FALL 2026

OUTREACH TO HAITI

Espwa, our newsletter of HOPE

HELPING HAITIANS HELP HAITIANS

Can anything we do really make a difference in Haiti anymore?

It is a fair question, one we've heard after mission appeals or in conversations with loved ones who know how much this work means to us.

Haiti is facing extraordinary challenges. Political instability, violence, poverty, and economic hardship dominate the headlines. For those who have cared about Haiti for years, it can sometimes feel as though every step forward is followed by another crisis. You may wonder whether meaningful progress is still possible. Or whether your support can truly make a difference.

After 40 years in Haiti, we can tell you with confidence that it does.

This year, Outreach to Haiti marks 40 years of walking alongside the people of Haiti. That milestone is worth celebrating, but perhaps more importantly, it tells us something about the work we are doing today.

Through political upheaval, natural disasters, economic hardship, and now extraordinary violence and instability, Outreach to Haiti has remained. Our work has changed and adapted, but the relationships at its heart endure.

Every day, our Haitian staff continue to show up for their neighbors. They educate children, provide access to healthcare and nutrition, accompany families, support students, and create opportunities for a better future. They navigate circumstances most of us can scarcely imagine because this is their community, their country, and their work.

And we continue to walk with them.

That is what 40 years in Haiti means. It is more than longevity. It is 40 years of relationship, trust, lessons learned, and a commitment strong enough to endure even when the work becomes extraordinarily difficult. Outreach to Haiti is not simply an organization providing assistance from afar. We are a community spanning Haiti and the United States, united by the belief that the circumstances of a person's birth should never determine the limits of their future.



These children are just a few of the many reasons we remain committed to our work in Haiti.

Throughout this newsletter, you will see what that commitment looks like today. You will meet people whose lives are being changed through education, healthcare, nutrition, and opportunity. Their touchpoints with Outreach offer the clearest answer to the question we began with: **yes, this work matters. And yes, your support makes it possible.**

As we celebrate 40 years, I invite you to help ensure that it continues.

A gift in honor of our 40th anniversary is a vote of confidence in our Haitian colleagues and in the communities they serve. It says that instability will not have the final word. It says that these relationships matter. And it ensures that, after 40 remarkable years, Outreach to Haiti can continue showing up tomorrow, and for the years ahead.

Thank you for walking with us, and with the people of Haiti.

With gratitude, Dan O'Sullivan

Please join our family of sponsors today! Scan the QR code here to fill in an internet form or call our office at 860-800-3601.

40 Years of H



Our new building welcomes many from the local Christ Roi neighborhood and beyond.

A lot has happened since 1986. Here are a few organizational events and programmatic changes that have occurred over the years.

1986

A permanent presence

The Diocese of Norwich, under the leadership of then Bishop Daniel P. Reilly and Monsignor James Carini, establishes Haitian Ministries and opens its first mission house in Pétion-Ville suburb of Port-au- Prince.

1989

Hospice St. Joseph opens

The Sisters of St. Joseph and the Diocese of Lafayette, Indiana, establish a health and education mission in Christ Roi neighborhood of Port-au-Prince.

2000

Twinned parish ties take root

A twinning covenant formalizes the parish program in 2000.

2002

Hospice St. Joseph comes under the Norwich Diocese in 2002.

2010

A year of upheaval and renewal

The earthquake destroys both mission houses. In December, the two predecessor agencies merge to form Outreach to Haiti.



The Christ Roi building after the 2010 earthquake.

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elping Haitians Help Haitians



Health agent Fequiere Telemaque with moms and children on vaccination day.

2011

Scholarships and health outreach grow
Post-secondary scholarships expand. Health Agents begin home visits and vaccination work.



Currently, 101 malnourished children are receiving medical treatment and food kits.

2013
2014

Twinning and nutrition expand
US Twin Parishes expand beyond Connecticut to Wisconsin and Washington State. Enhanced nutrition programs support malnourished children and expectant mothers.



A food vendor supported through the microfinance program.

2016

Women build businesses
A small-business microfinance program helps women develop income-generating ventures.



Life skills training in the Education Program.

2022
2023

New building opens – building on holistic programs.
Education adds personal development for adolescent girls and tutoring; trauma-informed care and dental services follow in 2023.

Diocese of Norwich Outreach to Haiti
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The Gospel Mission Continues

Diocese of Norwich Outreach to Haiti's commitment to the people of Haiti is unwavering. Despite the current unrest, our programs continue to provide education, medical care and economic development opportunities to the people whom we serve. Our Parish Twinning Program extends our reach beyond our Outreach Center in the Christ Roi neighborhood of Port-au-Prince, providing similar opportunities in surrounding parishes, and is made possible by strong relationships between parishes in the US and in Haiti.

The Mission House Commitment

For the last 40 years, the Diocese of Norwich has maintained a mission house and a constant physical presence in Haiti. Though located in different neighborhoods and operated under different names, it has always welcomed groups and individuals.

Delegations from twinned parishes in the United States used the house as a way station before visiting partners in Port-au-Prince, remote mountain communities, or fishing villages along the Caribbean coast.

The house also has served as a weeklong home for participants in diocesan-sponsored immersion trips. Led by Outreach to Haiti staff or board members, these groups volunteered at twinned parishes, orphanages, and partner programs. They visited places of cultural significance, prayed at the memorial to victims of the 2010 earthquake, shared meals, and attended Sunday Mass at a local parish, an opportunity to join in spirit and community with the Haitian people and a powerful reminder of Outreach to Haiti's Gospel mission.



The front gate at the Outreach mission house.

Medical and dental teams, along with engineers working on water and construction projects, often rounded out the guest list, making for lively conversations at the dinner table or on the veranda. Friendships formed among travelers, Outreach staff, and those served by its programs. Regardless of why anyone came, each day began with liturgy.

Over the years, priests of the Diocese of Norwich lived at the mission house, beginning with Fr. Gerry Kirby and followed by Fr. Frank Rouleau.

Recent insecurity in Haiti has made international visits impossible, but the third floor of our new building remains dedicated to hospitality. When clinic staff have felt unsafe traveling home, some have stayed overnight so they could be there to receive patients the next morning.

Many of us miss being there and remain committed to returning when it is safe. Until then, the mission house, and the mission itself, endures as a sign that the Diocese of Norwich has not abandoned the Haitian people.