





It's been a banner year for the Disaster Recovery International Foundation, as we work to realize our vision of resilient commu-

nities worldwide and celebrate our fifth anniversary. What better way to celebrate than by working harder and reaching more individuals and communities in need than ever before?

Among our top stories this year are some real milestones. In addition to awarding funds for 10 initiatives (read all about them in the coming pages!) in five countries, we expanded our scholarship program in two very exciting ways. First, instead of just one college scholarship, this year we awarded two – one for a high school senior and another for a current undergrad. We are happy to help our certified professionals with the cost of higher education and we love hearing the students' views on topics related to our profession (make sure to give their essays a read).

We also launched a very important initiative of which we are quite proud – the Veterans Outreach Committee Scholarship Program, which generated much excitement and inspired some truly generous giving. These scholarships (there were six awarded in 2016) help veterans by providing admission to a DRI International business continuity educational course, all course materials, qualifying examination, and application fees – all at no cost to the scholarship winners. We are thrilled to support this deserving audience and welcome such qualified professionals to our ranks.

And speaking of welcoming, I personally welcome each of you to read on, learn more about all of the wonderful projects we helped support in 2016, and consider how you might play a role on our team – through volunteering, participating in our fundraisers, or donations. We hope you enjoy this 2016 Annual Review, and we pledge to keep you posted on our progress.

Sincerely,

AnneMarie Staley, CBCP, MBCI Chair, DRI Foundation



Key Achievements in 2016

\$52,500 raised

funds in 2016

100% of donations

received spent on initiatives, not administration*

\$17,000 given

to disaster relief, rebuilding, and resiliency efforts

\$11,000 awarded

for training and education

\$2,150 toward

veterans outreach

25,000 people

provided access to safe water

8,084 pounds

of food sorted for families in need

150 families

received relief resources, including blankets food and clothing

96 solar lamps

for children and families

47 DRI Certified

professionals volunteered in 2016

10 families

provided greenhouses producing an average of 186 pounds of produce

6 veterans

awarded scholarships for training

3 homes & 1 school

repaired

2 students

awarded scholarships for college

A child does homework with the help of a solar lamp in Port-Salut, Haiti. The lamps provided families with a source of energy after Hurricane Mathew destroyed the already limited access to power in the commune. See Brighter lives for Haiti Communities page 7.

Photo courtesy of Reunion Sportive d'Haiti.

Figures as of December 31, 2016

*DRI International covers the operating costs of the DRI Foundation.





Photo courtesy of Higher Dimension Church.

We partner with non-profit organizations in communities impacted by disasters to provide help where it is needed most.

In 2016, the U.S. reportedly suffered more flooding than previous years on record. Flooding in Louisiana during the month of August was declared the worst disaster in the U.S. since Hurricane Sandy. In the Caribbean, Hurricane Mathew caused catastrophic damage, including the near devastation of Haiti.

Texas Flood Relief

DRI's April 2016 Collegiate Conference in Houston, a networking and educational event which benefits the DRI Foundation, coincided with storm flooding that caused damage to several communities in Northern Texas. Following the conference, we identified a local organization, Higher Dimension Church, that worked to help residents affected by the flooding get back on their feet. With our support and a \$2,000 donation, Higher Dimension Church-Katy (HDK) established The Katy Community Initiative, together with other community organizations, to provide resources for the homeless, families, and the elderly in the Katy, TX community. Our donation helped provide resources, including blankets, clothing, water, toiletries, and food for an estimated 150 families. To build resilience locally, Higher Dimension will continue planning, practicing, and preparing to support individuals and families for events like this one.



Photo courtesy of Rebuilding Together Baton Rouge.

Rebuilding Gulf Coast Communities

Continuous rainfall also caused widespread flooding in southern Louisiana during August 2016, killing at least 13 people, displacing thousands, and destroying about 60,000 homes. When the federal government declared a major disaster, we responded by creating the Gulf Coast Recovery Fund and called on business continuity and disaster recovery professionals to make an impact. We contributed \$5,000 to Rebuilding Together Baton Rouge (RTBR) to help rebuild the flood-damaged houses of elderly community members so they could return to their homes. In the immediate aftermath of the flood, RTBR cleaned out 82 flooded homes and began the restoration process. Given the expertise and experience of its volunteer staff, RTBR was able to maximize our contribution, achieving a \$4 value for every \$1 donated. RTBR reported that our \$5,000 translated into a \$20,000 value. Our contribution helped purchase enough materials - such as drywall, flooring, and doors - to restore a 1,500 square foot home.

