

# Hens for Haiti - Spring 2019



POULAYE

## Updates to Facilities: Increased Efficiency

The Gros Morne hen house is eagerly awaiting a shipment of hens from a hen producer located in the Port-au-Prince area. In preparation for the arrival of the new hens, updates have been made to the water and feed systems, and, thanks to Haiti Water, the hen house now has a deeper well to supply its daily water needs. An expanded solar system (funded by grants facilitated by Quixote Center and University College Dublin, and installed by Green Energy Solutions) provides the capacity to produce feed on-site with a solar powered mill and mixer, as well as a solar powered water pump to fill the reservoir.

Local farmers can now sell their corn and soya to the hen house, and the hen house does not have to concern itself with the vast fluctuations in the imported feed market. With Purdue Improved Crop Storage (PICS) bags available in the on-site depot, which was constructed by volunteers from University College Dublin Volunteers Overseas, the hen house is now able to purchase the feed materials in quantity at harvest time when prices are lower and store the materials for future use.



*The hen house's new mill (Left) and mixer (Below) powered by the solar energy system.*



## Unrest: The Impact

During the month of February, Haiti experienced over two weeks of unrest throughout the country. Daily demonstrations and roadblocks caused major disruptions to businesses and basic daily life, with lingering issues like the irregular supply of gas and diesel continuing to plague the country. The prime minister was forced to resign and gang leaders continue to menace the population in specific zones, with the overall security situation still uncertain.

Amidst the unrest, many poultry operators were unable to travel to purchase feed from suppliers in larger cities such as Port-au-Prince. Teams were forced to find alternative local sources of chicken feed, but the change in feed resulted in decreased laying production from the hens. One group near Leogane, Highfield's Hens, recently purchased a grinder to begin making feed on site, but, unfortunately, had not yet put this practice in place when the security situation in the country deteriorated. Just recently, they were able to collect the grinder from customs and install it at the hen house site. Now, Highfield's Hens has the capacity to create a sustainable, locally sourced feed so they can better manage this important factor of a successful egg laying operation.

## Board of Directors

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## Contact or Donate

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## Helping Hands: Vet Tech

Roseline Magoffie, a native of Gros-Morne, became a certified veterinary technician two years ago, and most recently assumed the position of manager at the poulaye in Campeche. Roseline uses her skills to make vital veterinary care available to animal owners throughout the eight communal sections of Gros Morne. Thanks to her certification from the Ministry of Agriculture, Roseline is connected to the national network of veterinary technicians and is granted access to vaccines provided by the Ministry of Agriculture. Roseline trained to care for goats, cows, sheep, donkeys, chickens, and dogs. She sees great value in helping animal owners protect their investments.

Roseline supports small scale chicken owners by providing vaccinations and treatments for sick chickens. She also counsels chicken owners about the best feed sources for the chickens, and gives them advice about how they can manage their chickens to increase egg production. Roseline knows that chickens offer an opportunity for families to enter into income-generating animal ownership, and feels it is important to provide them with quality care so that they can grow this activity and support a way to respond to their basic needs.



Roseline Magoffie



## In-Country Consultant

Hens for Haiti is pleased to announce that, as of the beginning of April, Geri Lanham was contracted to assist with overall operations and assist in building the organization's capacity. Geri lives in Gros Morne, where the pilot project of Hens for Haiti was started by President Christina Lamour. Like Christina, Geri is a Quest program alumna who first became exposed to Hens for Haiti via her collaboration with the agronomy team at the Jean Marie Vincent Agronomy Center in the zone of Grepen in the Gros Morne area. Geri is eager to build upon and promote the sharing of information between the Hens for Haiti local partners as they strive to create lasting economic activity in their communities. As such, Geri has taken over more of the administrative duties of Hens for Haiti, including answering emails, updating the website, creating reports and newsletters, and conducting site visits. Geri believes that, as eggs are an important source of protein, this is a sector of agronomy that merits domestic expansion to better serve the Haitian people. For any inquiries regarding current or potential projects, please email Geri at [hensforhaiti@gmail.com](mailto:hensforhaiti@gmail.com).

## GET INVOLVED!

Hens for Haiti is always looking for new team members and volunteers! Lend your support through volunteer technical assistance or giving of time and talent! For more information on how to get involved with Hens for Haiti or how to partner with the organization on a potential poultry project, visit our website or contact Christie Lamour at [hensforhaiti@gmail.com](mailto:hensforhaiti@gmail.com). Hens for Haiti continues to be extremely grateful for all volunteers, Board Members, donors, and supporters who make this organization a success!