



April 2022 Featured Project

Breaking the Cycle of Undernutrition in Haiti



TOGETHER WOMEN RISE

Introducing Second Mile Haiti

Breaking the Cycle of Undernutrition in Haiti

Fights childhood malnutrition and improve outcomes for children

- holistic, caregiver-centered approach
- meets immediate needs for food and health care
- invests in families through education, training, and income-generating activities



About Haiti

- Population 11.2 million, about the size of Maryland
- Poorest country and highest rate of maternal, infant, and child mortality in Western Hemisphere
- Prone to natural disasters, political uncertainty
- 4 million experience severe food insecurity; 10% of children under 5 underweight



Life challenges for women in Haiti

- Desperate parents are giving up children to orphanages
- 2010 estimate: 1 in 10 children were living in an orphanage – even though 80% had living family members
- 1 in 12 children will not reach age 5; severe child malnutrition expected to double in next year
- Maternal & child health factors: poverty, lack of healthcare, neonatal complications, poor sanitation, untreated and infectious diseases



The Project

Holistic approach to fight childhood malnutrition and improve outcomes for impoverished families:

- caregiver-centered approach meets immediate needs of children with acute malnutrition
- invests in women through education, support, skill-building, and income-generating business
- addresses prevention and pathways to self-sufficiency for women, their families, and the broader communities

6,400 DIRECT BENEFICIARIES AND 11,026 INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES



The Project

- 1. Malnutrition Rehabilitation** – Immediate nutritional and medical support; holistic rehabilitation for malnourished children and their caregivers in a semi-residential facility
- 2. Maternal and Newborn Health** – Comprehensive prenatal care, midwifery, safe place to give birth, and more.
- 3. Community Education** – family-centered, holistic, community-based education (nutrition and health, pregnancy spacing, gender-based violence, and more); successful graduates get an income-generating goat.



Budget

Item	Description	Cost
Personnel	Staff salaries and wages	\$20,250
Equipment	Equipment and tools needed for prenatal care and birth services, including electric sterilizer, ultrasound probe, Hemoglobin point-of-care testing machine, blood pressure monitors, stethoscopes, speculums, adult scale, infant scales, pediatric scales	\$1,250
Supplies	Small business kits to the caregivers of formerly malnourished children, education curriculum, garden/farm (seeds, goats, etc.), health/hygiene (cleaning supplies and soap), nutrition (formula, milk, food), medical (medicines, emergency hospital fees, etc.)	\$18,000
Telecommunications	Portion of phone communication costs to provide follow-up care to pregnant and postpartum mothers and caregivers of recovering children with malnutrition, including counseling and arrangements for emergency care	\$500
TOTAL		\$40,000

About Second Mile Haiti

- Founded in 2011 by Jenn Schenk and Amy Syres (then ages 24 and 25), who had been living full-time in northern Haiti and volunteering at an infant care center and orphanage.
- Community-based organization: all work occurs on the ground in Haiti, every employee lives in Haiti and 96% were born there.
- Accomplishments:
 - Housed 1,615 children/caregivers for malnutrition rehabilitation
 - Conducted 6,122 follow-up visits with children/caregivers
 - Helped 482 caregivers start small businesses
 - Helped 539 caregivers start home gardens

Share your thoughts

1. Why does the problem of malnutrition demand a multi-dimensional approach?
2. “When women hold the bread, everyone eats.” What does this mean to you?
3. How do you think this project promotes gender equality?



