

Hens for Haiti, Inc.

2013 Annual Report

September 8, 2014



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Christina Lamour, President | Cameron Varano, Vice President, Treasurer
Larry Newman, Secretary | Cody Lemieux | Michael Mercurio*

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Acronyms

VEGA – Volunteers for Economic Growth Alliance
USAID – United States Agency for International Development
UCDVO – University College of Dublin Volunteers Overseas
H4H – Hens for Haiti
CGI – Clinton Global Initiative

2013 Summary

Hens for Haiti (H4H) continued to stay active in operations at the pilot project in Gros-Morne and started branching out to assist other groups interested in duplicating the project in Haiti. Overall, 19 different groups and individuals sought assistance from Hens for Haiti board members to learn more about the local egg production initiative and feasibility of starting a project in their area of support.

Although the pilot program faced many challenges including high feed prices, declining production numbers, unreliable water sources, and frequent changes in management, the operation still enthusiastically celebrated the one year anniversary of egg production and sales in Gros-Morne. Caritas Gros-Morne identified several challenges throughout 2013 that they plan to tackle in 2014 in an effort to increase production efficiency and sales to loyal customers.

Stateside, H4H board members submitted several funding proposals with little return. Individual cash and online donations provided the majority of funding for the non-profit in 2013.

Looking forward, H4H is excited to focus efforts on outreach, expansion, and duplication of the Poulaye pilot program.

Financial Report

2013 January Beginning Balance:	\$2,032.76
Donations/Grants Awarded:	\$14,625.00
Expenses:	\$4,789.33
2013 December Ending Balance:	\$12,058.43

Organizational and program expenses in 2013 totaled \$4,789.33 with the largest expenditures allocated towards emergency feed funding for the Gros-Morne hen house (\$4,000) and website/email maintenance (\$354.38). A detailed report of all 2013 finances is outlined in Appendix I.

Proposals Submitted

Hens for Haiti board of directors collaborated to submit three grant proposals in 2013. Unfortunately, no funds were awarded from these requests as outlined below.

- Cisco: Hens for Haiti pulled resources in June to submit a grant proposal to Cisco in the amount of \$73,720. These funds were requested on behalf of the Gros-Morne Caritas Poulaye for the purposes of purchasing cages, feed processing machinery and storage, poultry feed, 2,000 replacement hens, a stipend for the current agronomist on site, and a stipend for management and oversight. These funds were expected to move the program forward at a critical time of business adjustment. No funds were awarded from this attempt.
- Raskob: In October, a second attempt was made for project funding to the Raskob Foundation in the amount of \$55,374. These funds were again requested on behalf of the Gros-Morne Caritas Poulaye in an effort to improve business efficiency with cages, local feed processing, and replacement hens. No monies were awarded from this request.
- VEGA Alliance: Just before the New Year, Hens for Haiti made a huge effort in submitting a proposal of \$99,925.25 to the Small Grants under Farmer-to-Farmer Special Programs Support Project funded by USAID and administered by the VEGA Alliance. Hens for Haiti proposed to recruit and support ten expert volunteers in the fields of poultry management, health, and nutrition to provide trainings to poultry producers and small business owners of Haiti. The year-long program was to focus at the Gros-Morne Caritas Poulaye, inviting staff of all interested facilities to join and spread the knowledge. Hens for Haiti also desired to recruit more youth and young professionals involved from the US by partnering with the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, the School of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech, and local poultry business owners throughout the mid-Atlantic. Although the review committee at VEGA Alliance was appreciative of the concept paper, Hens for Haiti was not asked to move forward in writing a full proposal but was encouraged to apply in future rounds.

Grants Awarded

Although several proposals were submitted, no grant funds were awarded to Hens for Haiti in 2013.

Fundraising

Hens for Haiti continued fundraising online through the website, www.hensforhaiti.org. Alternative gifts were also offered for holidays and special occasions. An online merchant, CulturedCountry, agreed to donate 25% of its sales when Hens for Haiti was mentioned during the transaction. Hens for Haiti also opened an account with AmazonSmile where H4H will receive 0.5% of all purchases from customers indicating H4H as their choice of non-profit.

Outreach

All previous board members continued to stay active in 2013. Members of the Board of Directors include Christina Lamour, Cameron Varano, Cody Lemieux, Larry Newman, and Michael Mercurio. Brief descriptions of each member's qualifications and engagement can be found in the 2012 Annual Report. Board meetings were held quarterly in 2013 to keep programs and processes running smoothly and efficiently. To keep supporters and contributors apprised of happenings within the organization, quarterly newsletters were released electronically by email listserv as well as through the Hens for Haiti website. Examples of newsletters are included in Appendix II.