Brighter Lives for Communities in Haiti

Hurricane Matthew struck Haiti on October 4. 2016 impacting an estimated 1.4 million people. The Category 4 hurricane caused devastation in a country still recovering from a massive earthquake just six years earlier. Some 10,000 homes were damaged in coastal villages, and most of the churches and schools designated as temporary shelters were damaged or destroyed as well, leaving thousands with no shelter. Additionally, water sources in these villages were a contaminated by the sea water. We took action and supported Reunion Sportive d'Haiti with a \$5,000 donation - it was used to purchase 350 metal sheets to repair the roof of a local school and two houses that were damaged by the hurricane. Our donation also was used to buy food, repair a water system, and purchase 96 solar lamps that were distributed to families so that children could do their homework in the evenings. The solar lamps, which can last a few years, are a safer and more sustainable alternative to kerosene lamps which require costly oil and can be dangerous.



Photo courtesy of Water Mission.

Safe Water for Refugees

Ongoing political unrest in Burundi has resulted in a humanitarian crisis as people fleeing conflict head to refugee camps in Tanzania; 100,000 refugees fled Burundi by mid-2016. Nyarugusu, one such camp, originally built to host 50,000 refugees, has far surpassed its capacity, severely limiting access to safe water and sanitation. We contributed \$5,000 toward Water Mission's continued response to the growing refugee crisis in Tanzania. Our donation was used in combination with other donations for pumps, storage tanks, tap stands, as well as labor, water treatment, and assembly costs, and transport. With our support, Water Mission worked with UNICEF, UNHCR, MSF, and OXFAM to design and install 10 safe water treatment systems at Nyarugusu large enough to supply safe water, every day, to 25,000 refugees.

Photo courtesy of Namlo.

Growing Food Security

To help build resilience in one of the poorest countries in the west, we made a \$5,000 donation to Namlo International's greenhouse project in Nicaragua. Namlo helps communities with low incomes and poor diets to become more resilient to adversity through a sustainable source of food and income. With our support, Namlo built green houses in 18 communities for 60 families (250 people), which enabled them to raise organic vegetables, improve nutrition, and increase income by connecting them to regional markets where they could sell their surplus produce. Our donation covered the cost of ten greenhouses, installation, ongoing training for a family, starter seed packages, and continuous monitoring for a full year. About 20 percent of the subsidized greenhouse sales went to women.



Photo courtesy of Rowlett Exlporer Post One.

Youths Explore CERT Training

On December 26, 2015, an EF-4 tornado - one of 12 that day - hit Rowlett, TX, damaging or destroying 1,296 homes in Rowlett and killing 13 people. Learning of the post-Christmas devastation from a DRI Certified Professional who lives in Rowlett, we donated \$1,000 to support Rowlett Explorer Post 1, a group designed to give young adults the opportunity to experience Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), fire rescue, EMS, and emergency management first hand, and to develop their leadership and citizenship skills. Post 1 members are trained in FEMA's CERT training, where they learn fire suppression/utility control, light search and rescue, victim extrication, triage and emergency medical care. After initial training, they are invited to participate right along with their adult counterparts in Rowlett CERT. And participate they did. Of the 1,296 homes destroyed that day, nearly 1,170, are re-built or under construction.

"As an international organization, the DRI Foundation has supported resiliency following disasters in numerous places.... Supporting Namlo's resiliency efforts in Nicaragua, helping them recover from storm and insect damage and building resilient communities, is the DRI Foundation's vision."

-Jerry Vevon, DRI Foundation Giving Committee Chair



Photo courtesy of Save Our Veterans.

We are committed to helping our veterans succeed, and in 2016 we established the DRI Foundation Veterans Outreach Program to help veterans achieve success as they transition into careers in emergency response, crisis management, business continuity, and disaster recovery.

The program, the first of its kind in our profession, awards scholarships to active duty or recently separated military veterans. Six scholarships were awarded in 2016, and plans are to continue to grow that number.

