

Direction Nationale

Open letter: Call for help to support Haitian migrants on the northern border of Haiti

Dear friends, partners, citizens of good will,

We are launching an urgent appeal for help in the face of an unprecedented migratory crisis affecting our country, Haiti. Following Dominican President Luis Abinader's announcement to deport 10,000 Haitian migrants every week, the situation is worsening: every day, between 600 and 800 migrants flock to Ouanaminthe on the northern border, desperately seeking refuge and support. These people are often dropped off or repatriated at the border in degrading conditions, sometimes late at night, after 8:00 pm, in violation of the 1999 agreements and human rights.

At Service Jésuite aux Migrants (SJM-Haïti/Solidarité Fwontalye), strengthened by 25 years of commitment, we are overwhelmed by this humanitarian catastrophe. In addition to the internally displaced fleeing violence in Port-au-Prince and other regions, hundreds of migrants deported by the Dominican Republic are joining those seeking refuge in Ouanaminthe. Together with other civil society players, we have welcomed 4,129 people since the beginning of October, including 2,842 men, 893 women including pregnant women and 294 children (152 boys and 142 girls).

We have taken part in coordination meetings with government bodies and mobilized young people to provide a dignified welcome for 30 people a day. However, our capacity of 90 people is far from sufficient to cope with the scale of the crisis. Providing a dignified welcome goes beyond shelter: it includes medical care, hygiene kits, food, clothing and often means of transport to reach their families.

We call on all institutions, organizations, churches, parishes and the Haitian diaspora to mobilize and support us. Your help is essential if we are to continue our mission of accompanying, defending the rights and dignity of migrants, who are often victims of abuse and violence.

United, we can guarantee a respectful and supportive welcome for these vulnerable people. Together, we can make a difference and save lives.

Thank you for your support.

N.B. You can contact us on this personal number and WhatsApp: (509) 41271487; email: sjmhaitidirection@gmail.com

With gratitude and hope,

P. Germain Clerveau, SJ National Director

SOLIDARITE FWONT RLY

Jesuit Migrant Service - Haïti (SJM-Haiti/Solidarite Fwontalye)