

EDV Case Study: College Adonai

Investing in Infrastructure for Improved Access to Education

At EDV, we pride ourselves in selecting projects which have the potential to change lives in the long-term. In many cases, that means we design a complex intervention which provides an integrated package of services. In other cases, long-term impacts require relatively simple investments in infrastructure for groups which are already working hard to bring about change in their own communities. College Adonai was such a case.



The transitional classrooms nearing completion.

College Adonai, like 90% of schools in Haiti, receives no government support. As a result, the school has to charge students to attend as without tuition fees from students, the school would be unable to pay teachers. However, the school is one of the most affordable schools in the area, and the only school in the community which provides children the opportunity to learn to use a computer.

Problem: Earthquake destroyed the school

Approach: Rebuild classrooms to provide essential infrastructure

Service Area: Reconstruction and Infrastructure

Investing in Infrastructure for a Better Tomorrow

Prior to the earthquake, the school was providing an obvious and direct benefit for its 180 students, but the earthquake destroyed the building, leaving the school holding class under tarpaulin.

At College Adonai, staff and students were ready and willing to get back to work but were severely hindered by a lack of classrooms. EDV immediately recognised that College

Adonai was a location where a relatively straight forward construction project would yield an improved, affordable educational opportunity for hundreds of vulnerable students in the coming years.

In the spring of 2011 EDV began allocating funding for a construction project at College Adonai and working with the school's directors to design the classrooms and school layout. We decided to build transitional classrooms with a lifespan of between five and ten years which would give the school ample space in the medium term and room to grow and change as recovery continued in the future.

Outcomes

Construction began in June 2011. Over the course of eight weeks, volunteers rebuilt nine classrooms, a security wall, a computer room and the school's office. Today, more than 180 students are attending school



in comfort and safety in EDV's transitional classrooms and computer classes have re-opened. In rebuilding the classrooms, we were also able to rebuild College Adonai's ability to provide an education for children living in poverty, providing a long-term change for the community as a whole.

Learn More or Donate

Please visit us online to learn more or donate: <http://www.edvolunteers.org/college-adonai-classroom-construction>.