

Transforming a nation: One community at a time

Sustainable water & sanitation for 43,263 people in Pignon

Pignon is a commune in North Haiti, 62 km from Cap-Haitien, it is limited to the Centre Departement. It has two communal sections: Savanette and La Belle Mere.

Life in Pignon Haiti is marked by resilience and spirit of unity even in the face of various challenges. Foremost due to the lack of proper sanitation facilities, particularly the absence of latrines in many houses. Given that this is a critical aspect of daily life, the lack of facilities poses significant difficulties for the local population.



Recognizing the essential role these facilities play in daily life, residents can face numerous challenges that impact their health and hygiene. The absence of adequate sanitation facilities contributes to the spread of waterborne diseases, making communities vulnerable to illnesses such as cholera and other gastrointestinal infections. Recently, cholera has been an increased threat to the citizens of Pignon. The citizens of Pignon are steadfastly embracing change, turning challenges into opportunities for growth and betterment.



Rotarians in Pignon, Haiti and Northern Florida are working together in collaboration with HANWASH to modernize and upgrade the existing water system in the Pignon Commune. This group works closely with the regional water authority OREPA, DINEPA, and the mayor's office to ensure that all project activities follow local guidelines and are sustainably managed as project reach continues to expand throughout Pignon.

Project Location: Pignon Commune
Host Club: Rotary Club of Pignon
International: Rotary District 6940
Northern Florida, USA
Initial Project Budget: \$302,525 USD



Rotarians in Action in Pignon

What is life like in Pignon?

Pignon's economy thrives mainly on agricultural activities, particularly centered around sugar production, the harvesting of citrus fruits like lemons and oranges, as well as coffee cultivation. This economic foundation sustains the community and provides a sense of purpose. Moreover, Pignon boasts an exceptional local hospital, Hospital Bienfaisance, which stands as a testament to their commitment to healthcare and well-being.

Residents of Pignon cherish their town as an ideal place to live and work. In the backdrop of this serene and safe environment, a prevailing sentiment emerges—Pignon is a place where life unfolds peacefully. This tranquility not only shapes their daily lives but also enriches the close-knit bonds within the community. On a higher elevation, a prominent sign reading "PIGNON," reminiscent of the iconic Hollywood sign, proudly stands, further illustrating the uniqueness of this commune.

How will this project benefit the community?

By modernizing and upgrading the water system, the local population will have improved access to clean and safe water, allowing them to focus on other aspects of their lives without the constant worry of water scarcity. This, in turn, will lead to increased productivity, better educational opportunities, and enhanced overall well-being for the residents and businesses of Pignon.

What has been completed so far?

HANWASH is currently focusing its efforts on modernizing and bolstering water infrastructure. The funds allocated to the project have been effectively utilized in several key areas. District Metered Areas have been established and provide pressurized water 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, for subscribing homes and businesses. Technology, such as Remote Meter Monitoring, has been implemented to ensure efficient water supply monitoring. The deployment of Acoustic Leak Detection Equipment will serve to swiftly identify and address potential leaks, minimizing water wastage. A solar array is being successfully installed at the pump house, aligning with sustainable energy practices. In addition, training sessions have been conducted to equip the local community with the necessary skills to operate and maintain equipment.

What is HANWASH?

HANWASH is a partnership between Rotarians and the Haitian government at national & local levels. Rotarians in Haiti and globally bring their voices, raise money, and volunteer their time to support the country's institutions to reach everyone with WASH.

22 Rotary Clubs, 16 Rotary Districts, and external partners provided nearly US\$500,000 for the first phase of the rehabilitation of the water system.

Your HELP is still needed!

**Ongoing funding will be required to meet the vision
of safe and affordable water and sanitation for all.**

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HANWASH

Haiti National Water, Sanitation
and Hygiene Initiative

