

Group raising money for clean water in Haiti

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A group of Fredericton citizens committed to helping improve living situations in Haiti have started a fundraiser to address issues related to water, sanitation and hygiene.

Freddy Link is looking to raise \$50,000 to help a Haitian community of about 50,000 build hand-washing stations and latrines in schools and throughout the community.

"After the earthquake, they had a big outbreak of cholera and now with hurricane Matthew, they've had another big outbreak. So this is one of the things they've identified as a real need" said Bernie Zebarth, Freddy Link project co-ordinator.

"You go to the schools and they have nothing. There's no bathrooms, there's no running water, there's no nothing. So how do you clean yourself? Basically there's the bushes out back, that's it. So the goal is to go into these schools and do that - build the hand-washing stations, build latrines, so they've got these facilities we take for granted. And that's how you fight something like cholera"

In March, Zebarth and a handful of other Freddy Link volunteers spent a week in Haiti to see how things had improved in the community since their last trip. One school already had a hand-washing station installed.

"We went to a school and they had some of the students demonstrate for us, it was so cute."