



LOVE

# 2020 IMPACT REPORT

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# Shay Foster

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FACILITATOR

## OVERVIEW

**2**020 was another great year for LQVE! Despite all of the challenges faced as a result from COVID-19, we continued supporting our friends in Southeast Haiti that we have been partnering with since 2015. We were also introduced to friends in new communities! At LQVE, we are focused on building relationships in order to help Haitians help Haitians. Utilizing these relationships focused on empowerment, we strive to help Haitians provide themselves with healthcare, education, wealth creation, and recreation initiatives.

LQVE started from a single trip to Haiti in 2015. The Q in LQVE stands for Quincy. Quincy was a girl who loved people, soccer, and Haiti. Tragically, on New Years Day 2015, Quincy passed away in a car accident. That same year, Quincy's family and friends decided to visit the little community in Haiti that she fell in love with called Cascade Pichon. That initial trip, originating because of Quincy, exploded into a mosaic of relationships, love, and development projects in Southeast Haiti. In the summer of 2015, LQVE officially became a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, and we got to work on our very first project - helping build the Quincy Foster Soccer Field in Cascade Pichon. Since that first trip, we have made dozens of trips to Haiti with over 100 Americans, made tons of Haitian friends, and helped those same friends finance and complete numerous community development projects.

This report details the relationships and projects that we were a part of in 2020. We hope you take a moment to read more, in the coming pages, about what we did in 2020 and what we have planned as we move into 2021. In 2020, we raised more than \$80,000 to finance a handful of Haitian projects and dreams, met several new friends, and were able to get down to Haiti several times!

# RELATIONSHIPS



## RELATIONSHIPS

**Nurse Maryse** - In 2016, we wanted to hire a nurse from Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capitol, to travel to the rural communities of Southeast Haiti that we are connected with in order to provide our friends there with much needed medical care. With the help of our partner, Heart to Heart International - Haiti, we found Nurse Maryse Pierre! Maryse is a mother of three beautiful girls and has been working for us for four years now. She loves helping pregnant mothers and has the most contagious laugh. Maryse currently provides healthcare in clinics in Southeast Haiti, one of which we helped build. The communities she works in are located in Cascade Pichon and Bel-Air, and it is no small feat for her to make her way to work each day. Maryse has to leave home in Port-au-Prince to travel, by motorcycle, over bumpy mountains and through thick forests to reach the clinics. Maryse saw over 1,000 patients in 2020 and helped pregnant mothers, newborn babies, kids, adults, and senior citizens in Cascade Pichon and Bel-Air.

Another exciting note about Nurse Maryse - she gave birth in 2020! In June, Maryse and her family welcomed little Fedora Marlie Innocent into the world, now the newest member of the Pierre Family.



**Nurse Natalie** - Because Nurse Maryse had a little girl in 2020, she, of course, needed a couple of months off for maternity leave. Nurse Natalie is our friend from Heart to Heart who stepped in to run Maryse's clinics when she was gone in 2020, and we couldn't have been more grateful for her!



**Principal Chango** - We met Principal Chango on our very first trip to Haiti. Chango runs the community school in Cascade Pichon. Because of this, we talk with him frequently about different needs and ideas for the school. Chango has four boys that live in Port-au-Prince, and he loves to play soccer with the kids at the school! This past year we were able to help Chango purchase a motorcycle to get to and from the school during the week so that he no longer had to rent a taxi; Chango was very thankful. We also collaborated with Chango on a project late in the year. He had the idea of installing a clean water system for the Cascade Pichon Community School, and we loved it!



**The COVID-19 Response Team** - As we all know, COVID-19 affected every country and culture in 2020. In response to the potential outbreak of COVID-19 in Southeast Haiti, we partnered with Heart to Heart International - Haiti and put together a team of community health workers. These workers, usually farmers street vendors, and/or pastors, helped LQVE and Heart to Heart provide sanitation materials and community education to the Pichon area. These individuals stepped up to the plate to help their communities during a pandemic, and we could not be more proud of the work that they did!

