andy Roznowski and staff member Mackenson Bazylais apply pick axes to the dense dirt; Timothy Moynihan and Andrew dig out the final inches; large stones are ready to be added to the drain. Bottom: Roughly one million dollars worth of college education in a hole; scrap metal that cannot be recycled goes into the hole; Volunteers add small rubble; completed drain.

Victory: Three barrels of non-recyclable metal and glass are beautifully and responsibly disappeared. A new French drain has been created to keep the playground dry – and an already great team has bonded even more strongly.

Lest you think that I am exaggerating this weekend's win, here are some comments from the team:

It was a massive project, spanning from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. The only way a lengthy project like that works is if each person does their part. Some dug the hole, others transported dirt, others sifted rocks out of the dirt. Although you can't see the hole any longer, you can see that work was done. We eliminated metal scraps, glass, rubble from seismic renovations and the water on the playground now drains on its own. It was tough work, but it was also necessary work. – Volunteer Andrew Hyrcza

The community worked well together from start to finish. Around 10 a.m. ... it got tough. But with prayer and watching my comrades keep at it, we accomplished a lot. Deacon Moynihan gave us the necessary time for rest and rehydration, but God certainly gave me the strength to keep pushing those wheelbarrows from one end of campus to the other. – Volunteer Rachel Thelen

The group's ability to persevere and to complete the project as a unified team, even earlier than expected, impressed me the most. The amount of dirt we transferred to the compost was mind-blowing, but it was very satisfying to see all of the glass and metal disposed of in a responsible way. The campus is already much more beautiful without those overflowing drums of metal. –Volunteer Stacey Collins

The digging also provided an opportunity to take our annual "Million Dollars Down the Hole" shot, in which the Volunteer community, whose combined higher education expenses equal roughly one million dollars, stands in a hole.

Speaking of holes, October is always a tough month for us in fundraising. Maybe candy sales erode the base due to Halloween. Who knows? But, I would greatly appreciate everyone considering hitting the button below for a fall gift.

Peace, Patrick

To make a donation or to read recently posted community updates go to www.haitianproject.org

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Office of Community Development

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“What you receive as gift, you must give as gift.”
“Se gratis nou resevwa, Se gratis tou pou nou bay.”

---Matthew 10:8