On January 12, 2010 a magnitude 7.0 earthquake struck Haiti, killing more than 300,000 people and displacing more than a million others. In October 2016, Hurricane Matthew devastated this already-fragile country, killing 500 people, displacing 175,000 others, and increasing the ever present needs of this impoverished nation.

Forward Edge teams will get to serve some of the most vulnerable children and families hit hardest by Hurricane Matthew in a small community called Vernet. Vernet is located just outside the city of Les Cayes in the southern region of Haiti. It is home to approximately 3,000 people, some of whom are native to Vernet, and others who’ve recently fled from Les Cayes to the community seeking relief from the hurricane.

Life in this area is very difficult for children and families as poverty has been intensified by the complete devastation from the hurricane. In addition, the practice of Restavek, a form of child slavery, is rampant in this area, and these children desperately need intervention.

Forward Edge’s Country Director in Haiti, Chavannes Jeune is leading our efforts to serve the families of this community and address the needs of vulnerable children. To allow for consistent and focused assistance, we are specifically creating partnerships with local churches who are already ministering to the most vulnerable children. In Vernet, we’re partnering with Pastor Prenor Coudo and his wife Antonice who lead a community-based ministry for vulnerable children that they call “Kids Club.” On a weekly basis, they touch the lives of over 100 children with the Gospel, a healthy meal and other activities to give the children hope. Teams will have the opportunity to come alongside this critical ministry to serve the children and their families, nurture the Restavek children and make a lasting impact on their lives.
TRAVEL AND ACCOMODATIONS
Teams will stay in guesthouses/hotels in the city of Les Cayes that have bedrooms with bedding and bathrooms. A packing list will be provided by FEI with items needed on this trip, and team members should be prepared for an authentic experience in a developing country.

PAYMENTS
A $200 per person non-refundable deposit is due at the time of registration and is applied toward your trip fee. Pay at www.forwardedge.org (Pay Trip Fees) via debit/credit card, eCheck, or send a check made out to Forward Edge International. Contact us if we can assist. Please reference your team number on all correspondence.

TEAM MEMBER PREPARATIONS
IMMUNIZATIONS: The government of Haiti does not require any shots or immunizations to enter the country. Please consult a personal physician for any recommendations.

TEAM PACKS: Once registration is complete, Forward Edge will send the team packs. Each will include a t-shirt, a Haiti Team Member Manual, a devotional, and other Forward Edge items.

SCHEDULE: Each day your team will experience a morning devotional, an evening debrief, and relationship building opportunities through serving the local people.

PASSPORTS
A passport is required to enter Haiti. No other identification is needed. If you already have a passport, please be sure that the expiration date is at least six months past the date of your departure from Haiti. If you do not have a passport, please apply for one as soon as possible. Both the application and renewal processes can take up to 6-8 weeks.

Please let us know if you have any questions.