



# Trees That Feed Foundation Annual Report 2018



Breadfruit plays a key role in Puerto Rico's recovery

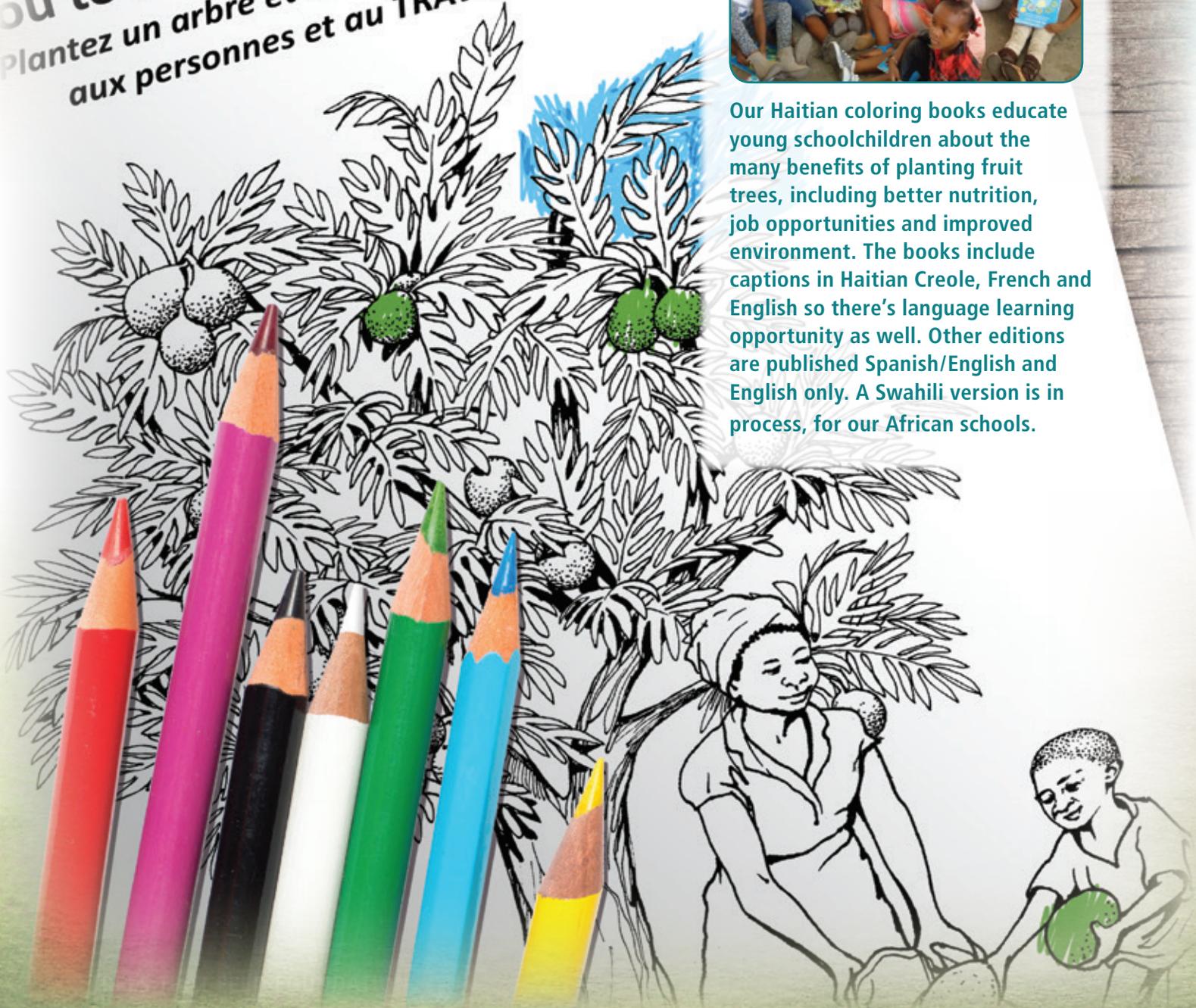
Planting fruit trees to feed people,  
create jobs and benefit the environment

# Coloring Book, Haitian Edition

e yon pye bwa e bèl bagay rive  
ou tout moun ak TRAVAY yap fè.  
Plantez un arbre et de belles choses arrivent.  
aux personnes et au TRAVAIL qu'ils font.



