



Ouanaminthe Community, Haiti

LIVING WATER SURPASSES WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

In Ouanaminthe, Haiti, Mayor Luma D  m  trius' journey with Living Water International is a powerful depiction of how community trust shapes a water system's success. As the school principal, Mr. D  m  trius witnessed how the lack of safe water at his school, Institut Vision Nouvelle de Manquette, negatively impacted the students' learning outcomes. When Living Water Haiti drilled a new safe water well at the school, the community was excited, but skeptical that a water well could provide safe water.

Years prior, the community members had experienced the devastating impact of unsafe water on their health. To combat this, many families in Ouanaminthe spent a significant portion of their income buying bottled water. The residents knew the consequences of unsafe water and worried that returning to a water well would bring illness to the community.

Determined to ensure the well-being of his students and family, Mayor D  m  trius consulted Living Water's technicians. They assured him the water was safe and had passed Living Water's quality standards. Still cautious, Mayor D  m  trius sought further verification. He decided to take a sample of the water to the State University of Haiti, known for its reputable laboratory.

Despite initial skepticism from a university professor, the lab technicians ran the well water through rigorous testing. The results were indisputable: the water was safe. The university laboratory issued a certificate of potability to the school administration, confirming the water met all safety standards. This assurance marked a turning point for the school community.

Mayor D  m  trius then addressed church leaders, political authorities, and water department officials, promising full municipal support for Living Water's programs. He said, "In my school, over 600 children drink this water, and not one of them has ever fallen ill." The school community, once doubtful, now embraced the well water, confident that Living Water International provides only the safest water.



Mayor D  m  trius shares his praise for Living Water's quality standards with local news outlets.



The community members participate in a sanitation and hygiene activity, where they learned how to keep the water in their well safe.