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SCOPE SUCCESS STORY

HAITI



Derilus Claudette is a pastor, community leader and mother engaged in the SCOPE project.

USAID/World Relief: Photo by Louis Dieuquifait, World Relief Field Officer

NAME AND ROLE

Derilus Claudette, Outreach Group Initiative Trainer

LOCATION

Belle Anse, Haiti

SUMMARY

Derilus Claudette shares her experience as an Outreach Group Initiative Trainer and the impact the program will have in her community.

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FAITH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THROUGH OUTREACH GROUPS

Sustainable change requires a change in beliefs and values, and faith leaders are key partners in this work. Faith leaders have a strong influence on the beliefs and norms of the community. The Strengthening Community Outcomes Through Positive Engagement (SCOPE) Project is engaging faith leaders in applying religious texts to respond to difficult situations in their communities. Through training, faith leaders are learning how to create a positive environment and encourage healthy behaviors to address maternal and child morbidity and mortality.

OUTREACH GROUPS ENGAGING THE MOST VULNERABLE

Derilus Claudette is a young woman living in Belle Anse where she and her husband are actively involved in serving the most vulnerable in their community. Her husband is a pastor and a member of the World Relief Community Development Committee, a structure that brings together local faith leaders to develop sustainable initiatives that serve the most disadvantaged people in their community. Derilus Claudette helps her husband in his pastoral ministry and is also an Outreach Group Initiative (OGI) Trainer in their church.

Derilus became involved with the Strengthening Community Outcomes Through Positive Engagement (SCOPE) Project through her engagement with Outreach Groups. In learning about the project, she was encouraged by the fact that this program will reach pregnant women, women of childbearing age, and children under five. Derilus also shared that this kind of program is new in her community because community members often receive

materials but rarely receive advice and health workers' visits.

“As a woman and a mother, Outreach Group Initiative /SCOPE lessons will help me improve my health and the health of my family. I have noticed that families in the community tend to have many children without being able to provide for them and ensure a happy childhood. I am already very excited to share what I have learned with my community.”

- Derilus Claudette

OUTREACH GROUPS

Outreach Groups are teams of volunteers from faith communities that go into the community and visit families in need. Community volunteers visit the homes of the most vulnerable in their communities twice a month. During this visit, they share lessons on women's reproductive health and children's health. The volunteers are ordinary people who are part of the local churches and are supervised by trainers like Derilus.

This story is written by Mackendy Pierre, World Relief South East Regional Coordinator.