Our Haitian coloring books educate young schoolchildren about the many benefits of planting fruit trees, including better nutrition, job opportunities and improved environment. The books include captions in Haitian Creole, French and English so there's language learning opportunity as well. Other editions are published Spanish/English and English only. A Swahili version is in process, for our African schools.



# Letter from the Chair



Hello again Friends,

Trees That Feed Foundation had another great year in 2018, thanks to your support. Your support has come in many forms, not only financial but also volunteering and helping us to tell our story. Thanks again for allowing us to continue this mission.

I want to remind everyone about a key element of our approach. Perhaps it's obvious, or perhaps not. We plant fruit trees, yes. And we're still focused on fruit trees, but our mission has continued to evolve. We're increasingly active in helping entrepreneurs to start their own businesses. We give them equipment, training, relationships. Why is that important? One word ... independence.

You've heard the old saying, "Give a man a fish and he eats for a day, teach him to fish and he eats for a lifetime." We are giving people the means to feed themselves, to help themselves to become independent of continuing support. For example, fruit trees bear fruit for decades. Our Factory in a Box idea has led to creation of several small businesses. Excess food products can be sold locally or exported. The ultimate goal surely is to reduce dependence on charity. And if there is a business value to the trees, they will be cared for and kept alive.

Here's what else is different about our approach. As a few entrepreneurs start to become successful, it will set an example to others. We've already seen this. Almost daily we are contacted by folks who have heard about us by word of mouth, and they ask for help, and we find a way to give it. In this report you'll see stories about Raquel de Jesus from Puerto Rico; Mandy Thody in Haiti; Philip Lowther, a baker in Jamaica; Joe Matara and Nick de Koning in Kenya and Uganda. Small, medium or large, these businesses are like seeds of a tree that will grow, and spread, and be seen, and lead to more opportunities.

In this Annual Report you'll also see updates on our activities. We give you the numbers related to our tree planting, equipment provided, training sessions held, the increasing number of local partners we work with, and of course summary financials.

We had a good year, our approach works, and we're super excited about the future! Thanks again for supporting our mission.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary McLaughlin". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mary McLaughlin  
Chair, Trees That Feed Foundation

# Puerto Rico Success

Puerto Rico is recovering from 2017's Hurricane Maria, and we think that breadfruit is a big part of the story!

Breadfruit, called Pana in Puerto Rico, was already well known, but trees were somewhat scattered. They were not being farmed in an organized way. We wanted to see these valuable trees supply more food and become commercially successful, so in 2014, we donated 432 trees to two farms.

Those trees are still alive and well! Breadfruit trees evolved in tropical climates and are relatively well adapted to storms. In a high wind the large leaves blow away, leaving the branches less vulnerable. When Hurricane Maria hit, relatively few breadfruit trees were lost. Within a few weeks after the hurricane, new growth appeared, and within a year, fruit production was back to normal. Farmers who had pruned their trees to a lower height recovered especially

quickly. Puerto Ricans have embraced this nutritious and healthy food for years. Now, increasingly, farmers are planting more trees, and more post-harvest products are becoming available. Examples of products made with tasty fresh breadfruit, or the flour are numerous, including commercial breads, frozen French fries, and tostones. To meet the increasing demand, breadfruit is now being imported from the Dominican Republic to Puerto Rico.

**Raquel de Jesus** launched a successful company a few years ago, FINCA Panapen. She produces breadfruit tostones, which are a rough cut home fried breadfruit, popular on the island. Traditionally served at home with a "Pink Sauce" and enjoyed with an evening meal or snack, now they are commercially available in frozen packaging. Tostones are now finding a prime spot on most restaurant menus on the Island and in Florida.

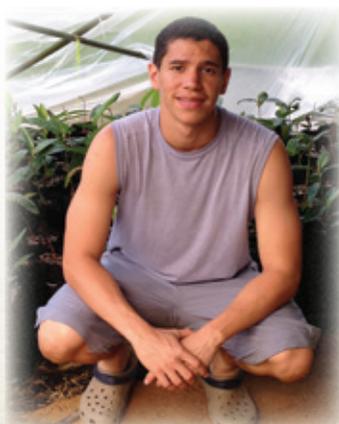
**JuanCarlos Rodriguez** is producing breadfruit French fries. **Josue Rodriguez** (no relation) produces breadfruit flour. **Amasar**, a one-year old company, is making a mark at home and internationally. They also produce breadfruit flour which is used as a key ingredient in breads, cakes, pancakes, tortillas, porridge, even a tasty milkshake-like drink.

