

2016
Annual Report

Dear Friends of the What If? Foundation,

It's with great excitement that I share our 2016 Annual Report which shows the quantifiable change you've made possible over the last year. 2016 was a particularly special year. Not only did we realize the long-held dream of opening the Father Jeri School, but amid the destruction of Hurricane Matthew, I witnessed first hand the power of What If's partnership with *Na Rive* and their extraordinary ability to deliver that change under extreme circumstances.

Led by their tireless program director, Lavarice Gaudin, *Na Rive* achieves miracles with the funds you provide, managing to stretch resources to reach more children and more families as unexpected needs arise. We work together to plan and strategize how What If can support their efforts, but getting things done in Haiti, especially after a hurricane, requires a level of creativity, adaptability and resourcefulness that is hard to fathom. I have seen time and again how *Na Rive* draws on their unwavering determination, knowledge and networks to deliver support with compassion in the face of endless challenges. When Hurricane Matthew hit, it was difficult to make sense of the magnitude of the need amid all the chaos and uncertainty. But I was certain of one thing: Lavarice and his team would figure out what to do and how to do it. Because they always do. I am immensely grateful for our partnership, and to you for making their work possible.

With love and gratitude,



Suzanne Alberga
Executive Director
What If? Foundation

Top
Lavarice Gaudin, *Na Rive* Program Director and Suzanne Alberga, Executive Director, What if? Foundation

Bottom
Margaret Trost, Founder, What if? Foundation



A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDER

Back in the early days when the food program was one day a week and the number of students receiving scholarships was about ten, Father Jeri Jean-Juste shared his vision of a neighborhood school with me. In his heart, he could “see” it built and serving the children of Ti Plas Kazo. I could “see” it too, but we had no idea how such a big project would ever become a reality. I started to think about next steps, but he said it wasn't time yet. The food program was in its infancy and resources were needed to expand it to two days a week, then three, four, and eventually five.

“First we feed the children, we keep them alive. Then, the school,” he said.

This clarity of vision has guided the What If? Foundation and *Na Rive* all these years. And in 2016, it led to the fulfillment of our shared dream of children walking through the doors of a beautiful new school to receive quality education.

I am so grateful to Father Jeri for inspiring us all, to our donors for their love and generosity, to the What If staff and board for their devotion, and to the members of *Na Rive* for their perseverance, heart, and tireless work on behalf of the children.

“*Men anpil chay pa lou*” —
“Many hands make the load lighter”.



Margaret Trost
Founder
What If? Foundation

FOOD

Hunger and malnutrition remain a daily reality for the majority of Haitian children and their families.

2016 marked the 16th anniversary of *La Manje*, *Na Rive's* community food program in Ti Plas Kazo. As the needs in the community have evolved over the years, *Na Rive* has adapted to better meet them. There are now three ways your donations provide for the children and families of Ti Plas Kazo.

TRADITIONAL HOT MEAL PROGRAM

Every Monday through Friday, the *Na Rive* cooking team serves a hot, nutritious meal to the children who live nearby. Up to 800 meals are distributed with love each afternoon.

SCHOOL CAFETERIA

Every school day, students and staff of the Father Jeri School are served lunch in the cafeteria. This is a rare occurrence in Haiti, since most schools do not provide food to their students. But *Na Rive* knows this daily meal supports the nutritional needs for learning and creates the bonds that nurture a powerful sense of community.

FOOD PANTRY

A substantial part of the community *Na Rive* serves moved to Ti Plas Kazo after the 2010 earthquake, when a tent settlement was established there for those who had lost their homes. Last October, the Haitian government dismantled that tent community, forcing hundreds of families to leave. These families — who have been relying on the food program for years — are now miles away from the place they have come to consider home, without permanent housing or enough income to reliably purchase food.

To address this need, *Na Rive* created a food pantry where these displaced families can pick up rice and beans to cook at home. Up to 60 families visit the food pantry each week, keeping nutrition on their tables and saving them from walking miles to Ti Plas Kazo every day.



EDUCATION

The goal with all of *Na Rive's* education programs is to foster the next generation of leaders in Haiti: children who are empowered, thoughtful, resilient, resourceful, proud of their heritage, and ready to work together for positive change. The cornerstone of these education efforts is the Father Jeri School.

FATHER JERI SCHOOL

The Father Jeri School welcomed its first students on September 5th. 188 children, aged 3–19 years, are currently enrolled across 10 grades. Our shared goal with *Na Rive* is to expand over the next few years to offer education all the way from Pre-K to a high school diploma.

There are 41 teachers and 23 staff working at the Father Jeri School. The teaching team, which includes 8 full-time and 33 subject-specific part-time teachers, brings depth and breadth of expertise to the curriculum. The staff includes the administration team, a doctor, a nurse, a cleaning crew, security guards, and a team of afterschool teachers.

In addition to the wide variety of classes, the school provides students with enrichment activities throughout the year, including field trips to important national sites and a week-long retreat.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The What If? Foundation's scholarship program began in 2001 to help students attend school in Port-au-Prince. In the 2015-2016 academic year, 17 of the 154 scholarship students graduated, 63 were able to transfer to the Father Jeri School, and the rest are continuing in their original scholarship schools. The students who remain in their original schools are either in a grade the Father Jeri School does not yet offer, or they live too far from Ti Plas Kazo to attend school there every day.

