

Our COVID-19 response effort updates are emailed to our supporters and posted to our website every other week. Below are our strategy and archived reports. Subscribe at <https://www.dowork.org/latestnews/covid-19-response>.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

There are now 43 positive cases of COVID-19 reported in Haiti since March 19. The government took immediate action to close its border, schools, universities, and factories, implement a curfew and social distancing measures, provide hand washing stations, and more. To fill in the gaps, additional services will be provided to our families and our First Mile collectors network focusing on prevention and access when symptoms arise. Our goal is to keep families safe and healthy, and avoiding the need for hospitalization. Below are our service pillars and tactics:

SHELTER AT HOME SUPPORT

- Provide accurate information, protocols, and reminders with a regular cadence utilizing phone calls and text messages - twice a week
- Mitigate challenges to sheltering at home by providing resources needed to stay at home and ensuring individuals with symptoms can come forward

CAPACITY FOR ISOLATION—FIRST SIGN OF SYMPTOMS

- Provide access to recovery space that meet medical standards for collectors to use when symptoms arise
- Educate the community on when isolation is necessary
- Support wages lost during isolation period
- Work with partner clinics to provide tests for those who need it

ACCESS TO COVID-19 TREATMENT

Set up transportation fleet with driver and health advocate to accompany individuals who require medical attention to a partner clinic or hospital, including one with ICU/ventilation
Provide access to quality care with follow through case management
Support some lost wages during treatment period

If you are able to support at this time, a one-time contribution or a small monthly investment (<https://www.dowork.org/latestnews/covid-19-response>) will provide us with the ability to respond accordingly. We'll update this page regularly with our efforts and outcomes. Thank you for your support. Be well and stay healthy. This is an unprecedented time, and we'll need to utilize every bit of collective effort to get through it.

We're in this together.

UPDATES

APRIL 17, 2020

Dear WORK Family and Friends,

The first three cases of deaths in Haiti caused by COVID-19 were reported over the last two weeks. There are now 43 positive cases, but with just hundreds of tests available to be completed, we can hardly call this a victory like the government recently reported. Current numbers are sorely underreported and with an already poor infrastructure, including less than 40 functioning ventilators in the country and 1 hospital treating COVID-19, we have a lot of work ahead of us to help our families stay healthy.

Through our response efforts, the initial fear of COVID-19 that our families reported has begun to turn into evidence of positive behavior change, advocacy, and unity. Our prevention protocols are being enforced within families. Hand washing stations are set up, hundreds of masks, soap, and disinfectant are being distributed with instructions and reminders of use via

phone calls and text messages. Our leaders are being trained with the information to help spread the word as far and wide as possible.

Our families have received essential supplies to help them shelter at home this month thanks to your support. Below are their words of gratitude that they've asked us to share with you:



"I am doing well for the moment. My family and I make our best to stay safe even if it's difficult because of where we are living. Because of you guys we are able to stay home, we will not have to go outside to buy food thank you so much, we appreciated that." – Eglaide

"We are doing well for the moment, applied everything that you told me to do to avoid from getting this disease, and sometimes share info that I have with my neighbors in a way to help them. I don't know how to say thank you for the kit [essential items]. Before that I was asking how could I stay home without nothing in my house to eat? But you were there guys as you always do you got our back." – Schneider

"Sometimes ask myself why you guys care so much about us? That never happened to me. Thank you for the value you put on my person. It makes me feel important". – Jean Nause (in frame)

This is possible because of your support. Whether you've made a one-time donation or joined us as a monthly supporter, thank you.

As we look to the months ahead, we see an enormous need to dial up our prevention efforts and begin to think about recovery as the economy, which has already taken a big hit during the unrest and will only worsen in this situation. We project that we'll need to raise about \$275,000 to support prevention and access to care for the next quarter. Please join us today through the donation widget above. Every dollar donated enables us to deliver life-saving services.

