Fuller Center Haiti 2020 Updates

When COVID-19 swept across the world in March, countless nonprofits and international organizations were forced to shutter or suspend operations. Travel restrictions and economic contractions hit communities *hard*, and those already considered the most vulnerable, like Haiti, were hit the hardest. But despite the chaos, disruption, and obstacles, we've seen an incredible 7 Haitian families receive homes, and 3 more begin construction in 2020! Geral and our other Haitian partners have worked tirelessly to overcome supply line breakdowns, political turmoil, and absence of volunteers to continue this vital ministry.

Our community of former (and future) Haiti volunteers, team leaders, and donors together raised more than **$50,000** for Haitian homeowners. Thank you so much to everyone who donated and fundraised to partner with these resilient people. We want to show you what your generosity is building, so here are the pictures and brief profiles of these resilient families.

Yplener & Rosaline

Sponsored by: West Lawn UMC

Yplener, his wife Rosaline, and their 3 children and 1 grandchild lived in a basic shelter with packed dirt walls and muddy floors. Rosaline would cry as she explained how the house leaked so badly they had to put plastic on the bed to keep it from soaking through when it rained. They children were always sick with fevers and coughs due to the poor living conditions. But now they have a clean home of their very own, with concrete floors and walls and a roof, allowing them to live healthy and safe. Their tears of hopelessness have become tears of joy, thanks to your partnership!

Wilio & Juliana

Sponsored by: Vibe Homes

Wilio and Juliana lived with their three sons in a one-room mud house. Although most of them worked full time, their total income came to less than $1.25/day and they could not afford to move out of their small home that could not keep out the rain and dirt. The family was delighted to demolish their inadequate house and have been living in their new home since June 1st!

Francois St Louis

Sponsored by: John & Ruth Ann Hamilton and 96 donors through the 2020 Bike Adventure

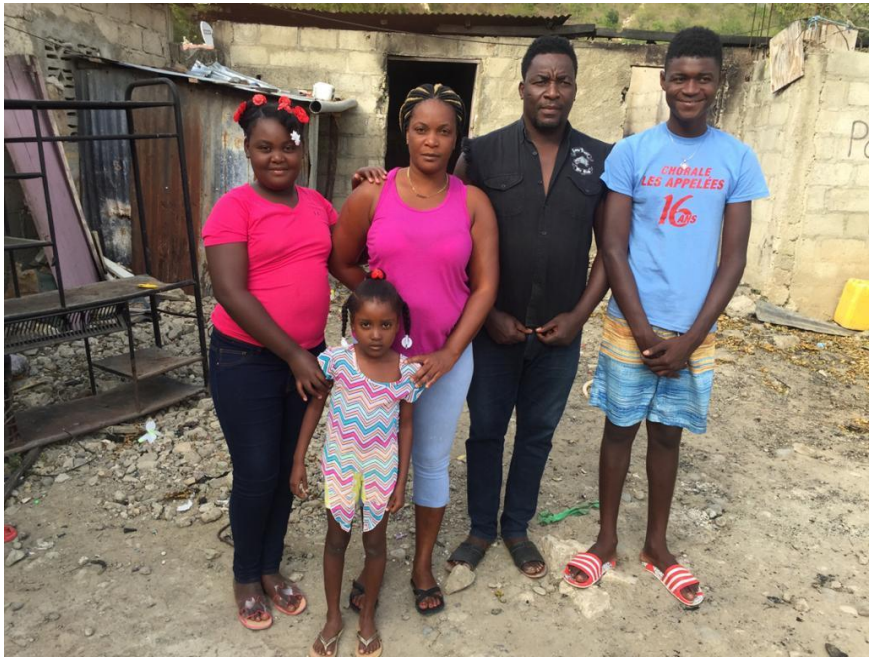
Francois St Louis lost his wife in 2019 and is raising their 4 children by himself. The only home he could afford to rent was a two-room shack with no kitchen, latrine, or place to shower. With a dream of owning their own home, he bought a piece of land, but couldn't afford the construction costs. Now, thanks to help from FCH Haiti, Francois and his children have their own safe, decent home where they can live in dignity. Thank you, John and Ruth Ann!