Because of increased outreach through the website, several inquiries were received from other groups working in Haiti showing interest in duplicating the egg production initiative. A total of 19 groups contacted Hens for Haiti in 2013 seeking basic information, advice on developing a business plan, or tips on starting their own business. From these inquiries, two facilities were developed near the Haitian cities of Jeremie and Jacmel, using the pilot program in Gros-Morne as a guide. Staff members from these new facilities travelled to Gros-Morne to shadow the work of the crew at the Poulaye and bring back good management techniques to their own operations.

In addition to the two completed facilities, Christina Lamour also travelled to Bas Limbe to assess the feasibility for a hen house project in the area. During her time, she gathered market information, visited several potential project sites, and created a business plan complete with budget and financial projections for consideration by the sister parish in the United States. Ultimately the group decided to table the project and to not move forward at that time.

Conferences and Presentations

In September 2013, Christina Lamour represented Hens for Haiti at the 2013 Clinton Global Initiative Annual Meeting. Christina attended presentations and small group discussions in an effort to gain further knowledge into the coalition as well as network with other like-minded organizations. Although the conference did not lend much in the way of funding or donor support, Christina was pleased with the opportunity to strengthen Hens for Haiti's relationship with the Clinton Global Initiative and hopes to continue that link in the future.



Communication and Visits to Haiti

Hens for Haiti found it increasingly difficult to maintain strong communication ties with members on the ground in Haiti. With unreliable electricity and internet, there was often a lag of several months before production and financial numbers were shared with the organization from the pilot program.

Christina Lamour and Larry Newman made a visit to Gros-Morne in January 2013 to help assess the needs of the pilot program in Gros-Morne as well as strengthen ties with other Haitian communities looking to duplicate the project. This visit proved successful to increase communication for the first few months following the trip, but quickly deteriorated as summer approached, leaving minimal to no communication by July and August.

Caritas Gros-Morne Poulate

The Gros-Morne pilot project faced several challenges in 2013 including skyrocketing feed prices, decreased egg production, and changes in management. Caritas Gros-Morne, with leadership from Guy-Marie Garcon, pushed through these challenges by brainstorming local solutions and asking only supplemental support from Hens for Haiti.

The Gros-Morne poulate was forced to sell off over half the flock in late 2013 due to low production rates coupled with high feed prices. The poulate was scheduled to replace the laying hens with a new flock in October 2013, but did not have the capital to do so. Therefore, the facility was forced to reduce the number of birds, and as a result, sales, to help decrease daily costs of the operation.



When faced with challenges in feed availability and cost, Guy-Marie immediately turned toward researching options for onsite feed production using locally sourced products. Local feed was tested on a small group of birds in October 2013 to monitor overall health and production as compared to the imported feed. When production numbers remained steady and the birds did not waiver in health, the local feed was introduced to the entire remaining flock in late November and December. The local formulation consisted of ground corn, wheat, grease, and moringa powder. Caritas Gros-Morne also received aid from a college volunteer group, University College of Dublin Volunteers Overseas (UCDVO), for the construction of a grain storage house on site to help further reduce feed costs by allowing the operation to purchase corn in bulk during the harvest season.

Next Steps

Caritas Gros-Morne recognizes the challenges faced by the operation in 2013 and plans to tackle the major issues before investing in a new flock. To start, the Gros-Morne pilot program will sell off the remaining flock and focus efforts on local feed production and storage. In addition to feed, the group must also address the challenges of management, communication, and reliable water. After a plan is in place to combat these issues, Caritas will seek funding to purchase a new flock of hens and re-ignite local egg production in Gros-Morne.

Timeline of 2013 Activities and Milestones

January

- Visit by Christina Lamour and Larry Newman to Gros-Morne, Gonaives, and Bas Limbe, Haiti.
- Evaluation for potential hen house in Bas Limbe conducted by Christina Lamour.

March

- H4H Board Meeting.

April

- Gros-Morne Caritas Poulaye celebrates 1 year anniversary of production and sales.

June

- Submission of grant application to Cisco.
- Release of Quarterly Newsletter.

July

- H4H Board Meeting.

September

- Attendance at the Clinton Global Initiative annual meeting in New York City by Christina Lamour.

October

- Submission of grant application to Raskob.
- Release of Quarterly Newsletter.
- H4H Board Meeting.

December

- Submission of grant application to VEGA Small Grants under Farmer-to-Farmer Special Program Support Project.