Scholarships include, at no cost to qualified candidates, admission to a DRI International (DRI) business continuity educational course, all course materials, qualifying examination, and all application fees – valued at over \$3,000.

"One of the major challenges is being able to take all the military experience you have and package it in a way civilians understand it. I had to rebuild my confidence as I was reintegrating. When you have a lot of experience, both civilian and military, and you find yourself looking for a point. Completing my certification was a light for me. And I'm truly thankful for it. I know I can do it - I have done it! Having an international organization that validates what I've already accomplished shows organizations that I have those tools."

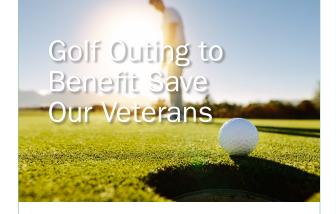
—Florence Moss, scholarship recipient



Photo courtesy of Save Our Veterans.

Supporting Disabled Veterans

During the DRI2016 conference in Atlanta, GA, we presented the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) in Atlanta with a \$2000 donation, as part of our initiative to give back to the communities in which DRI International holds its annual conference. DAV provides free professional assistance to veterans and their families and works to safeguard services and protections on behalf of veterans on Capitol Hill. When disaster strikes. DAV's National Service Officers are dispatched to the affected area to provide monetary assistance, conduct benefits counseling, and offer referral services. They provided disaster relief grants in the aftermath of natural disasters and emergencies in various areas around the nation to help veterans and their families secure temporary lodging, food, and other necessities.



We sponsored a hole at the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) Military Committee Golf Outing on May 13, 2016 at Gray Eagle Golf Club in Fishers, IN.

All proceeds from the event benefited **Save Our Veterans**, which combats homelessness and unemployment in the veteran population by providing career opportunities, access to job training, and pathways to housing.

In particular, our donation will support Save Our Veteran's welding program, through which veterans learn skills that make them more marketable to potential employers.

"With DRI becoming more involved with veteran outreach, we welcome opportunities like this to partner with organizations that are prioritizing the needs of veterans. The DAV is doing great work, and we're happy to give them support."

—Al Berman, DRI Past President

Veterans know what it is like to be in the war zone, to be on the line, to overall "adapt and overcome." Veterans, can play a huge role in building a community that is not only resilient, but can also help other communities in disaster/hunger relief, training, and services.

—CPT Jason Reyes, U.S. Army Contingency Operations, Enterprise Solutions and Standards

Engaging Future Generations

We believe that educating our youth about the importance of disaster preparedness today is a key to building more resilient communities in the future.

"When we asked high school seniors to put themselves in the shoes of future leaders dealing with challenges like terrorism and natural disasters. I thought that might be a bit of reach. Not so. Daniel's essay was specific, relevant, and proactive. Clearly, his training as a Boy Scout has truly led him to 'Be Prepared.' And I suspect being the son of a continuity professional also contributed mightily. It is my pleasure to congratulate Daniel and wish him well in his studies."

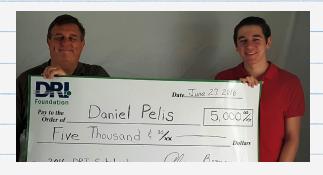
——AnnMarie Staley, DRI Foundation Chair

DRI Foundation Scholarships

This year we expanded the DRI Foundation Scholarship program which is made possible through donations from DRI International and DRI Canada. We awarded scholarships of \$5,000 to a high school senior and a college student enrolled in a 4-year undergraduate program for the upcoming fall semester, and whose legal guardian is a DRI-certified professional, in good standing, in the U.S. or Canada.

Daniel Pelis was awarded the 2016 DRI Foundation scholarship for high school seniors. Applicants were judged based on a list of submission criteria, including academics, extracurricular activities, volunteerism, and an essay on preparedness. Daniel enrolled in Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, NJ in the fall of 2016. He is from Lake Grove, NY and is majoring in engineering. An Eagle Scout, Daniel has a distinguished academic record, as well as extensive volunteer experience in his community. Not surprisingly, he's a big believer in preparedness. Read Daniel's winning essay on the next page.

