

**The Haitian Project, Inc**  
**Community Update: We ARE Rebuilding Haiti!**



*A house can be a house, and still not be a home. THP continues its work to make homes. Pictured above in the top 2 panels, the transitional repairs of the Audelia house. We removed the makeshift tent with a weather proof tent and laid a cement platform. We begin structural repairs next week. Pictured at the bottom left is Alipse's house. The plan will be to take the existing building and rebuild out of block and wood and make a design so that the tree next to the house can stay. The fourth panel is the Dorcy house which we have reported on before is now near complete.*

While we await the Ministry of Education to allow us to move forward academically, we are pushing ahead on construction, clean up and cooperative volunteer work in the surrounding community.

The Dorcy house is 90% complete. It is a wonderful project because it has provided three benefits: housing, employment and education. The first two benefits are self-explanatory. The third, education, is less obvious. In this house, a structural improvement has been added that will greatly improve its strength to withstand earthquakes. It is a relatively simple building element [a bonding beam at the top of the walls tying the walls together], however, it was missing from local houses. Since three local bosses (work masons) participated in the building project, hopefully the technique will catch on.

We currently have four relief housing projects underway, one complete, and three more scheduled. Underway are the Dorcy House, Audelia House Repair, Alipson's House [combined wood and block] and Martine House.

We continue our community service programs. Below I'm happy to include short reports from our volunteers on other projects.

From THP Volunteer Jon Kennedy, our man in trash:

"Mountains of plastic are piling up at LCS. However, it is clean and resting in large storage containers waiting to be recycled--not strewn about. With the resumption of the cleaning of Route National 3, our bounty of plastic grows daily. Yet, the recycling operations at G.S. Industries, where LCS recycled over 230 pounds of plastic last fall, have not fully restarted since the earthquake. We are currently seeking alternative places to recycle our plastic and aluminum--environmental stewardship remains a priority for us. We know that recycling and trash removal are solid steps toward a better future here in Haiti."

THP Lead Volunteer Elissa Kergosien took a group of veteran community service students to work with our brother school, Saint Louis Gonzague (SLG):

"It was great to get to work with some of my Philo and Rheto students alongside a group of students from SLG. We worked together to clear a large field of trash and debris left behind from a tent camp on their campus. I couldn't keep from smiling in pride watching our LCS students interact with and model their strong work ethic to their SLG peers. Our students' example was truly beautiful evidence of what a special place LCS is and what a unique and important formation for their lives it provides."

Peace, Patrick

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To make a donation or to read our archived updates since the time of the earthquake go to [www.haitianproject.org](http://www.haitianproject.org)