



# Hope for Haiti®



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in honor of the first class of Public Health Graduates and their achievements!

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## **Congratulations to the First Class of Public Health Graduates!**

This month, Hope for Haiti commemorated the first graduation ceremony of Community Health Workers! The Public Health Program provided two years of vigorous training on identification, treatment and prevention of some of Haiti's most dangerous illnesses, including cholera, malaria, and typhoid. Throughout the training, the Community Health Workers taught lessons in 12 rural schools and held community meetings.



On Tuesday, July 17, 2012, 9 Community Health Workers--Lormil Frantz, Rose Sterline Dormeille, Falios Plesimond, Osnel Dessipe, Samuel Terasma, Guerda Augustin, Gladys Aladin, Pierre Louis Telor and Lucner Veillard-received certification of their proficiency and excellence in Public Health. Hope for Haiti Staff, friends, family, school directors, and priests from the rural Public Health communities gathered to celebrate the work of the graduating Community Health Workers. School directors and Fathers spoke on the impact of the Public Health Program in their schools and their surrounding communities.

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March 9, 2013*

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School Director Augustin of Cammy primary school, a rural community about 2 hours from Les Cayes, spoke passionately about Guerda and Dessipe's work in the school. "Dessipe and Guerda are always working," he said. "They sometimes ask to take some of my instructional time in order to do more health education with the students... It is a motivation to us all to see someone like Dessipe, who is currently studying in university, take so much of his personal time to follow this mission."



Lormil receives his certificate and graduation gift

Director Ernst Desir of Morency was overcome with gratitude as he commented on Hope for Haiti's ability and determination to reach some of the most rural communities in Haiti. "It is not often that you see an organization climb mountains and cross rivers to reach those in need. It is not an easy task and we thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!"

The overwhelming need and positive response from their communities drives the Hope for Haiti Community Health Workers in their work. They train on the curriculum modules so they can provide comprehensive health lessons and first aid care in their schools. For each of the Public Health Program's 6-modules, the Community Health Workers visited their local schools to teach students the information they had learned, using creative techniques such as skits, songs, and games to engage the students in their lessons. The modules ranged in topic from effective hand washing and sanitation habits for cholera prevention to identification of symptoms of common illnesses and their proper treatment. After the school-based lesson, the children share

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### **Kreyol/Creole Corner**

*Piti, piti, wazo fe nich li.  
Little by little the bird  
builds its nest.*



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their knowledge with parents and siblings.



*Public Health Nurse Miss Claudine speaks to the graduates*

"Your work is not over!" says Miss Claudine, one of the two Public Health nurses that worked constantly with the Community Health Workers to refine their competence in health education. The graduates plan to continue their weekly school visits, now as recognized health workers to build upon the initiatives started during training.

***For only \$40, you can support the  
Community Health Workers for one month  
as they provide health education and first  
aid to over 2400 students. Please consider  
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