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Na Rive's popular afterschool programs continue to thrive. Father Jeri students and community members receive academic assistance, as well as the ability to learn income-generating skills or life and leadership skills like financial management and public speaking. More than 200 students were served by these programs in 2016.

SUMMER CAMP

Over six weeks during the summer, parents can rely on a safe place for their children to play, receive nutritious meals, and learn income-generating skills like Macramé, Computer Basics, Calligraphy, and Sewing — 650 children joined the Summer Camp in 2016.





“There is great hope for the future. Next fall we’ll be able to move the afterschool programs to the Father Jeri School and open the doors to even more students. By offering quality education we are building a better future for our neighborhood and our country.”

Lavarice Gaudin
Program Director
Na Rive



HOPE

Haitians continue to endure incredible challenges, from political unrest to economic injustice, drought, food insecurity, and cataclysmic weather. With the support of your donations and *Na Rive's* resourcefulness, we have been able to respond quickly and effectively. We are very proud to see how our partnership with *Na Rive* proves so effective at providing hope and opportunity when children and their families need it most.

HURRICANE MATTHEW RELIEF

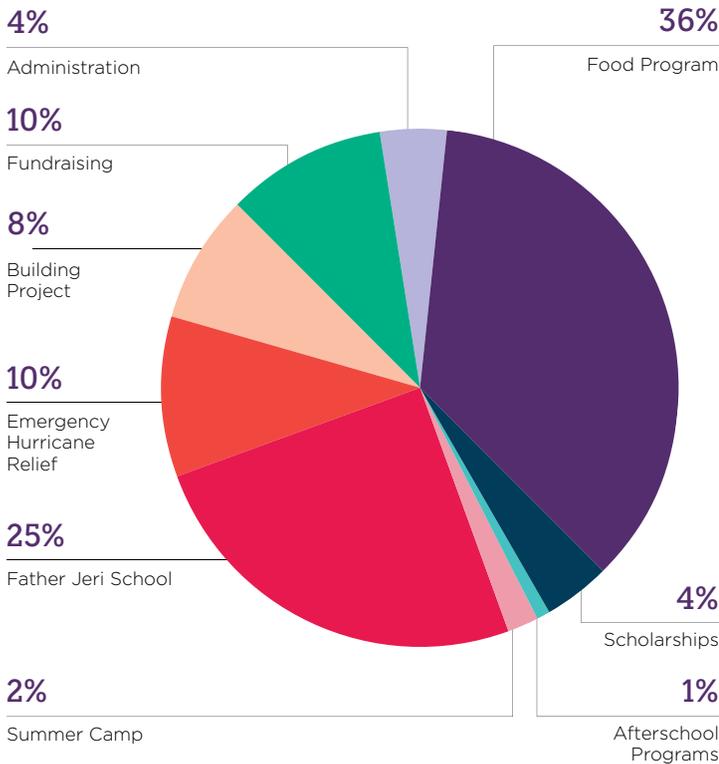
Your compassion and generosity helped us raise \$90,000 for Hurricane Mathew relief efforts. *Na Rive* used their contacts and channels to direct these funds toward food distribution and mobile medical clinics in the most affected communities in Southern Haiti. From October to December 2016, more than 5,263 meals were provided, and 1,232 people were treated in the mobile clinics you helped support.

BUILDING THE FUTURE

Every program we support is designed to foster hope and opportunity for the children, who are the future of Haiti. We believe food and education are the key building blocks to create positive systemic change.

Na Rive's work among the children of Ti Plas Kazo is nurturing a new generation of leaders who can create new possibilities for themselves, their community, and their country. Together, we stand with *Na Rive* and all the children of Ti Plas Kazo as they take steps towards a brighter future. And we are so incredibly grateful to you for joining us on this journey. *Piti piti na rive.*

FINANCIAL REPORT



	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted
TOTAL INCOME	\$635,605	\$424,785	\$210,820
Program Expenses			
Food Program	\$238,932	\$168,707	\$70,225
Scholarships	\$28,390	—	\$28,390
Afterschool Programs	\$4,500	\$4,500	—
Summer Camp	\$12,500	\$12,500	—
Father Jeri School	\$166,550	\$120,200	\$46,350
Emergency Hurricane Relief	\$65,855	—	\$65,855
Building Project	\$56,387	—	\$56,387
Total Program Expenses	\$573,114	\$305,907	\$267,207
Fundraising	\$64,381	\$64,381	—
Administration	\$28,220	\$28,220	—
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$665,715	\$398,508	\$267,207
Income Less Expenses	(\$30,110)	\$26,277	(\$56,387)
Net Assets, Beginning of 2016	\$305,638	\$264,241	\$41,397
Change from 2016	(\$30,110)	\$26,277	(\$56,387)
TOTAL NET ASSETS, END OF 2016	\$275,528	\$290,518	(\$14,990)

STAFF

Suzanne Alberga
Executive Director

Mia Masia
Donor Relations Associate

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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ADVISORY COUNCIL

Margaret Trost
Founder

What If? Foundation

Bryan Sirchio
Director

Haiti Allies.org

Since 2000, The What If? Foundation has partnered with members of the Ti Plas Kazo community in Port-au-Prince, Haiti to provide food and educational opportunities to under-served children.

By pairing the commitment and expertise of our Haitian partner, *Na Rive*, with financial resources provided by our donors, we work together to make a difference in the lives of some of the world's most impoverished children, providing hope and opportunity for a brighter future.

We are a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization established for the benefit of children in Haiti. All donations are 100% tax deductible.

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