Goals for 2014

Hens for Haiti established the following goals for 2014:

- To step back from intense management of operations within the Gros-Morne pilot project in an effort to allocate responsibility to the local Caritas for decisions regarding daily production, finances, and decision making. Hens for Haiti will serve as an advisory board for all hen house projects using the model developed by the organization. The pilot program in Gros-Morne will remain an important asset to the organization as a training platform and model for testing new management techniques and solutions to operational challenges.
- To increase outreach and organizational involvement with groups looking to duplicate the hen house pilot project throughout Haiti. Hens for Haiti will provide an avenue for gathering, organizing, and disseminating information related to local egg and poultry feed production in Haiti.

Appendix I. 2013 Financial Report

Month	Expense	Donation	Balance	Description
January 1, 2013			\$ 2,032.76	2013 Beginning Balance
January		\$85.00	\$ 2,117.76	Check Donation
January	\$51.75		\$ 2,066.01	Click n Pledge fee from Donations
January	\$108.50		\$ 1,957.51	Web Domain Renewal
February		\$610.00	\$ 2,567.51	Check Donation
February	\$1.50		\$ 2,566.01	Click n Pledge monthly fee
March	\$2,000.00		\$ 566.01	Fonkoze transfer to Gros-Morne
March	\$1.50		\$ 564.51	Click n Pledge monthly fee
March	\$141.73		\$ 422.78	Check Order
March	\$25.00		\$ 397.78	Bank Maintenance Fee - Refunded in August
April	\$1.50		\$ 396.28	Click n Pledge monthly fee
April	\$25.00		\$ 371.28	Bank Maintenance Fee - Refunded in August
May		\$2,500.00	\$ 2,871.28	Check Donation
May		\$1,025.00	\$ 3,896.28	Click n Pledge Donation
May	\$2,000.00		\$ 1,896.28	Fonkoze transfer to Gros-Morne
May	\$20.00		\$ 1,876.28	Click n Pledge Fee
May		\$20.00	\$ 1,896.28	Click n Pledge Fee Refund
May	\$25.00		\$ 1,871.28	Bank Maintenance Fee - Refunded in August
June	\$31.35		\$ 1,839.93	Click n Pledge fee from Donations
August		\$75.00	\$ 1,914.93	Maintenance Fee Refund
September		\$5.00	\$ 1,919.93	Cash Donation
September		\$200.00	\$ 2,119.93	Click n Pledge Donation
September	\$99.00		\$ 2,020.93	Website
October	\$8.00		\$ 2,012.93	Click n Pledge fee from Donations
November		\$50.00	\$ 2,062.93	Click n Pledge Donation
November		\$50.00	\$ 2,112.93	Click n Pledge Donation
November		\$100.00	\$ 2,212.93	Click n Pledge Donation
December		\$10,000.00	\$ 12,212.93	Click n Pledge Donation
December	\$7.62		\$ 12,205.31	Click n Pledge fee from Donations
December	\$146.88		\$ 12,058.43	Purchase of Email Accounts
December 31, 2013			\$ 12,058.43	2013 Ending Balance
Total Donations			\$14,625.00	
Total Expenses			\$4,789.33	

Hens for Haiti - Recent Highlights



POULAYE

Spring 2013

By: Christina Newman

Poulaye Kanpech Celebrates One Year Anniversary

April 2013 marked the one year anniversary of egg production and sales at the hen house pilot project near Gros-Morne, Haiti. Despite a few struggles and setbacks, the operation is proud to report high sale percentages and low animal loss.

The first year of production has allowed local staff to hone techniques of efficient production and effective business management. Caritas agronomist, Guy Marie Garcon (pictured right), continues to be highly involved in the management and oversight of the egg production facility. Guy Marie's experience with animal husbandry and financial management have proven invaluable to the success of the operation in Kanpech. Guy Marie's expertise has also been sought to train staff from similar poultry production facilities throughout Haiti. We are grateful to have Guy-Marie as part of the team and look forward to highlighting his skills further as the programs of Hens for Haiti expand.



Caritas agronomist, Guy Marie, Garcon, proudly shows the success of the Poulaye

Next Steps

Now the time has come to think ahead for continued success of egg production in Gros-Morne. Challenges continue, notably the increased cost of feed and the need for replacement hens as current stock begins to show age. Although egg sales are soaring, the business cannot achieve independent economic sustainability with current feed prices and the threat of decreased production. Hens for Haiti believes that the best solution moving forward is to decrease the operation's dependence on imported feed by contracting local farmers to produce the needed ingredients and invest in milling machinery and storage space necessary to supply feed on site. Not only will local feed production help to decrease operational costs, but contracting local farmers will also give these subsistent laborers a secure market for their products. For more information on the progress of this effort or to get involved in fundraising, contact hensforhaiti@email.com

Officers

Christina Newman
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

Mailing Address:
Hens for Haiti
c/o Cameron Varano
964 Riverview Rd
Rexford, NY 12148

E-mail:
hensforhaiti@gmail.com

Website:
www.hensforhaiti.org

One Egg at a Time



POULATE

Spread the Word - And the EGGS!