Pictured here is Lemessage Louis, Junot Atis, Vitane Jean, David Alcy, Dr. Fernesson Pierre, and Vetes Jean Pierre of the Heart to Heart/LQVE COVID-19 Response Team.



**Frantz Lojeune** - Frantz has been a close friend of ours since our first trip to Haiti. Frantz is an incredible human being. He is an architect, engineer, driver, translator, and visionary. The truth is, none of our trips would happen if it weren't for Frantz and his expertise. He helps us plan and budget for every trip and is our feet on the ground in Haiti, giving us updates on our friends every week. Frantz is the epitome of what we want to do at LQVE - connect with wonderful Haitian friends and help them help others. Frantz lives in Port-au-Prince with his wife and two kids, but he spends a lot of his time traveling all over the country. Because we are a small NGO, Frantz works for LQVE on an intermittent, contractual basis. Even if we could pay him full time, no compensation would ever be enough to match Frantz's true value! (Frantz also was in Shay Foster's wedding in early 2020, so that's awesome too).



**Loucito "Cito" Baptiste** - Cito lives in Thiotte, Haiti's closest big city to Cascade Pichon. Cito has been translating for us for many years and also helps us organize our annual soccer tournament! Cito is a soft-spoken guy, but it doesn't take much from him to know that he loves Haiti and his family. He is always excited to tag along with us when we visit, and we love having him around.





**Heart to Heart International - Haiti Team** - We would not have been able to do the work we've done over the past five years if it weren't for Heart to Heart. This team of professionals has been working in Haiti for over 10 years and has helped thousands of Haitians over the course of that time. Heart to Heart enables all of the healthcare work that we do at LQVE and helped build a foundation for our other community development initiatives as well. In 2020, we continued to employ Nurse Maryse through Heart to Heart International - Haiti, and our COVID-19 Response Team was also created with Heart to Heart. Not enough can be said about how important this group is to LQVE!



Josue Andre, Director of Heart to Heart International - Haiti

**Louisna and all the kids in Cascade Pichon!** - One of our favorite things to do in Cascade Pichon is hang out with the kids there. Whether playing with hacky-sacks, taking photos together, or teaching each other games, it's always fun to interact with these kids. Pictured below is Louisna, a girl we met on our most recent trip to Cascade Pichon. When we were helping paint the school, Louisna asked if she could paint with us! Of course, we said yes. She was soon joined by half a dozen other kids who also thought that painting their own school would be fun. It was a pretty cool experience.





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# PROJECTS

We are involved with many different community development projects at LQVE. These projects are always secondary to our relationships, but the truth is, they go hand in hand with one another. All of the projects we were involved with in 2020 were dreamt, created, and championed by Haitian leaders and communities. We had five main projects that we helped facilitate in 2020, but of course it's hard to quantify exactly how many ongoing things we are a part of in Haiti. A majority of these projects took place in Cascade Pichon. That being said, there were a variety of other projects also happening in the communities of Bel-Air and Barreau Michel. Check out the map below to get a sense of where we were working in 2020.



**Barreau Michel Water Cistern** - In early 2020, Frantz contacted us about a little community he befriended in the mountain region north of Port-au-Prince, close to the city of Archaie. This rural community is similar to that of many Haitian communities: materially impoverished and lacking infrastructure, yet filled with great people and great ideas about how to advance their community. Frantz, and local Pastor Jean Saurel, thought of the idea of installing a water cistern attached to the community's public school in order to provide water to the community during the dry season. With the help of an excited donor, LQVE helped fund the construction of this cistern using workers from Barreau Michel. Today, the cistern catches rainfall in pipes from the school's roof and stores it in a clean 10,000-gallon cistern for the community to utilize.



