



HOPE FORCE INTERNATIONAL

A COMPASSIONATE RESPONSE TO CRISIS AND DISASTER

HOUSES OF HOPE – PHASE III

Haiti's devastating earthquake in January, 2010 galvanized the world to reach out to a nation suffering from untold destruction. Over four years later, Hope Force International (HFI) continues



to be actively engaged in providing basic necessities for Haitians in desperate need. Though the quality of life has been improved for many people in the village of Sous Savanne (located near the earthquake's epicenter), addressing the issue of long-term housing is a vital step in the recovery process.

The "Houses of Hope" project works with villagers to build durable, permanent homes, constructed of high-quality blocks, a concrete foundation and prefabricated roofing kits. This project is a vital step in meeting the dire housing needs of Sous Savanne and surrounding communities, where 90% of all homes were destroyed in the earthquake. These shelters can be built at a cost of \$5,300 each. A secondary objective is to build a latrine for each of the houses. The cost to build a latrine is currently \$1,100 each.

Qualifying & Participation Program

In Hope Force, we believe that it is very important that recipient families participate in the building of the house to instill pride of ownership. The candidate(s) agree to four qualifying classes--which include teaching on Biblical worldview, personal responsibility, stewardship, and health education. The family also engages in a community project before construction begins, and provides one bag of cement as a personal investment into the new home. The family members dig the foundation under the supervision of the contractor, and for the duration of the project, provide the water needed for mixing concrete, earning "sweat equity" in their new home. Finally, when the house is finished, the new home is dedicated with the presentation of a Bible and the keys to the home and prayer.



Brief description of block houses:

- Strong foundation made of rebar grid, concrete and a row of blocks around slab perimeter
- Walls made of quality, high pressure blocks that will be painted or plastered on exterior
- Rebar through each block, tying slab to perimeter beam on top of walls
- Dimensions: 200 sq.ft. interior room, plus a 55 sq.ft. covered porch
- Prefabricated roof structure made of pressure-treated wooden trusses and purlins
- Windows made of economical, slated breeze blocks to keep out rain
- Two doors: both equipped with door handles and locks