Dear Friends of the What If Foundation,

It is such an honor to write to you as interim director. Especially when I consider the shoes I am stepping into. Over the last six years, Suzanne Alberga has made a big impact on our organization, guiding us with grace, gratitude, and a steady hand. 2018 was no exception: from storytelling to fundraising to strengthening our partnership with Na Rive, she helped us increase the impact we make together on the lives of the children and families in Ti Plas Kazo.

Beyond her work and dedication, it is Suzanne’s caring, humble and positive spirit I appreciate the most and I feel lucky to call her my friend. She is a big part of the What If Foundation’s success and will be greatly missed.

2018 was marked by significant political and economic challenges in Haiti due to the fuel crisis and ensuing protests and unrest. Yet amidst all these challenges, Na Rive worked hard to ensure the Fr. Jeri School students kept a high academic level, achieving an unprecedented 98% pass rate in the government exams, and felt valued and nurtured. We also saw the food program expand into a newly built community cafeteria next to the school, providing neighborhood children an easily accessible space to receive these critical meals. As the Fr. Jeri School finished its second year in operation, the vital programs you help support continued to provide the Ti Plas Kazo community with opportunity and hope for the future.

In addition to looking back, our annual report is also an opportunity to look forward, and I’d like to share a few projects we’ve been working on in the last few months. As we strive to grow our impact and share our mission more widely, we updated our logo and design elements, built a brand new website, and created a beautiful video about the Fr. Jeri School. All of it designed to help us share our story with more people, more successfully, so together we can make a bigger difference in the lives of the children we serve.

Thank you for keeping Haiti in your hearts and I wish you all a wonderful summer.

Catherine Lelong
Interim Executive Director
What If Foundation

Top
Catherine Lelong

Bottom
Late Fr. Jean-Juste (Jeri) and Margaret Trost
A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDER

Years ago, Father Jeri wrote a reflection about the power and importance of our work together. He described it this way:

“The programs we’re providing are an islet in the middle of the ocean. Because of the What If Foundation, its donors, and our partnership, there is a place where people are loved, respected and fed. Hope is kept alive in the midst of troubled days.”
- Fr. Jeri Jean -Juste

Our Haitian friends experienced many troubled days over the last year. A political and economic crisis gripped the country and led to widespread demonstrations calling for change and justice. Hunger dramatically increased as a result of skyrocketing inflation that made the cost of food too expensive for the majority of families.

Throughout this difficult time, our partner Na Rive served thousands of meals every weekday at the food program and provided safety and support for the students at the Fr. Jeri School. This Annual Report shares how hope is being kept alive every day through this sacred work we’re all a part of and how love and respect remain at the center.

When I look back over the last 19 years and the difference these community-led programs have made in the lives of countless families, Fr. Jeri’s words inspire me to continue to ask the question “what if?”, to believe in possibilities, and to give thanks for each of you and our partnership with Na Rive. This model of international cooperation, collaboration, and commitment is so needed in our world. Thank you for helping make this “islet in the middle of the ocean” possible.

Margaret Trost  
Founder  
What If Foundation
FOOD

Hunger and malnutrition remain a daily reality for the majority of Haitian children and their families. La Manje, Na Rive’s community food program which started in 2000, continues to provide vital nourishment for the Ti Plas Kazo community. There are three ways that your donations support local children and families.

COMMUNITY CAFETERIA
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 Fr. 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. In October 2016, 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 240 meals are provided to families who visit the food pantry each week, keeping nutrition on their tables and saving them from walking miles to Ti Plas Kazo to attend the community cafeteria.
EDUCATION

Our Haitian partner, Na Rive, opened The Fr. Jeri School in 2016 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.

FR. JERI SCHOOL
The Fr. Jeri School continued to grow quickly in both reputation and size. 310 children were enrolled from Pre-K to 12th grade and Na Rive started working on growing the space for classrooms so they can expand education all the way to high school graduation.

There are 49 teachers and 26 staff working at the Fr. Jeri School. The teaching team, which includes 9 full-time and 40 subject specific part-time teachers, brings depth and breadth of expertise to the curriculum. The staff includes an administrative team, a doctor, a nurse, a cleaning crew, a couple of security guards, and a team of afterschool teachers.

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

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
The What If Foundation continued to support the scholarship program which began in 2001 to help students attend school in Port-au-Prince. 50 external scholarships were provided in the 2017-2018 academic year. The students who remain in this program are either in a grade that 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. Fr. Jeri students and community members receive academic assistance after school hours, 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 2018.

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. 500 children joined the summer camp in 2018.
“2018 was a challenging year. Prices in Haiti kept going up and transport became more difficult so many children struggled to eat and go to school. This is why these programs are so critical. The Fr. Jeri School brings joy and hope to the students and prepares them to create a brighter future.

Last year was also a year of growth. As well as our students, the school is growing up and taking steps to improve the facilities, staff, programs and space so we can welcome more children and remain a beacon of pride and hope for the community.”

Lavarice Gaudin
Program Director
Na Rive
Food and education are key building blocks to create positive systemic change. And behind those building blocks is a deep, trusting relationship between the What If Foundation and Na Rive. From fundraising to networking, creating strategic relationships, and finding the resources that fuel ingenuity, our shared commitment means we work together every single day to make hope possible.

The Fr. Jeri School has become a symbol of hope not just for its students and teachers, but for the community as a whole. Standing proud on the hill, the building represents determination, resilience, and the possibility of a better future for all. Community events like Flag Day invite the whole neighborhood to come together and celebrate the mission of the Fr. Jeri School to build leaders and beacons of light for the community and wider country.

Haitians continue to endure incredible challenges, from political unrest to economic injustice, drought, food insecurity, and cataclysmic weather. Every program your donations support is designed to foster hope and opportunity for the Ti Plas Kazo community.
2018 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

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<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL INCOME</td>
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Program Expenses

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<tr>
<td>Food Program</td>
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<td>Education Programs</td>
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<td>Fr. Jeri School</td>
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<td>Scholarships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer Camp</td>
<td>$15,347</td>
<td>$15,347</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Program Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$442,155</strong></td>
<td><strong>$250,858</strong></td>
<td><strong>$191,297</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Fundraising              | $46,915   | $40,915      | $6,000    |
| Administration           | $76,870   | $76,037      | $833      |
| **TOTAL EXPENSES**       | **$565,940** | **$367,810** | **$198,130** |

Income Less Expenses

| Income Less Expenses     | ($7,910)  | ($22,083)    | $14,173   |
| Net Assets, Beginning of Year | $208,529  | $223,518     | ($14,990) |
| **TOTAL NET ASSETS**     | **$200,619** | **$201,436** | **($817)** |

EXPENSES BREAKDOWN

- **3%** Summer Camp
- **32%** Fr. Jeri School
- **8%** Fundraising
- **14%** Administration
- **40%** Food Program

STAFF

Catherine Lelong
Interim Executive Director

Mia Masia
Donor Relations Associate

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Catherine Lelong
Chair

Laura Crabb
Treasurer

Liz Owens
Secretary

Susan Carson

Kate Doherty

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Margaret Trost
Founder, What If Foundation

Bryan Sirchio
Director, Haiti Allies

Mark Zaifman
Founder, Spiritus Financial Planning

Since 2000, the What If Foundation has partnered with the Haitian community organization Na Rive to provide food and educational opportunities to under-served children in Ti Plas Kazo, Port-au-Prince.

By pairing the dedication and expertise of Na Rive with the 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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