## 4th Annual Quincy Foster Soccer Tournament

- One of the things we are the most well known for in Haiti is our love for soccer. Soccer is a huge part of Haitian culture, and since Quincy loved soccer, it just seems to be a natural fit! Each summer, we hold an annual soccer tournament involving several teams from all around Southeast Haiti. Because of the expensive cost of transportation and the lack of quality roads, these teams usually cannot meet with one another and compete. However, because of the funding we set aside for this tournament, teams from six different communities were able to come together and compete on each other's home fields in August of 2020! We asked the communities, players, and coaches if they wanted to postpone the tournament in light of COVID, but they decided they wanted to have the tournament amidst these trying times, so we went along with their final decision! The community of Thiotte defeated Blek 4-3 in the final match in penalty kicks. We are already making plans for the 2021 tournament, where we will be incorporating a women's tournament into the men's tournament!



**COVID-19 Mitigation Program in Pichon** - In light of the pandemic that spread across our world in 2020, we knew that we had to do something to help our friends in Haiti shield themselves from the potential negative impacts of COVID-19. Luckily, Haiti has had very low COVID-19 cases and fatalities thus far. That being said, we still wanted to be sure, amidst all the unknowns of last year, to help where we could. For three months last year we were able to partner with Heart to Heart International - Haiti and create a COVID-19 Mitigation program. This program trained local community health workers in Pichon best practices for combatting COVID-19, helped us keep tabs on any outbreaks in the community, stationed a doctor at the health clinic with Nurse Maryse, and set up sanitizing stations in public places around the community. All together, over 1,300 households (~5,200 people) were reached through this program. This was a blessing to be a part of, and we are so thankful for the leadership from Heart to Heart and the way they helped us pull this off. We hope that Haiti can remain as COVID-free in the coming months as they have been so far!



## Cascade Pichon Community School Water Project -

Last summer, Principal Chango and our friend Frantz presented the idea to us of building a clean water system for the community school in Cascade Pichon. We loved the idea, so we set out first to make sure the rest of the community was on board. Frantz and Chango held several meetings with different citizens in Cascade Pichon to make sure this project would be something they could all benefit from, and they were more than excited about it!



Over the course of a couple months, workers constructed a piping system to carry water from the Cascades to the school where it runs through a UV filter and comes out of several faucets next to the kindergarten. Because of the need for solar power to power the UV filter, the school now also has access to electricity! As a result of having electricity, teachers can now charge their phones and tablets at the school, and there is the potential for many more improvements to the school in the future (lights for night classes, etc.).



**Ongoing Healthcare with Nurse Maryse** - Similar to what we have been doing for the past five years, in 2020 we continued to employ Nurse Maryse to provide healthcare to our friends in Southeast Haiti. Through our partnership with Heart to Heart International - Haiti, Maryse works for us 20 days out of the month in her health clinics in Cascade Pichon and Bel-Air (we helped the community of Bel-Air build their clinic in 2018!). She typically sees around 130 patients a month, helping them with various illnesses from hypertension and anemia to the occasional case of scabies. At the end of the day, there is nothing we are more proud of than the work Nurse Maryse does with the Heart to Heart - Haiti team!



Maryse and her Heart to Heart medical team with some LQVE nurses in 2018





# TRIPS



2020 was a challenging year for non-profits and for-profits alike. We believe that the work we do at LQVE is inspired and led by our relationships in Haiti. Because of these relationally driven goals and dreams, it was difficult for us to be limited in how much we could get down to Haiti last year because of COVID-19. We had to cancel a nursing trip, reschedule a church trip, and weren't able to put together a team from MidAmerica Nazarene University for the first time in 5 years. Luckily, we know that our Haitian friends are the ones actually doing the heavy lifting in developing their own communities - so in some ways, we weren't affected quite as bad as we could have been! We're thankful for technology that allows us to talk to and exchange ideas with our friends in Haiti constantly. We can't wait for the end of this pandemic so we can get back in our routine of going and visiting our friends!

