

Dear Friend of Deep Springs,

We hope this message finds you safe and healthy. We wanted to give you an update on how Deep Springs' team in Haiti is adapting and responding to COVID-19 and announce an exciting [opportunity](#) to increase the impact of your donations.

As of May 3, Haiti's [Ministry of Health](#) reports 1,026 suspected and 100 confirmed cases throughout all ten regions of Haiti. Because of limited testing, experts agree the real number is far higher. Many families we serve have limited access to health care, and preventing the spread of COVID-19 is critical to avoid overwhelming already fragile health systems.

All of our team in Haiti is safe. Led by Jean Marcel Casimir, our team has set up an emergency response unit and has been hard at work preparing for a national response. We are one of the few organizations in Haiti that is led by Haitians and has experience providing both supplies and training for handwashing.

Deep Springs' Buckets in Action



Jean Robert Raymond demonstrates the use of Gadyen Dlo buckets as handwashing stations.

As we all wash our hands more frequently to protect each other, it's hard to imagine living without proper access to safe water to wash your hands. Our team is committed to delivering supplies people need to wash their hands safely at home and in the places they must frequent. In February, as part of an ongoing partnership with UNICEF, we distributed 14,000 buckets to families in Haiti's central plateau. In response to the start of the outbreak in Haiti, local institutions like hospitals, banks, radio stations, and gas stations are using over 900 of our buckets as handwashing stations.

As we all seek trusted sources of information on how to protect ourselves in this time, our community health workers are promoting preventive health messages to their neighbors, many of whom live far from a health center and are struggling to keep their families safe. Days after the first case was confirmed in Haiti, our team produced an educational radio spot that is being shared through radio stations, sound trucks, and megaphones.

As we all seek ways to protect each other, the Deep Springs' team is partnering with communities and organizations to equip health care facilities and community health workers with education materials and handwashing supplies.



We need your help to be able to provide our services to as many families as possible during this critical time. Through the support of generous donors, we are able to match your donations for our COVID-19 response up to \$10,000. This opportunity begins on Giving Tuesday Now and is available until all funds are used. We understand that this is a difficult time for us all, but if you are able to partner with us in this challenging time, please visit our website to [make a donation](#).

On a personal note, I've been very encouraged to see how our team has come together to look after each other. Our director Jean Marcel gave me a virtual tour of our busy production facility in Leogane, which reminded me of how we've adapted the same tools we've used for over a decade to meet specific needs in yet another crisis. I'm proud to see the whole Gadyen Dlo team springing into action under Jean Marcel's leadership and fulfilling our vision since the earliest days to empower Haitians to serve their own communities in life-giving ways.

Michael Ritter
President of Board of Directors