

# Hens for Haiti - Recent Highlights



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Winter 2014

By: Christina Lamour

## H4H Celebrating 5 Year Anniversary - Goals Expanded!

Hens for Haiti has come a long way from the hills of southwest Virginia and Gros-Morne, Haiti in 2009! Five years after its start as a student organization at Virginia Tech, founding members are more than ever promoting the development of small egg production businesses in rural Haiti by way of sustainable partnerships. Undaunted by a variety of challenges and obstacles, members enthusiastically embrace a review and expansion of the organization's goals and priorities.

At a regularly scheduled board meeting in October 2013, it was agreed that the main issue hindering business sustainability at several sites, was the cost of feed. The organization decided to make local feed production a high priority in future developments with a two-way approach: 1) contracting farmers in program areas to grow ingredients locally, and 2) encouraging project sponsors to provide machinery and training for staff to process and store the mixed feed at the facility site. Hens for Haiti will also make the same suggestion for new groups looking to venture into egg production. With an initial investment of only about \$5,000, programs can save much more in the long run without the need to pay high prices for the import and transportation of feed. In addition, local feed production will help to boost the Haitian farming economy by providing an alternative market for raw materials such as corn and beans.

Stateside, Hens for Haiti encourages more involvement from benefactors and other interested persons. Read about events and accomplishments in the quarterly newsletter, but don't stop there—become involved hands on! Skilled volunteers are eagerly welcomed for grant writing, outreach, marketing, and even potential training of staff in Haiti. Internship opportunities will also be made available for students wishing to gain more experience and earn college credit. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming more involved, contact us to share your thoughts and ideas!



## Officers

Christina Lamour  
Founder, President

Cameron Varano  
Co-Founder, Vice-President

Sherley Codio  
Local Representative

Larry Newman  
Board Member

Cody Lemieux  
Board Member

Michael Mercurio  
Board Member

## Contact or Donate

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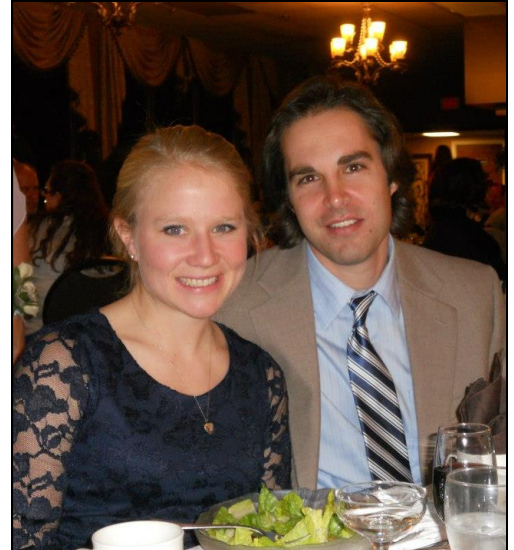


One Egg at a Time

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## Co-Founding Member Moves Back to the 'Burg

Vice President and Treasurer, Cameron Varano, is proud to announce her return to the Blacksburg area! After several long years of adventures in the northeast, Cameron returns to southwest Virginia with a happy heart. Among many other things, Cameron is excited to renew the relationship between Hens for Haiti and Virginia Tech. When asked how the move may impact Hens for Haiti, Varano states "I am excited about strengthening the ties where we first began. Blacksburg fosters growth, innovation and a sense of global responsibility- it is a very special place that way. Hens for Haiti embraces those same values, so I can only begin to imagine what rekindling and building new relationships here will lead to in the future." Cameron will be seeking research opportunities, potential internship candidates, and expert professionals that may be willing to volunteer time in service to the organization! If you're in town and would like to get involved, contact Cameron at [cvarano@hensforhaiti.org](mailto:cvarano@hensforhaiti.org)



Cameron and her husband, Nathaniel

### H4H Internship Opportunity

Hens for Haiti is proud to announce a new internship opportunity starting Spring 2014! A Fundraising, Outreach and Marketing intern is sought for a period of up to 6 months. If you or someone you know has a passion for the developing world and would like to gain more experience in the field, this may be the place for them! Please visit our [website](#) for more information regarding the responsibilities and requirements of the position.

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