Katia Hamamouche, a student majoring in elementary education at Alma College in Alma, MI, won the 2016 DRI Foundation Scholarship for a current undergraduate student. Applicants were judged based on a list of submission criteria, including academics, extracurricular activities, volunteerism, and an essay on campus violence. Katia's winning essay was inspired by her experience as a resident assistant in a campus dorm and focuses on the need to better educate and communicate "potential trigger signs, prevention techniques, available resources, and proper responses to acts of violence." Read Katia's winning essay on the next page.



Congratulations to Daniel Pelis, winner of the DRI Foundation's 2016 Scholarship for high school seniors! Daniel was selected in part because of the strength of his essay on what proactive steps he would initiate to help add to our ability to prevent and recover from destructive disasters, which you can read here:

As a Boy Scout, the concept of Preparedness is something that is constantly stressed. It is the motto for the Boy Scouts of America, and it is incorporated into most of the activities we take part in. Among the many requirements needed to reach the rank of Eagle Scout, one must complete the First Aid and Emergency Preparedness merit badges. While earning these badges, I was required to created escape routines and bags for emergencies. Much of the information I learned through these merit badges is important, but foreign to most citizens. I believe the reason for this is because most people no longer act without incentive.

My idea is to create some incentives for citizens who involve themselves in emergency preparedness. This could include activities such as receiving training in first aid or volunteering to help at an emergency shelters during a disaster. This is a task that would be done at the local government level. Another task that I would present to the local government would be for the government to more frequently advertise where emergency shelters are located. The locations of local emergency shelters are commonly unknown to the average citizen and are not widely advertised. Doing my own research, I had a difficult time finding the shelter in my county. I believe the local government could hold a fair at the emergency shelters of some kind during the month of September since it is National Preparedness Month. It is also around the same time school starts so it could help get kids to think about emergency preparedness more. It is important to have a lot of the events done at the local level since it will help the communities to focus the events to disasters they would most likely see.

An act that I would take at the state level refers to a new requirement that was imposed for high school seniors. Recently it has become a requirement for seniors to become certified in compression CPR in order to graduate. I believe it would be effective to extend requirements such as these to younger children. The courses could be first aid based and would result in a generation that understands how to act in the event of an emergency. Also, the fairs that I previously mentioned could incorporate different aspects of emergency preparedness. This could include fire safety, first aid, and businesses could get involved by sponsoring the event. The states could help coordinate cooperation between different communities helping to bring assistance more quickly if one part of the state is affected by a disaster.

At the Federal level. I would see that the Federal Government would provide overall guidance and funding. This could include asking major networks and the news to use public service time to make people aware of topics in first aid or what to stock in case of a disaster. The President could ask celebrities to donate their time to make these ads. We could also ask students to serve in preparedness groups as a way to help pay off their student loans. There are many specialties such as medical students, nurses, social workers, and engineering students whose education could be used to help in responding to disasters, maybe as part of FEMA. This would be similar to the ROTC or National Guard programs in the military. They would gain great work experience, while helping to reduce their college debt. Favorable tax breaks on smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, or first aid kits could help get people to install and maintain them.

I think it is important to start getting people used to thinking about preparedness earlier. The earlier those children are introduced to preparedness and service to their community, the more that they will adopt these behaviors into their adulthood. Then we could start to introduce preparedness days or

weeks throughout the year instead of just once a month. This could help the level of preparedness, and reduce the need for incentives. It is my hope that by introducing some of these ideas, people will become more aware of the potential dangers and maybe less people will die or be affected by these events.



Congratulations to Katia Hamamouche, winner of the DRI Foundation's 2016 Scholarship for undergraduates! Katia was selected in part because of the strength of her essay on preparing for and reacting to campus violence, which you can read here:

Run! Hide! Fight! These three simple words may be the most important ones spoken to this generation of students-school shootings, suicide bombings, and workplace violence seem to be running rampant in our society and we all need to be prepared to react to such an incident. As a daughter of a parent who spends her life preparing her company's associates for the man-made and natural disasters, I have always been one to identify emergency exits and memorize airline instruction cards, all while being aware of my surroundings. Unfortunately, I do not represent the majority of students as too many students view these years as freedom, excitement and independence-a time to experience new places, people, and things. No one wants to live in a perpetual state of anxiety, nor does anyone wish to stop fulfilling their dreams to travel the globe. For this reason, it is imperative that the students in my generation know how to respond to a violent attack, how to communicate to others that they are safe, and most importantly how to respond to an active shooter situation. Educators need to be trained to identify warning signs and triggers

amongst their students so they can ensure they get the help they need in order to prevent acts of violence. Ultimately, everyone needs to know that if they see something that causes alarm, they need to say something to someone who might be able to help.