Breadfruit trees even serve as habitat for small animals and birds. The success of breadfruit is both in nutrition and economic benefits. In addition to large orchards, the fruit from many scattered trees now has cash value. Smallholder farmers are able to sell their underutilized excess fruit to boost their income. Breadfruit even serves as habitat for small animals and birds.

There's no catch to this story! Our vision at TTFF to see economic opportunity from breadfruit is now a reality. Everyone in Puerto Rico comes out a winner!



*Breadfruit French Fries*



*Juan Carlos Rodriguez*



*FINCA Panapen Tostone*



*Raquel de Jesus*

# Teamwork in Haiti

# HAITI



There is a beautiful island on the southern coast of Haiti, Île à Vache. Literally translated, it means Cow Island. Not sure how many cows are there today, but we do know the people living there could use some help.

**Mandy Thody** has been working as a volunteer there for many years, helping farmers and educators through the Good Samaritan Foundation.

She requested 600 breadfruit trees to be donated to local families, and equipment to establish a breadfruit

processing center on the island. TTFF was happy to agree. Unfortunately Île à Vache is a bit inaccessible, with limited air and sea connections with the mainland of Haiti.

The TTFF volunteer network sprang into action. Trees were shipped by truck from Jeremie Breadfruit, our local supplier, and by ferry over to the island. Secretary-Treasurer Mike McLaughlin ordered equipment which was shipped to Ken Banks, our volunteer and newest Board member, located in Florida. Mandy knew a boat captain sailing to Île à

Vache, and asked if he could carry a bit more of a load. Ken met the captain at a Fort Lauderdale marina, delivered the goods, and **Captain Sequoia** delivered everything to the island. Mandy arranged the pickup and transplanting.

At last report the trees are well cared for and are growing nicely. The equipment is being set up and will be in full operation by summer.

Thanks to the team. This is how Trees That Feed Foundation gets things done!



# Tasty Vegan Breadfruit Products

JAMAICA



Mary and Mike met **Philip Lowther** at the Ujima Organic Market on a recent trip to Jamaica. A quiet guy, he shows up every Saturday at the market location, just above Matilda's Corner, in Kingston. He works with his daughter and wife to bake and sell his organic breadfruit-based products.

Philip started experimenting a few years ago with the aim of making healthy treats that tasted really good. Working in his small bakery just outside of Kingston, he experimented until he found the perfect breadfruit and ackee patty. He sources his ingredients locally from farmers who he trusts to produce the best harvests without use of chemicals.

His breadfruit patties are excellent, with a crunchy crust, and consistent quality. Ackee is the most popular filling, with curried green jackfruit a close second. Spices and seasonings are all vegetarian and organic. His retail prices are reasonable, and he makes a modest profit sufficient to keep his business going.

Philip is a skilled baker but he asked for Mary's help with marketing. One Saturday morning Mary uploaded a Facebook post suggesting people visit the market and taste these new products. Next day Philip called ... his business had quadrupled! He could hardly believe his own success. He asked for some equipment to speed up processing, which Mary and Mike delivered a few weeks later, further increasing his production capacity.



Some of his satisfied customers have become volunteers, helping to spread the word about Philip and his patties. And Mary has designed labels and banners to give his retail space a more professional look.

This is the kind of help Trees That Feed Foundation likes to provide. A small business is growing, demand for the fruit is growing, and tasty new products are available in the local marketplace. Everybody is coming out a winner.



Jessica and Philip Lowther with Mary McLaughlin

# Trees to East Africa

# EAST AFRICA



Amazing what one phone call can lead to. In April, 2018, Mary received a cold call from **Joseph Matara**. Joe found TTFF on Facebook. This cold call resulted in a partnership that has worked unbelievably smoothly.

Joseph is originally from Kenya. He grew up in modest circumstances but was lucky enough to get educated in the US. His community in Kisii, Kenya contributed what little funds they had to buy him a plane ticket to get him to the United States. His first flight ever, in 1987, was from Nairobi to Newark, NJ, with only \$20 in his pocket, a dream in his head, and the confidence of those who loved him.

Joseph was given the opportunity for success after graduating high school through the Kenyan tradition of harambee. Harambee is the act of a community pulling together, sharing their resources and skills for a worthwhile purpose.