**August 2020** - In August, our Community Development Facilitator, Shay, headed to Haiti to conduct research for his Master's thesis. Since he was already going, we of course had him visit our friends in the Southeast. During his 10-day stay, Shay was able to attend a couple games of our annual soccer tournament, meet Nurse Maryse's newborn baby, hear Principal Chango's idea for the water project in Cascade Pichon, and conduct his research on coffee production in Haiti.



Shay hanging out with our friend Pastor Nwèl in Thiotte, Haiti in August

**December 2020** - Finally, after rescheduling twice, rebooking hotel rooms multiple times, and over a year and a half of planning, we were able to take a trip down to Haiti again with Mission Church! Everyone on the team tested negative for COVID-19 less than 72 hours before we departed. On top of that, we wore masks and consistently sanitized throughout the course of our trip. This trip was so fun because we got to hang with our friends in Cascade Pichon for several days playing soccer, painting, and swimming together. The team was able to witness the final installation of the school's water project and meet many of our friends there! Check out the highlight video from this trip here! <https://vimeo.com/497000014>



**FINANCES**

## General Donations

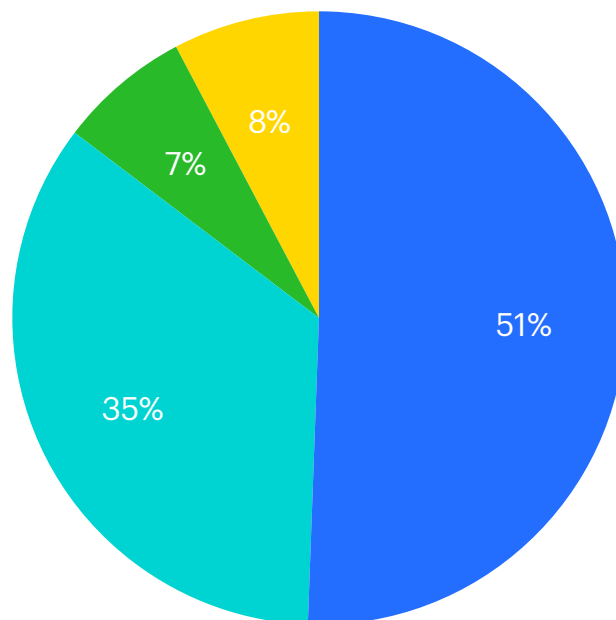
At LQVE, we have always wanted to make sure that as many of our resources are going towards our friends in Haiti as possible. As we are a smaller Non-Government Organization (NGO), we naturally do not have a lot of overhead expenses - which is great! We're thankful for the fantastic work Shay Foster did for LQVE in 2020. He not only made a significant impact, but his extra fundraising efforts allowed us to pay him using outside donations. His fundraising, combined with our work at keeping overhead costs to a minimum, meant that 100% of donations went straight to Haitians or Haitian projects. For every \$1 we received, \$1 was sent down to Haiti.

