



Haiti: Pathways to a Better Life Program Spring 2026 Progress Report

You Empowered Marginalized Women in Haiti Through Financial & Social Inclusion

Thanks to your commitment, in partnership with Opportunity International and Fonkoze in Haiti, 400 families are making meaningful progress toward more secure and hopeful futures. Families are experiencing less hunger, improved health and sanitation, safer homes, and more stable livelihoods. Through your support, more than 2,000 people, including children and other family members, are already benefiting.

In Lascahobas, a second group of 150 women began the program in March 2025 and are steadily building stable incomes, safer homes, and improved family health. In Thomassique, another 250 women began their journey in December 2025 and are now taking their first steps toward lasting change.

Through targeted training, consistent mentoring, and access to social and financial inclusion for the first time, these women are gaining the tools and confidence to plan and create brighter futures for their children.

We are pleased to share an initial report on the Thomassique cohort, along with a progress update on the Lascahobas cohort, demonstrating the impact your partnership is already making possible.

THE IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT

INITIAL REPORT: THOMASSIQUE

After extensive community engagement through 10 separate community meetings, 250 families began the program in December 2025.

Coaching and Home Visits

Home visits began immediately after program launch, starting with baseline surveys to understand each family's situation. Key findings related to health, nutrition, and sanitation are summarized in the table below.

Asset Transfers for Sustainable Income

In the past year, Fonkoze has changed its asset transfer process for both income-generating and home improvement investments. Instead of receiving physical assets directly, participants now receive funds to purchase them.

This shift has strengthened the program by reducing shipping delays and risks, while also building participants' confidence and skills in sourcing, negotiating, and purchasing assets for themselves.

Indicators: Health, Nutrition, Sanitation	Baseline
Often go a day or more without a meal	35%
Meals per day	1.45
Signs of untreated malnutrition	1%
Use treated drinking water	43%
Access to a latrine	28%
Home in good condition	17%

Sustainable Assets & Income	Baseline Assets	After Initial Transfer
Goats	38	208
Pigs	15	42
Poultry	76	168
Small Commerce # of members	10	86
Small Commerce Value in HTG	4,375	14,593
Horses, Cows, Donkeys & Mules	5	7

Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs):

Nine VSLAs were launched in February, each with 25 to 30 participants. All nine groups selected an initial share price of 100 HTG and a weekly savings contribution of 25 HTG (\$0.25 CAD).

PROGRESS REPORT: LASCAHOBAS COHORT 2

Status of Program Objectives

The cohort of 150 families launched in March 2025 and is progressing as expected.

Objective 1: Participants receive capacity-building training, income-generating assets such as livestock or small business inventory, and intensive coaching to develop sustainable income streams.

Update: Three multi-day training sessions have been held, and home visits are ongoing. Funding for income-generating assets has been disbursed.

Objective 2: Families will eat nutritious food, receive appropriate healthcare, and protect themselves against illness and disease.

Update: Monthly stipend distributions are helping families meet basic needs so they can focus on their development and program goals, rather than searching daily for food and work. Initial malnutrition screening has been completed.

Objective 3: Families will transform their makeshift huts into secure, weatherproof homes.

Update: Ongoing, with 56 homes completed.



Objective 4: Families will use latrines and water filters to maintain good health, hygiene, and a cleaner environment.

Update: Water filters have been distributed and installed.

Objective 5: Women will gain access to secure, informal financial services, including Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs), to accumulate savings and access small business loans.

Update: Six VSLAs have been established, and most members are contributing small amounts of savings. Loans are being disbursed from members' savings.

LOUDIANA'S JOURNEY OF RESILIENCE AND HOPE

Loudiana has been the sole provider for her 10-year-old daughter, having become a mother at just 17 while still in the ninth grade. "I am both mother and father to my girl," she explains, as the child's father has never been involved or provided any support.

Life became even more challenging after Loudiana's own father—her only source of support—passed away. Left to fend for herself, she tried to start a small business, buying bunches of plantains on credit from neighbours to sell at the market down the mountain. At the end of each day, she would return to pay off her debts. Despite her efforts, she could not earn enough to feed herself and her daughter.

Determined to provide for her child, Loudiana worked as a housemaid, earning about 3,000 gourdes (less than \$25) per month. Through careful management of her limited income, she saved enough to try running a business again, this time selling staple goods. However, without the capital to buy from wholesalers, her costs remained high and profits low. Still, her small venture allowed her to feed her daughter and keep her in school.



Growing assets, growing confidence

Since joining the Pathways to a Better Life project last March, Loudiana's life has changed. With support from the program, she purchased two goats and invested 10,000 gourdes in her business. Her herd has since grown to six goats, including two kids born from her original animals and two more acquired with earnings from her business.

Loudiana's enterprise has flourished, even covering the costs of building materials and labour for her home. Having a safe home for herself and her daughter was her biggest dream. Thanks to her determination, along with the project's support for housing repair, that dream is now a reality.

With her improved income, she can now purchase larger quantities at lower bulk prices for her small trade business. However, transporting heavy goods to and from the market remains a challenge, and she currently pays others to help carry them. Her next goal is to purchase a donkey or horse to overcome this obstacle.

Planning for the future with confidence

Loudiana says she is proud to have achieved one of her main ambitions—building her own home. She regularly contributes to her VSLA to save toward her next goal.

For Loudiana, the key to moving forward is managing her business well, enabling her to continue saving and planning for a better future for herself and her daughter.

Thank you. With your support, 400 families are working their way out of generational ultra-poverty toward lives filled with opportunity and hope.