For our families...,

The WORK Team

MARCH 31, 2020

Dear WORK Family and Friends,

We hope you're staying safe and healthy. Our families and team in Haiti are doing healthy and okay, feeling the uncertainties of the situation like most of us are. Our team in the US continues to shelter in place while working to coordinate efforts with our team and partners in Haiti. There are now 15 positive cases in the country with hundreds in self-quarantine. Within our community, our partner clinic Hopital Fontaine has received support from USAID to set up a COVID-19 treatment shelter. We're supplementing the effort with coordination, case management, and additional recovery space. Our strategy includes three critical pillars:

Prevention with education on COVID-19 via regular phone calls and text messages, distribution of hygiene items and installing hand washing stations, and providing resources to shelter at home in light of wages lost;

Support at first sign of symptoms with accompaniment of medical protocols and recovery space with social support; and
Access to medical treatment for COVID-19 when the need arises with follow through case support.

Things are moving quickly, and we're rallying our families and First Mile collectors network to prepare for what's to come. The first round of small business loans were distributed to enable our partners to supply essential items to the community. While that effort is underway, we're now preparing to deliver additional food, hygiene items, and other resources to enable our families to shelter at home for the month. If you are in the position to support our efforts, a one-time contribution or a small monthly investment through the donation widget above will be put to work immediately.

Stay up to date by connecting with us on social media @doworkorg ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#)). We'll share our weekly compilation of the most important information on the development and the outcomes of our response to date.

Thank you.

For our families...,

The WORK Team

MARCH 20, 2020

Dear WORK Family and Friends,

Last night, the first two cases of COVID-19 were confirmed in Haiti. Both individuals are foreigners who have been in quarantine. The President declared a state of emergency immediately that included the actions below:

- closure of schools, universities;
- closed factories;
- declared curfew from 8:00 pm to 5:00 am;
- prohibits all meetings and meetings of more than 10 people;
- requests ministers and members of government to maintain security distances;

rotating 50/100 state employees with tele-work;
all ports and airports closed;
2 people per vehicle for commercial goods and merchandise;
special conditions for populations at risk (asthma, diabetes, etc);
black market for food and hygiene products will be severely banned
and sanctioned.

Over the past weeks, we've conducted educational sessions and demos for our families and collectors network so they're aware of the situation and what to do to avoid COVID-19. We're working to ensure supplies are in place for our families to endure this time and that strict protocols are enforced.

If you'd like to support our families financially at this time, it will go towards access to medical care, essential items, and small business loans for our entrepreneurs. A one-time gift will be put to use immediately and any recurring support in a small amount will enable us to sustain this for the time needed. Please only give if you are able to through the widget above.

We'll continue to provide updates here as the situation develops.

We've also had a chance to speak with many of you this week to learn about how COVID-19 has affected you personally. We'll continue to do so and find opportunities to support each other however we can. Join us on our social media platforms ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#)) as we unveil these ideas.

We're in this together...,

The WORK Team

MARCH 17, 2020

Dear WORK Family and Friends,

We hope that you're remaining safe and supported during this challenging time. Our US team is working from home and exercising precautions to protect ourselves and our communities from COVID-19. All March and April events have been cancelled.

Our families are provided with information, hygiene items, and while there are no known confirmed cases yet in Haiti, we're working together to plan for various scenarios.

To those who have asked us how they can support our families, we ask that if you're able to afford it to contribute a small amount of monthly support through the widget above that will enable us to maintain our preventative measures and respond meaningfully.

We've also reached out to the many small businesses who have supported us. As they have stood alongside us in our work to end poverty through jobs, it's important that we help keep their staff employed during this time. According to the US Small Business Association, small businesses make up 99.9% of all firms, 47% of all private sector employees, and 41% of private sector payroll. They're critical contributors to dignified work. [Please join us in rallying around them if you're able to.](#)

Be well and stay healthy.

For our families...,

The WORK Team