

Haiti is a nation of peaceful, resilient people — 80% living in rural communities far from Port-au-Prince. The crisis is real. It is not the whole story.

80%

 OF HAITIANS LIVE OUTSIDE
PORT, AU, PRINCE

1.4M

 DISPLACED — OVER HALF ARE
CHILDREN

5.7M

 FACING ACUTE FOOD
INSECURITY

8%

 OF THE \$908M HUMANITARIAN
PLAN FUNDED

THE PEOPLE

Peaceful, rural, resilient

Haiti's farmers, teachers, and families in the Artibonite and the Grand South have built community for generations. **They are not defined by the crisis others created.** 93% of young Haitians call school essential — as a place of learning, safety, and hope.

EDUCATION CRISIS

Schools closed, children at risk

Over **1,600 schools closed** across four departments. The UN education appeal is **7% funded**. Without school, children are recruited by gangs, nearly **half of all armed group members are now children**.

ROOT CAUSE **The weapons come from America**

Over 80% of weapons traced in Haiti originate in the United States, bought legally in Florida gun shops, smuggled through South Florida ports (UNODC, 2022). Haiti manufactures no guns. The most urgent thing the U.S. can do is stop the flow of its own weapons, not deploy more foreign forces.

We oppose mercenary deployment. Erik Prince — whose Blackwater guards killed 17 Iraqi civilians in 2007, convicted, then pardoned by Trump — now runs drone operations in Port-au-Prince. In January 2026, nearly 120 people were killed in one neighborhood; almost half were civilians. Haiti's own president was killed by foreign mercenaries. More is not the answer.

HISTORY & POLITICS **Haiti has never truly been given the choice**

The transitional council that dissolved in February 2026 was **entirely unelected**, assembled in Jamaica by CARICOM alongside the U.S., Canada, and France, with no ordinary Haitian citizen in the room.

1950: President Estimé — who built rural cooperatives, expanded schools, and championed labor — was overthrown by a U.S. trained general. He died in exile. **1957–1986:** The U.S. backed Duvalier dictatorship killed ~60,000 Haitians and compressed all power into Port-au-Prince — the chokepoint gangs exploit today. Baby Doc fled on a **U.S. Air Force plane**.

Aid that doesn't build toward its own obsolescence is not development, it is dependency. Haiti needs Haitian, led institutions, not a permanent external system that requires crisis to justify itself.

The Haiti that grows *from within*

Founded by Lémec Thomas, born in Haiti, son of parents who spent 40 years building education, farming, and community in Fond des Blancs, Haiti Thrive creates conditions for Haitians to reclaim their legacy and thrive on their own terms.

"We empower Haitian communities to build a future where growth, innovation, and leadership emerge from within, through education, sustainability, and the cultivation of leaders who will transform what Haiti becomes."



INITIATIVE 01 · EDUCATION

Thinking Deeply, Leading Boldly

Built around **SOLE; Self, Organized Learning Environments**; our program replaces rote memorization with critical thinking, creative problems, solving, and the confidence to lead. Community is woven into the curriculum. **Leadership is not a subject; it is the culture.** Every student is treated as a future architect of their country.

Why it matters: Over 1,600 schools have closed. Nearly half of armed group members in Haiti are now children, recruited because school wasn't there. A student in a classroom is a student not on the street. **Haiti has always produced extraordinary leaders under impossible conditions. Imagine what becomes possible when the next generation has the tools to match their potential.**



INITIATIVE 02 · SUSTAINABILITY

Environmental Care Is Community Care

The **Precious Plastics Recycling Program** equips communities to collect, process, and repurpose plastic waste, creating local economic activity while restoring dignity to the environment. **Communities don't just receive a service. They run the program.** When young people tend their environment, they learn their community is worth tending.

Why it matters: A thriving Haiti cannot be built on degraded land. Environmental care is not separate from education or leadership; it is the ground beneath both. **Sustainability and self, sufficiency are the same word.**



INITIATIVE 03 · SAFE SPACES

Safe Spaces for Learning Are Not Optional

Our **Prefab Expandable Homes program** provides disaster resilient housing in one of the world's most seismically and climatically vulnerable countries. A child cannot learn in a crumbling room. **Safe spaces for learning are a prerequisite, not a luxury.**

Why it matters: With 1.4 million displaced, Haiti's infrastructure gap is catastrophic. International responses have chosen speed over sustainability. **Haiti Thrive builds to last, not to leave.** When families have safe homes and children have safe schools, people begin to plan, and that is where leadership grows.

OUR VISION · HAITI THRIVE

These three programs are not separate, **they are one ecosystem.** Education without safe spaces is impossible. Sustainability without community ownership is empty. Leadership without roots in culture and history cannot last. Haiti Thrive was built on 40 years of that understanding, rooted in Fond des Blancs, where self, sufficiency was always the goal.

"A thriving Haiti where education, sustainability, and innovation work together, supporting Haitian self, determination, dignity, and liberation."

Get involved — haitithrive.org

Donate to the Mission

