



# H.E.R.O.

HOUSING EDUCATION *and*  
REHABILITATION *of* ORPHANS

[www.haitihero.org](http://www.haitihero.org)

888-315-HERO

[info@haitihero.org](mailto:info@haitihero.org)

## LAND ACQUISITION

Everything happens for a reason. H.E.R.O. was originally donated a  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre plot of land in the area of La Plaine, a suburb of Port-Au-Prince. The Haitian Government has taken most of the land in La Plaine through eminent domain, rendering our donated land unusable for the development of our residence for orphans and street children. We patiently waited for another opportunity, and what resulted was an opportunity worth waiting for.

Shirley Perry, a fellow teacher at Union School passed the information about our program to Patrick Brun, her uncle. Patrick is involved in many charitable projects in Haiti, and we are grateful for his involvement with H.E.R.O. Patrick coordinated a conversation between the Catholic Church, the Haitian Government, and the community of Albert in the province of Nippes. What resulted was the donation of 1.5 acres for the development of our residence for street children and orphans. The property is only a few feet from a river that will provide a continuous supply of water, and less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from the ocean.

It can only be described as an oasis.

[To Learn More About Our Project, Click Here](#)



### CONTACT US!

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Blog:

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## 501 (c)(3) TAX EXEMPT STATUS



Success! H.E.R.O. is officially recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit tax exempt public charity . The benefits of this recognition are immense, but the most important factor is the ability of our supporters, contributors, and donors to deduct donations for federal income tax purposes.

[For More Information About How You Can Help, Click Here](#)



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Words cannot fully describe the experience I had during the month of April in Haiti. After being evacuated ten days after the earthquake, I was eager to return and witness firsthand the progress and redevelopment that has taken place. The reality however, is that progress is slow, and the 1.5 million displaced families are only now beginning to see improvements in housing, food, and aid distribution. We cannot afford to forget about Haiti, and must remember that it still remains the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, a country that has always needed and will continue to need our support. Please keep the conversation alive about Haiti, and remind your family, friends, and colleagues that the struggle is not over.

H.E.R.O. experienced many accomplishments and successes during our month in Haiti. We began by distributing supplies that Michele (Secretary), Natacha (Vice-President), Lars (Photographer) and I brought for the students and teachers of SOPUDEP School. We provided 10 tents, 50 toiletry kits, and over 200 pounds of school supplies. Michele and I were recruited to teach English classes at SOPUDEP, an experience we will not forget. The school opened on April 12<sup>th</sup>, exactly 3 months after the earthquake struck Haiti. It was great to see children return to school, happy and excited to finally regain some normalcy in their lives. In addition to acquiring the land in Nippes, we also worked with a local architect to draw up preliminary plans for the residence for street children and orphans. Most importantly we formed strong relationships and bonds with both local and foreign organizations that are in Haiti to help the country and the people. The rebuilding of Haiti cannot take place unless the government, local and foreign organizations, and the communities work together. H.E.R.O. believes firmly in partnering with local organizations such as SOPUDEP, something we will continue to do.

With the acquisition of donated land and design of the street residence complete, we are close to accomplishing our mission of providing housing, education, and rehabilitation for orphans and street children in Haiti. As the President of H.E.R.O., my current responsibility is to find the resources and funds that will make the construction of our development possible. The faster we raise the funds the sooner we can complete our development and begin to aid the most disenfranchised youth in Haiti: orphans and street children. I sincerely hope that you will join us in our effort, whether through encouragement, support, or contributions to make our dream a reality. Together, we can make this happen.

Sincerely,

Steven Kirby, President



## TEACHING ENGLISH AND LEARNING KREYOL

Michele Deardorff (Secretary) and Steven Kirby (President) spent two weeks in April teaching English at a local Haitian school. Steven explained, "We learn more from people in third world countries than we could ever teach." As a result of collaborating with fellow Haitian teachers and interacting with the students both Michele and Steven were able to improve their Kreyol language skills immensely. Furthermore, they began to better understand the situations that the teachers and students face on a daily basis including lack of housing, clean water, and food. Despite these barriers, the students attended school daily, arriving and leaving with smiles on their faces. It was a testament to the power of education and resilience of children who so desperately want to learn.

For More Information About H.E.R.O., [Click Here](#)

## GET INVOLVED!

Your support is crucial to accomplishing our goal of housing, educating, and rehabilitating street orphans in Haiti. We encourage you to volunteer your time, knowledge, and experience to reach our goal. Whether it is planning a fundraiser or sharing best practices in solar power, construction, or community development, your assistance is greatly appreciated. We want to partner with you to access your knowledge and experience, to discuss our development, and form a bond that goes beyond that of a donation, but extends into a life-long dedication to serve the most disenfranchised youth in Haiti: orphans and street children.

## STAY IN TOUCH

We are using all available social networking services to stay in contact with our supporters, contributors, and donors. Please make sure to visit us on the Official H.E.R.O. blog at [haitihero.blogspot.com](http://haitihero.blogspot.com). You can also become a fan of us on Facebook. And don't forget, our website has a wealth of information about our programs in Haiti at [www.haitihero.org](http://www.haitihero.org). We encourage you to contact us with any ideas, comments, questions, or information that will help us to achieve our goals.

To Find Out More About Us, [Click Here](#)

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