Campuses throughout the country have developed a variety of ways to ensure their students' safety. My campus, for example, is diligent in educating the Resident Assistant staff members on resources readily available to students on campus. First and foremost, an instant alert system pre-populated with student phone numbers and those of their parents is communicated to families prior to the student moving into the dorms. This, in my opinion, is the single most important tool available to students today. These alerts are used to assist in locating missing persons or to alert students of any violent situation. One route list is used for all students, parents, and college staff to provide directions to anyone who may experience an impact. For example, three years ago a student on our campus went missing-because of this alert system students campus-wide were called together to immediately begin a search and rescue of the campus and surrounding areas. A second route list is used for all Resident Assistants on campus. This list is used in conjunction with our local police and campus security to advise us of potential issues-people who are believed to be harmful to our students. In some instances, we are advised that someone was seen hanging around campus and we are to be on the lookout for this individual and, if seen, we are to report it to Security or the local police department. Additionally, there are telephones, good old fashioned telephones wired into walls, available to use in the event of an emergency should cell towers or cell phone batteries be unavailable during an incident. Finally, we have security 'blue' lights on campus that students may use to alert our local Security force. A member of Security will quickly arrive at the location to assist the student in need.

Social media outlets are an essential benefit to my generation as well. During the Paris and Brussels bombings, many students studying in the impacted countries used the Facebook application to quickly communicate to their family, friends, and professors that they were safe and unharmed by the events. As a generation, we are always connected to our phones and our social media accounts. However, even these tools are only a resource if the masses are aware of their existence. For those iPhone users, the Medical ID application is a fantastic way to ensure a witness the ability to communicate with the next of kin as the details are provided and available to passerby's whether the phone is unlocked or locked, providing the battery is still intact.

Education on the tools, resources, appropriate manner in which to respond to a violent attack, and proper means to communicate to others is the essential component to keeping our students safe. This education should begin in the lower Elementary schools and needs to be refreshed upon entering college. Most colleges have days or weeks dedicated to all incoming freshmen and transfer students. In my opinion, students should be educated on campus and local security at this point. Bulletin boards, brochures, and guest speakers should be engaged to reinforce these tools and options. As a society, we have done a better job at educating college students on the effects of drunk driving, the laws surrounding drunk driving, and the impacts underage drinking. These campaigns have proven successful on many large college campuses. Incidents of active shooters are being experienced on campuses-small and large, public and private, old and new. Whether students are sitting in their dorm room or listening to a professor's lecture, they need to be aware of their options-Run! Hide! Or Fight! Additionally, they need to be aware of how to make their decision the best one available. In other words, if I choose to run, what do I need to consider? All students should be made aware of the key items to consider-Exit with arms in the air; Encourage others to evacuate with you; Educate others outside of the building to remain outside and out of sight. Those individuals who decide to hide need to be aware of a different set of items-Look for cover, not concealment; Lock doors; Silence mobile phones; Lie on the floor and secure door with feet if you are unable to lock the door. Fleeing individuals need to be aware of the designated meeting location so that they may be accounted for. Finally, those

who decide to fight or defend themselves need to have a plan and need to remember that common items on their desk or in their classrooms may save their lives. Trash cans, framed photographs, scissors, sports equipment can all be used for protection in these incidents. However, during the heat of the moment we should not be making our escape plan. Everyone should proactively prepare, rehearse, and consider our options when our emotions are not being tested. After all, no dancer would show up to the performance without ever having rehearsed their piece. Our safety plans should be viewed in the same way as a performance or sporting event. We need to practice the drill to perform it effectively.

Many of the students are walking back to their dorms at very late (or very early) hours of the day. A simple, yet effective way of ensuring our safety is to have a plan to indicate our whereabouts. If no one knows where you are, no one knows where to look for you should violence occur. Some may feel this recommendation is Big Brother-like, but the reality is someone needs to know where I am to know I'm missing.