Rosena Dutervil

Sponsored by: Mike Oliphant and 60+ donors through the Global Home Challenge

Rosena is a widow who lost her husband in 2016 and is raising her three children on her own. They go to school while she works in the market selling fruit. While she makes enough to provide the basics, and was able to save enough to buy a small plot of land, she could never afford a decent home and was ineligible for a loan. With the help of FCH Haiti though, Rosena and her family now have a house of their own that they can be proud of. Rosena says she will continue to pray for the Fuller Center and is overjoyed about her home: “I feel like I will live longer with no more worries for rainy times and no more dust in my floor.”

Nesly & Wilna Augustin



Sponsored by: multiple donors

The Augustin's family's story is one of good people falling on hard times. Nesly is a member of the local group Top+ that works with FCH, he has worked with teams in the past, and is described as a "good Samaritan" by local FCH staff. In November 2019 Nesly lost his job and a few months later their home burned down, destroying all their possessions. But only a few months later, they received a large donation that allowed the family to start construction. In April 2020 Nesly and his family moved in to their new home and couldn't be happier. With the foundation of a safe, simple, and decent home they have begun to rebuild their lives even better than before.

Angelot & Cothiere

Sponsored by: Dave Cook and 15 donors through the Global Home Challenge

In 2017, while Angelot was traveling abroad in search of work and Cothiere looked after the children, their son tragically died from typhomalaria: a condition likely caused by their poor living conditions. Angelot returned home to his wife and two children and moved them from the muddy, dusty shack they had been living in, and into a cinderblock home that, for all the extra expense, was barely any better. And that was where they remained until a Global Home Challenge sponsorship raised enough money to help them build a new home! They moved into their house in November and now make payments they can afford for a house that's truly their own, and safe from the wind, rain, and dust.

Dessources & Zouna

Sponsored by: Mike Oliphant and 60+ donors through the Global Home Challenge

Dessources (67) and his wife Zouna (61) live in the countryside of Pignon with their 4 children and grandchildren. Despite a disability that leave Dessources unable to work, the family all works hard on their farmland growing beans, corn, yams, and bananas. The income from this was never enough to afford a decent home, and they lived for years in a shack that couldn't keep out the mud and rain and left tears in their eyes when they would describe it. But now they have a safe and sturdy house of their own that they can afford. Country Host Geral Joseph spoke with the family and told us: "Dessources cries, he has no words to express his emotions and is joyful. Even I can't describe the family's emotions and enthusiasm."

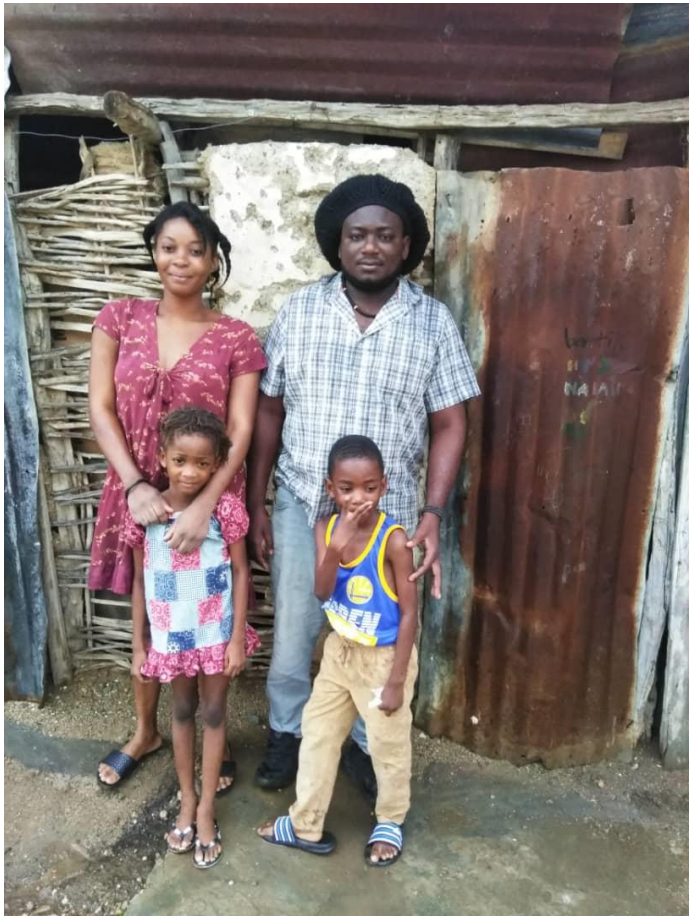
Wilnert & Jeanne

Picture coming soon

Sponsored by: Dave Cook and 15 donors through the Global Home Challenge

Wilnert and Jeanne lived for 25 years in a 150 sqft shack. With five children to support, times are hard and their living situation before partnering with the Fuller Center was miserable. With such a small home, many of the children were forced to sleep underneath the two beds they own, with the beds stacked up on cinderblocks to make them high enough. Their home is not yet finished, as progress was delayed by the pandemic, but they are pressing forward faithfully and just recently installed the roof. Wilnert and Jeanne are thankful to be that much closer to leaving poverty housing and are hopeful they will be in their new home by Christmas.

