



Manquette, Haiti

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Residents of Manquette showed incredible resilience in the face of a dire water crisis. When their hand pump fell into disrepair, residents had to rely on water trucks or unsafe river water for survival. Isaac Gabriel, a 45-year-old electrician, shared: "We had to buy a [water] container and share it, dividing it gallon by gallon. Some people went to the Massac River, which was almost a two-hour walk. We needed money to buy water for everything. One day, we were waiting for the truck to bring water, but it didn't come until late in the evening. We had no water—it was very hard. No water to bathe, for personal hygiene, to cook, or anything else. Many children couldn't go to school that day."

Relying on a limited and sporadic water supply made it impossible to maintain adequate sanitation and hygiene. For those who relied on river water—exposed to animal feces, insects, dirt, and rain—every sip exposed them to dangerous waterborne diseases. In either scenario, residents were left to cope with stress, illness, and financial strain.

Yet, amid such despair, hope remained. Local leaders sought a sustainable solution, so after hearing about Living Water International's work in the area, they immediately reached out for help. Living Water Haiti responded by drilling a borehole, installing a new hand pump, and leading several sanitation and hygiene workshops. Not only does reliable, safe water flow freely in Manquette, but residents have the skills they need to thrive for years to come!

"Now, we'll have safe water in our community that is easily accessible and reliable. We'll be able to save money because we won't need to purchase water any longer," Isaac concluded.



The Living Water staff drills 40 meters to reach a safe, underground aquifer, allowing the borehole to express itself. After treating and testing the water for safety, they will install PVC piping and a new hand pump.



Isaac Gabriel [left] shares his community's experience living through the water crisis with a Living Water team member.