Communication and education are the keys to any successful programs-school violence is no different. Therefore, educators-from elementary schools to college/university settings-need to have the ability to identify warning signs and have the support from their respective administrations to deal with these issues before violence takes place. Teacher in-service days and professor meetings should be used in order to educate these groups on warning signs, potential triggers, and resources. In order to make a difference in the frequency of these incidents, we need more individuals empowered to prevent them. Several shootings have been prevented by a simple phone call to the authorities to advise of a Facebook post, twitter posting, or SnapChat message. Therefore, I would like to propose a national "If you see something, Say something" campaign to be used to educate students, parents, and educators. If more people are made aware of potential trigger signs, prevention techniques, available resources, and proper responses to acts of violence, campus shootings are bound to become less frequent and college campuses are bound to become safer for all.

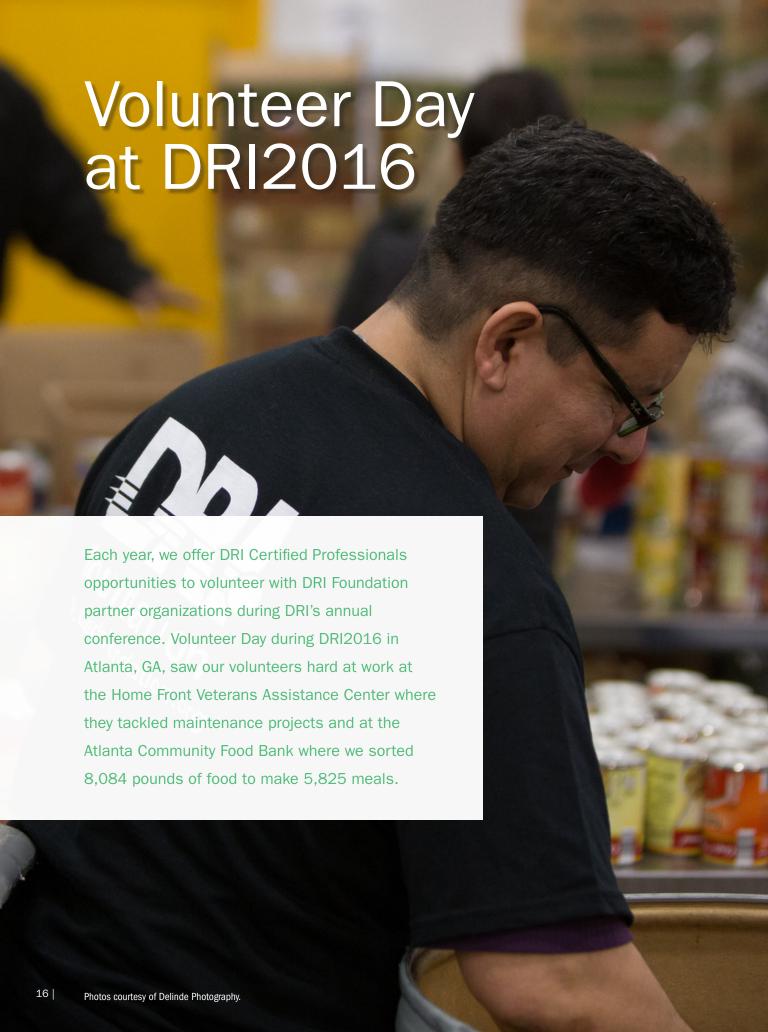






Photo courtesy of Rebuilding Together Baton Rouge.

The DRI Foundation thanks the individuals. companies, and organizations whose generous donations supported our efforts in 2016.

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Photo courtesy of Reunion Sportive d'Haiti.

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- · Volunteer: Want to volunteer? Email Michele Ostler mostler@driif.org.
- Ask for volunteers: Need our volunteers to help out at your nonprofit?
 Email Michele Ostler mostler@driif.org.

Have a question or an idea? Talk to us: 646-378-7922 or info@driif.org

Photo courtesy of Delinde Photography.





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Photo courtesy of Rebuilding Together Baton Rouge.





Volunteers distribute supplies to Hurricane Mathew survivors. See Brighter Lives for Communities in Haiti page 7.

Photo courtesy of Reunion Sportive d'Haiti



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