In 2012, representatives from Hens for Haiti attended more than six conferences throughout the United States giving oral presentations and sharing information at tabling events. Many groups were interested to hear of the ideas for economic stimulation coming from Gros-Morne, but were unsure of how the concept would fit into goals for sustainability in their own twinned communities.

Hens for Haiti recognizes that each program and community is unique and that egg production may not be the best option for all groups. However, with projects that can be modified and tailored to specific needs and priorities of each community, the concept can be easily replicated. For this reason, Hens for Haiti offers insight into the qualities necessary to initiate and sustain a successful poultry business. Representatives familiar with the demands of developing a facility offer complimentary feasibility assessments including a potential business plan for all groups considering local egg production. To learn more about the steps to developing a poultry business in Haiti and the questions that must be asked of the host community, please visit our [website](#) or contact a representative from the organization.



Employees of GE can now **DOUBLE** their donations to Hens for Haiti (H4H) with the GE Foundation Matching Gifts Program. Each donation to H4H by a GE employee will be matched by this program. Thanks, GE for supporting this great cause!

Know a GE employee? Encourage them to donate today to see their generosity stretched even further!

Does your employer offer similar programs? Let us know and we'd be happy to look into it!

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Blogger <http://hensforhaiti.blogspot.com/>

HensforHaiti.org

Hens for Haiti - Recent Highlights



POULAYE

Fall 2013

By: Christina Newman

H4H Connects at CGI 2013

Hens for Haiti first became involved with the Clinton Global Initiative in spring of 2009 when a student group from Virginia Tech traveled to Miami, FL for the annual meeting of CGIU. At the meeting, Hens for Haiti was honored with an Outstanding Commitment Award from former President Bill Clinton including a \$8,000 grant from Walmart to jumpstart the Gros-Morne pilot project. Since that time, Hens for Haiti has been involved with CGI in various capacities including tabling at the 2010 CGI annual meeting in New York, attending the 2011 CGI San Diego meeting, and serving as a mentor and speaker at CGIU in 2012 in Washington, DC.

This year, Hens for Haiti president, Christina Newman, was offered complementary membership into CGI and invited to attend the 2013 CGI annual meeting in late September. At the event, Christina boasted about the program's successes as well as sought advice to tackle some of the many challenges. Hens for Haiti strives to strengthen its relationship with the Clinton Foundation and other CGI members as collaboration increases in Haiti.



Alternative Gift Giving

Looking for that unique holiday gift or end of year tax deduction?

Consider purchasing an alternative gift card through Hens for Haiti! Cards are available through www.hensforhaiti.org and can be personalized for any special occasion! Give the gift of a hen for \$10 or bag of feed for only \$30!

Opportunities are also available to support a Haitian staff member or new project improvement. Contact hensforhaiti@email.com for more details.

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Contact or Donate

Mailing Address:
Hens for Haiti
c/o Cameron Varano
964 Riverview Rd
Rexford, NY 12148

E-mail:
hensforhaiti@gmail.com

Website:
www.hensforhaiti.org

One Egg at a Time

POULAYE



On-Site Training, Research, and Internship Opportunities

Hens for Haiti strives not only to stimulate employment, nutrition, and sustainable business practices in Haiti, but also to foster growth of the initiative through research and local trainings. Communities that decide to duplicate the Poulaye model have the opportunity to visit Gros-Morne and work alongside seasoned managers and facility caretakers. Several groups have already taken advantage of this opportunity by sending staff to Gros-Morne for as long as a week at a time to shadow the day to day activities and business practices implemented at the egg production facility. This training allows newly appointed staff to become familiar with biosecurity precautions, feeding, egg collection, cleaning, sales, and marketing techniques before their own businesses are up and running.

In addition to local Haitian trainings, Hens for Haiti also offers research and internship opportunities for institutions within the United States. Hens for Haiti is always looking for ways to improve production efficiency and business practices within the supported businesses in Haiti. Students and professors are encouraged to become involved through research such as local feed formulation, product quality and grading, marketing and sales techniques, and facility design in relation to production efficiency. US-based internship opportunities range from fundraising and grant writing to program promotion and outreach.

Hens for Haiti believes that collaboration with local organizations both in Haiti and the US is the key to success in solving the many challenges facing the Poulaye initiative. For more information on current opportunities or how to become involved in creating new ideas, contact Christina Newman at hensforhaiti@gmail.com or visit our [website](#).



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