



Bois Paul Community, Haiti

MAREUS' FIGHT AGAINST CHOLERA

In October 2022, the Haitian government announced that cholera cases were skyrocketing across the country. This news was especially concerning for the small community of Bois Paul in northern Haiti, where there was little to no health and hygiene infrastructure. In fact, the 400-person community only had three latrines for everyone, forcing many residents to practice open defecation. Within six months of the government's announcement, the community reported more than 20 cases of cholera.

Mr. Mareus Daniel has lived in Bois Paul for 20 years and has first-hand experience with sicknesses brought on by unsafe sanitation and hygiene practices. As a church leader in his community, he has participated in several sanitation and hygiene trainings led by Living Water Haiti. With the threat of the cholera epidemic looming, he felt compelled to mobilize his community by raising awareness of sanitation and hygiene best practices. He, along with a group of committed neighbors, reached out to Living Water Haiti for help. The group received cleaning supplies from Living Water and quickly began distributing materials by traveling from house to house.

Mr. Mareus knew that access to safe water and soap could only go so far—his neighbors needed to understand the importance of handwashing and other hygiene behaviors. So, he and a Living Water Facilitator created a community health club. Each week, nearly 60 people attend trainings to learn ways to safeguard their health and disseminate information to other community members.



Bois Paul is a rural community with very little access to public infrastructure.



Mr. Mareus is an agent of change in his community.

Now that the community is equipped with safe water, cleaning supplies, and knowledge of sanitation and hygiene practices, life has completely changed. The community is healthier now that people know how to wash their hands, prepare and keep meals, store safe water, and properly dispose of waste. To date, there hasn't been a single new case of cholera!

Mareus shared his immense gratitude for access to sanitation and hygiene training. He said, "We thank the Lord for the presence of Living Water in our region. Thank you for training us and accompanying us so that we can take our destiny into our own hands. Living Water has a lot to do with the fact that we have no more cholera cases in Bois Paul. We sincerely hope that other communities will follow suit. Never cross your arms in the face of a problem or a challenge, but rather confront it."

Praise God for healing in Bois Paul!



Sanitation and hygiene meetings like this have transformed the community's health.