



Rural Renewal – Sustainable Villages

Transforming Lives, 2011

Haitians are reliant upon 60% imported food; thus, they have lost the knowledge of how to grow their own. In addition, 70% of rural Haitians have no access to clean water and only 20% attend school. Because jobs are scarce in remote areas, many Haitians are forced to flee to slums in larger cities or to send their children into slavery. CCH has been working with motivated grassroots communities to bring sustainability to small villages.

The Rural Renewal Project is a method for village communities to analyze their needs, work together to plan and implement solutions, and to achieve the dignity of self-reliance. This approach focuses on smaller, more flexible interventions, specifically targeted to each rural village's basic needs for sustainable agriculture, clean water, health, income generation and education.

Goals:

- 1) **Strengthen the inherent dignity, ingenuity and determination of the Haitian people as they see, do and believe in themselves.**
- 2) **Raise the sustainability of rural areas of Haiti, village by village.**
- 3) **Build on Haitians' capacity to work together to achieve common goals for improving their communities through Haitian-designed, implemented and managed strategies.**
- 4) **Help Haitians realize they need each other to live as God intends.**
- 5) **Provide an assessment mechanism for pinpointing where rural communities are on the "ladder" of development and where they want to be in the future.**
- 6) **Measure the success of projects, short-term and long-term, and adjust as needed on the local level.**

Costs: Adopt a village for \$2,500-\$5,000 (based on village needs)

