



# WHAT'S NEXT FOR HAITI?

## ADVOCATING FOR A LOCALLY LED SOLUTION AND SUSTAINABLE **REVITALIZATION/HUMANITARIAN** APPROACH

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Over the past few years, the security crisis has worsened, and the violence has morphed from:

- **Gang vs. Inner City Populations** to incite fear and establish themselves as the rule of law in the absence of effective police response
- **Gang vs. middle Class and up** populations through kidnappings for monetary gains (a portion of which are allegedly shared with both public and private sector players)
- **Gang vs. gang** to expand their territory,

to as recently as four weeks ago through VIV ANSANM (LIVING TOGETHER) - an agreement between the most feared gangs to spare the population in an attempt to gain the population's protection from the Multinational Security Support (MSS) scheduled to come this May to rid the country of their presence.

- **Gang vs. policemen and women** who seem to be far less funded and equipped than their counterparts
- **Gang vs. politicians** redirecting their violence toward the very people who facilitated the importation and distribution of weapons and ammunition from the United States.

The multifaceted terror affecting all layers of society—from inner-city populations to the middle class and beyond has not only resulted in a state of fear and instability but has also exacerbated the already dire humanitarian situation in the country.

The key to understanding and addressing this crisis is recognizing the root causes, a combination of detrimental national and international decisions. These have led to widespread consequences, affecting low-income communities the most severely. According to a [United Nations report](#) from May 2024, the Haitian population is now facing an unprecedented humanitarian crisis, marked





- **Healthcare Crisis** ["Le National"](#) 's May 2024 article explains that the deteriorating security crisis has resulted in the closure of multiple public and private hospitals throughout the nation, leaving the population, especially in and around Port-au-Prince, devoid of access to essential medical services. The few operating healthcare institutions, such as Fontaine Hospital (CHF), struggle to access much-needed medical supplies and funding to maintain their personnel and quality of services.
- **Education Crisis** where schools are shut down or destroyed, leaving children without access to primary education and a chance for a better future.
- **Housing and Job Market Crises** forcing families onto the streets and shuttering businesses that once were community pillars.
- **Food Security Crisis** exacerbated by logistic challenges and the looting of supplies, further threatening the population's health and stability.

Amidst these challenges, there's a glimmer of hope represented by local initiatives, particularly highlighted by the work of the [Centre Hospitalier de Fontaine Foundation \(CHFF\)](#).

For over three decades, CHFF and Fontaine Hospital (CHF) have provided crucial healthcare, education, and employment opportunities to communities in Cité Soleil, one of the most affected areas in Port-au-Prince.

The foundation's commitment to affordable, equitable, and quality healthcare, education, and job creation is a testament to the resilience and dedication of local institutions to their communities.

Their efforts underline the critical need for humanitarian aid to focus on immediate relief and long-term sustainability. By supporting institutions embedded within their communities, aid becomes more effective, targeted, and capable of fostering long-term recovery and resilience.

## A Glimmer of Hope





The current dialogue on Haiti's crisis often centers around security and political interventions, with insufficient emphasis on the immediate and emergent needs of the population in sectors like health and food security, as well as the foundational needs for long-term structural development in education, agriculture, business, and beyond.

For a sustainable recovery and the rebuilding of Haiti, it's imperative that humanitarian efforts:

- Involve local government and NGOs like CHFF in all planning, implementation, and oversight phases, thus ensuring that aid is responsive to the actual needs of the Haitian people and that local knowledge and networks are leveraged for effective delivery.
- Emphasize both Immediate and Long-term Needs by addressing urgent health and food security crises while investing in the infrastructure for education, agriculture, and employment that will sustain future generations.
- Support Local Institutions with a proven track record of commitment and resilience through crises, recognizing them as essential partners in Haiti's recovery.

By directing resources towards localized assistance and supporting institutions deeply integrated into the communities they serve, international aid can play a pivotal role in shaping a more resilient, sustainable, and hopeful future for Haiti.

CHFF exemplifies the power of local action in addressing humanitarian crises and underscores the importance of shifting the narrative toward support for these vital on-the-ground efforts.

How To Help - Support Community Revitalization

In a [March 2024 CBS interview](#), CHFF's founder, Kareen Ulyse, says, "Leaving Haiti is not an option," despite the risks to her safety.

Kareen started CHFF to protect, save, and grow her father's 32-year-old hospital, Fontaine Hospital (CHF); despite the crisis, with the help of much-needed donations, CHFF continues to offer

- Healthcare & Nutrition
- Education
- Workforce Development
- Child Protection and Wellbeing
- Disaster Preparedness and Response

services prioritizing Cité-Soleil and other marginalized (often forgotten) communities suffering from 1) extreme malnutrition, language deprivation, abuse, neglect, and more. The communities frequently overlooked include the Deaf, hard of hearing, DeafBlind, deaf disabled ([DHHDBDD](#)), People with Disabilities (PWDs), and Elders.

To learn more and [donate](#), visit [www.chffoundation.com](http://www.chffoundation.com)