Imelda & Silencio



Picture coming soon

Sponsored by: Pat Klootwyk (Least of My Brothers)

Along with their twin son and daughter, Imelda and Silencio lived in a rented shack with muddy floors, rusty walls, and a roof that could barely protect them from the sun, let alone the frequent rains. When hurricane Laura struck in August and flooded their home, their situation went from bad to worse and left them in one of the worst living situations in Pignon. Although their new home is still under construction, they are excited to see the progress as work continues. Just recently they finished building the walls, and we are hopeful the family will be able to move in before Christmas.

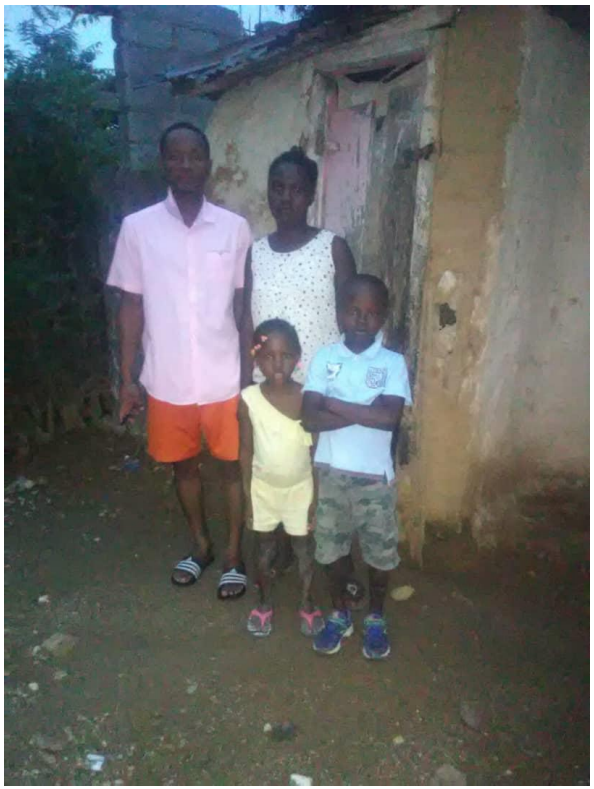
Alina Rosias

Picture coming soon

Sponsored by: West Lawn UMC

Alina is a widow living in Pignon with 5 of her children. The oldest, Ludnie (24) works to help Alina put the 4 youngest through school. Their home is in such poor condition that they refer to it merely as “shade”. On top of that, they rent their current space from a voodoo priest who prohibits them from singing worship songs or praying out loud. Alina and Ludnie stop by the FCH office in Pignon frequently, bringing tears to everyone’s eyes as they tell of their struggles. Their new home is now fully funded and currently under construction, and they hope to finish it before the end of December. Alina says she hopes they can spend Christmas “in a house that we will not see the stars and the moon when we wake up at night.”

Dorvil and Shelove (still fundraising)



Picture coming soon

Sponsored by: Mike Oliphant and 30+ donors through the Virtual Teams program

Dorvil and Shelove's home is not yet fully funded, so you still have the opportunity to help sponsor this house!

Dorvil Dieunel (34) and his wife Shelove (31) live with their two children Epraim (9) and Westessie (7) in Pignon. Dorvil's job as a store clerk and Shelove's job as a cleaner at a school bring in just enough for them to afford a one room shack with mud floors and crumbling walls. Shelove explains that every night she has to set up a bed on the floor for her children to sleep, except when it rains and they must all crowd into a single bed to avoid the muddy floors. The poor condition of their home cost the lives of their first two children, who died due to complications from the poor living conditions. It took them 5 years of saving to afford the piece of land on which their home will be built, and now they're only a little short of the funds needed to start construction! Visit fullercenter.org/upcoming-trips and scroll down to the Virtual Teams section to view Mike Oliphant's fundraiser for this house and help this family change their story.