

## Phase 1 Haiti Parish Visit – North Department Highlights

We extend heartfelt thanks to all PTPA members who supported the first phase of the Haiti Parish Visit Pilot Program. Your engagement allowed us to reconnect in person with parishes on behalf of their U.S. twin communities; many of which had not been visited in years. Your commitment continues to strengthen these vital relationships.

This pilot was not only about gathering information; it was about **listening, learning, and deepening mutual understanding**. Parishes welcomed the chance to share their realities and expressed sincere gratitude for the unwavering support of their U.S. partners.

A key insight from Phase 1 is that Haiti parishes view these visits as opportunities to:

- **Celebrate progress** made possible through their U.S. twin parish
- **Communicate ongoing priority needs** essential to sustaining their ministries

These needs should be understood as part of healthy, transparent dialogue not as new requests.

The findings below reflect data from the **10 participating parishes**. As the pilot expands to other regions, we will continue to consolidate and share broader insights.

### Key Findings

#### **Teacher Salaries (per month | in Gourdes)**

- **Average:** 13,475 Gdes
- **Median:** 15,000 Gdes
- **Range:** 6,250 → 19,000 Gdes

#### **Most Common Priority Needs**

Area of Need	Description
Infrastructure Repairs	Church and school maintenance
Transportation	Reliable mobility for parish activities
Energy Solutions	Solar, generators, and improved electricity access
Water & Sanitation	Clean water systems and hygiene facilities
Education Resources	Books, materials, teacher training & support

#### **Teacher Training**

Across all visits, **80% of parishes** reported that their teachers received training from the Bureau of Diocesan Education (BDE), the Catholic education structure present in all 10 departments and overseen nationally by the CEEC in Port-au-Prince. Training frequency remains a major challenge as the diocesan structure do not have adequate resources to provide ongoing support and accompaniment.

#### **Logistical Highlights & Lessons Learned**

## Transportation & Safety

- Travel between departments, especially involving Port-au-Prince—remains difficult and relatively unsafe, contributing to high transportation costs.
- **Average airfare:** ~\$495 roundtrip
- **Vehicle rental:** ~\$289 per day (excluding fuel/insurance)
- Roads to parish sites are often unpaved and challenging, lengthening travel days.
- For Phase 2, spending more time onsite would strengthen engagement but may increase lodging needs, as **night travel is not recommended**.
- Additional incidental funds will be necessary for unexpected road issues (e.g., flat tires, delays, minor road incidents etc..).

## Data Collection & Parish Engagement

- With only one PTPA field representative on the ground, capturing detailed written notes while managing on-site interactions proved challenging.
- Photos and videos were especially appreciated by members, offering a vivid picture of parish life.
- For Phase 2, PTPA plans to add support personnel to assist with note-taking, feedback transcription, and reporting for stronger, more detailed insights.

## Phase 2 Haiti Parish Visit Pilot Program – South Department

The application process for **U.S. parishes twinned with a parish in the South Department** is now open. If your twin parish is located in this region, please submit your interest using this link: [https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=lbrAcUx-yUCFSjGmKDrUAWp2kjZmM\\_BDtG8nv-YgZWJUN1JSR0swRE4zMDI4M05SNFNvVFZDNIBOTC4u](https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=lbrAcUx-yUCFSjGmKDrUAWp2kjZmM_BDtG8nv-YgZWJUN1JSR0swRE4zMDI4M05SNFNvVFZDNIBOTC4u)

The Haiti Parish Visit Pilot Program supports U.S. parishes that are currently unable to travel to Haiti. Through this initiative, our Haiti-based team led by our in-country Representative, **Domond** conducts onsite parish visits to help maintain connection and gather updates on your behalf.

After each visit, a **detailed report** is shared featuring photos, key observations, and priority needs. **Follow-up call with Domond** is scheduled to discuss findings and gain deeper insight if needed.

Please note:

- **Both the U.S. and Haitian parishes must approve participation** before an in-person visit can be scheduled.
- If your parish supports **multiple twin parishes**, a separate application form should be completed for each relationship.

**You can also view the PTPA Zoom Gathering about “Lessons Learned from Phase 1 and Next Steps” here:** <https://youtu.be/AZ63RLw5Zqs>

