

Impact:

Cisterns are vital for controlling torrential stormwaters which flood the lower lands and take away precious topsoil. The captured rainwater is then available for drinking, cooking, hygiene, and growing food.

Cisterns have been built for farmers, clusters of families, schools, and parishes. The chief Haitian mason has trained and employed additional masons, allowing cistern construction at a faster pace, expanding to wider areas of the region.

As of May 2026, a total of 708 cisterns and 257 yard gardens have been created!



Our Mission:

Passionate for the Gospel of Jesus Christ and witnessing to the legacy of Catherine McAuley, founder of the Sisters of Mercy, Mercy Focus on Haiti members are led to service and solidarity with people who are materially poor, especially those living in Haiti.

We partner with the Haitian people to meet their unmet needs and we collaborate with like-minded organizations.

Join many others in making your gift today and send it to

Mercy Focus on Haiti
P.O. Box 11
Gwynedd Valley, PA 19437

or you may donate online at
mercyfocusonhaiti.org



A Ministry of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas

Care for the Earth: RAINWATER HARVESTING



Children wash their hands at the school cistern.

Your support provides training and funding to build 500-2,000-gallon ferrocement cisterns in Gros Morne, Haiti. Cisterns collect rainwater for drinking, cooking, hygiene, and growing food. And consequently, they decrease damaging floods and erosion during storms.

Background:



Masons constructing a 1,500-gallon cistern.

In November 2020, local masons in Gros Morne, Haiti were taught how to construct ferrocement cisterns by hand using locally available materials. In that initial group, 19 masons learned the necessary skills and received certification of their rigorous training.

The masons went to work, first building the 500-gallon cisterns, then expanding their repertoire to build 1,500-gallon cisterns, and now some with a 2,000-gallon capacity. At first, they were able to construct five cisterns each month; their pace has grown to 20 per month!

Because of you, Mercy is present in Haiti.

Over the last year, MFOH has paired cistern construction with support for **257 life-sustaining yard-gardens**, and the number continues to grow as fast as the food!

Through training, land preparation, and the sharing of seeds for vegetables and fruit trees, this initiative is enabling participants to feed their families and to sell surplus produce at the market for children's tuition and other necessities.



"Dlo se lavi" ... Water is life!

In addition to soil improvements, erosion prevention, and flood control, children and women are freed from the physically demanding, time-consuming, and often dangerous trips to gather water from a distant river.

Your gifts feed families:



This program continues to prosper despite social and political challenges in Haiti.

MFOH is seeking funds to increase the availability of life-changing water to more food-insecure Haitian families.

If we fund 20 cisterns a month we will add 240 new cisterns in a year. For a family size of five, that is 1,200 family members directly impacted!

Journey with us, O God, and pour out your mercy upon us. Hand in hand, we plant seeds, water crops, protect shoots as they grow, so that together we may build a brighter future, a future of plenty for all.

Catherine Gorman/CAFOD