### General Donations Received in 2020: \$50,405.10

### Project Expenses in 2020: \$51,642.50

- Healthcare
- Water Projects
- Education
- Soccer

LQVE Project Expenses



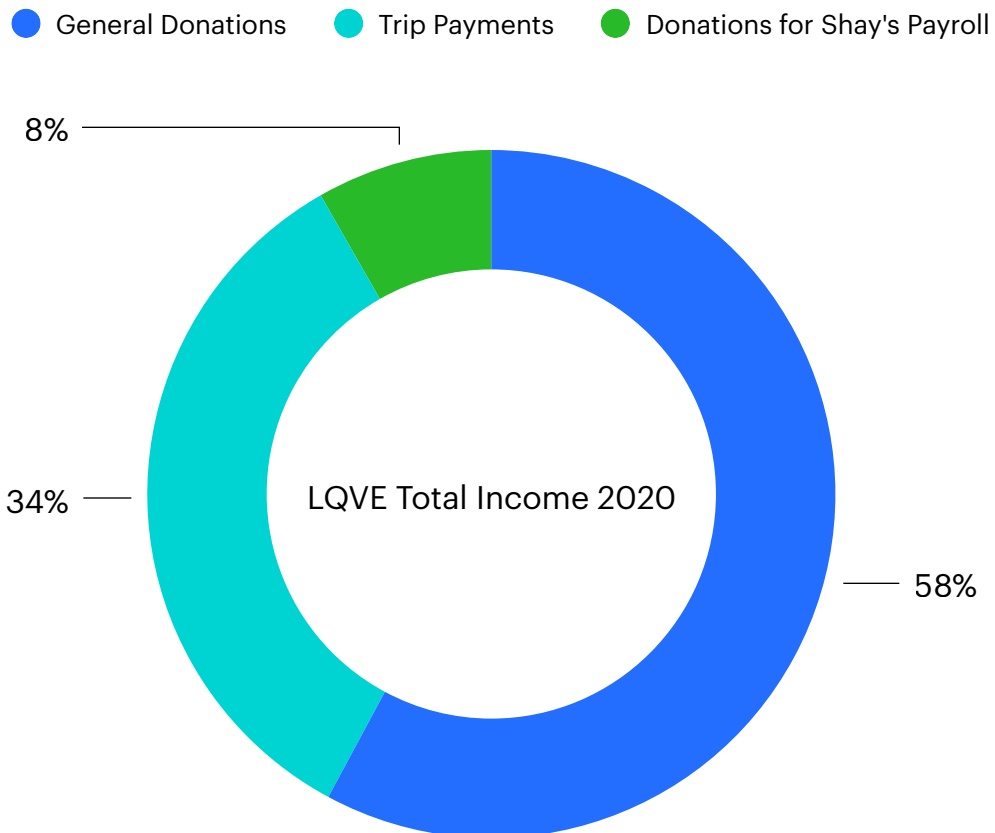
# Total Income

Because we want to be entirely transparent with our finances, here we have included the breakdown of everything that goes through our bank account. While we don't use general donations for anything other than our relationships and projects in Haiti, we do use the same bank account for our payroll services and for payments for team trips to Haiti. About 60% of trip payments also end up in Haiti in the form of employing the services of Haitian restaurants, hotels, and communities to make our trips happen. You can find our disaggregated total income information below.

## Total Income for 2020

**\$87,124.10**

- General Donations: \$50,405.10
- Trip Payments: \$29,519.00
- Shay Foster's Payroll Donors: \$7,200.00



**LOOKING  
FORWARD...**



# LOOKING FORWARD...

2020 was quite the year for us all. Amidst all of the adversity, we were able to raise tens of thousands of dollars, build new relationships, and employ more than 40 Haitians for all our different projects. We will celebrate six years of LQVE in 2021, and we expect it to be another great year for us! In fact, we already have several things in the works! While we never know what the future holds, we always hold on tight to the relationships that we have built.

## **In 2021, we are planning to:**

- **Continue to employ Nurse Maryse to provide healthcare in Southeast Haiti**
- **Host several trainings for our Microfinance groups (which are already underway!)**
- **Build another water cistern in a community in Southeast Haiti**
- **Continue conversations with Principal Chango and the teachers at the Cascade Pichon community school concerning how we can best partner with them**
- **Host the 5th Annual Quincy Foster Soccer Tournament**
- **Attempt to make some trips happen**
- **Continue to build new relationships, and keep up with old ones!**

We want to thank you for being involved with LQVE. Whether you give financially, support us on social media, pray, or go on trips with us, we wouldn't be able to help Haitians help themselves if it wasn't for you! This is complex and meaningful work we are a part of in Haiti. There are no easy answers or quick fixes, so we thank you for your support as we navigate through this journey. We look forward to doing more of the same in 2021!