Joseph is now a successful CPA, and lives in New Jersey with his wife and two sons. He has been giving back to his homeland for many years. Joseph started the Grace Project <https://graceproject.org/> in 2006, to build schools in his home community. To help further, Joseph wanted to plant breadfruit for nutrition and reforestry. TTFF agreed to pay the cost of the trees, while Joseph would pay for transportation and care for the trees. There were no

local trees, so TTFF and Joe shared the cost of importation of 750 tiny breadfruit saplings, sourced from a greenhouse in Frankfurt, Germany.

**Mary Kibai** has been the caretaker of the Kenyan trees from the first day they arrived in Nairobi. She has shepherded their transportation to Mombasa, the second largest Kenyan city. It's nestled on the Red Sea and has a perfect climate for breadfruit.

TTFF also wanted some trees to go the surrounding East African countries, namely Uganda and Tanzania. The challenge was to ship the trees free of any soil, due to international regulations. These fragile little plants had to have the roots washed completely free of soil, then wrapped in coconut fiber, to journey overnight. **Nick De Koning** and his wife **Cheryl**, of "Our Trees Our Future Uganda" drove the plants overnight to Jinja Uganda. On arrival they were carefully replanted. Happily, almost 100 percent are alive and thriving, waiting to be planted in their forever homes in Uganda.

Other trees were trucked to Tanzania by Mary Kibai. It was a nervous time, waiting to see if these delicate little saplings would recover from a 4-day long journey. Finally after several weeks, new leaves are now sprouting. Whew! They are being cared for by **Saimon Mollel**, a teacher who is passionate about breadfruit.



*Nick De Koning at his farm in Uganda*



*Ugandan plants*



*Mombasa with Mary Kibai at the right side*



*Tanzania with Saimon in the middle*

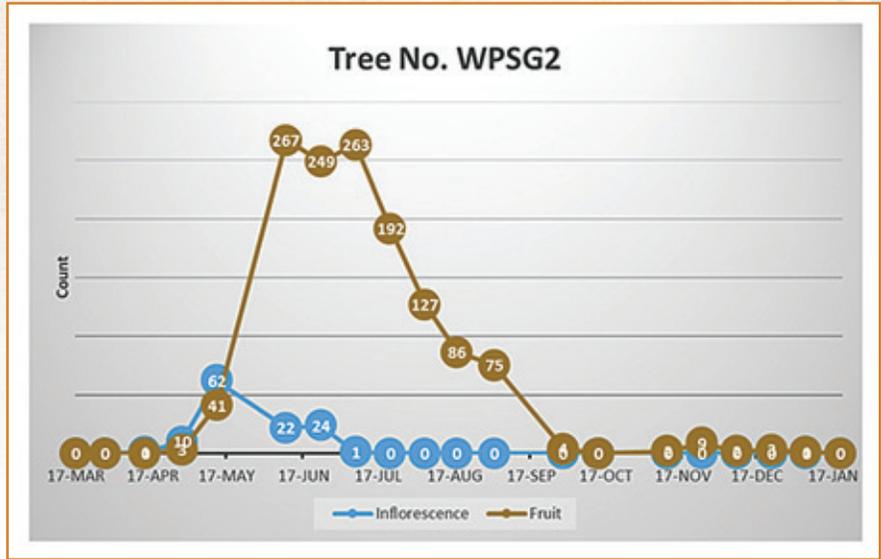
# Breadfruit Yield Study

Let's tell you about one of our biggest projects of 2018. Actually it's still ongoing, because it's a multi-year project!

Breadfruit trees are a boon to the smallholder farmer, but we're also thinking bigger. Mike and Mary McLaughlin are working with a few large food producing companies in Jamaica and elsewhere. They're encouraging them to consider large scale breadfruit operations.

As you know, breadfruit is gluten-free. It's not only gluten-free, it's tasty, which is saying something! There's a huge demand worldwide for gluten free products, by one estimate over 400,000 metric tons annually. Breadfruit products could fill part of this huge market need, and in the process boost the economy of the countries where it's grown. And did we mention also benefiting the environment?!

One obstacle to large scale investing in breadfruit is the uncertainty around any agricultural product. We've talked to medium and large scale farmers and commercial producers, and they universally agree: they need good data on yield on which to build a business plan. They are not willing to invest in orchards, processing plants, and logistics without some certainty as to the likely yield. We have searched for yield data with universities and government agricultural bodies in the Caribbean and Hawaii ... there is plenty of anecdotal information, but it's not quantifiable and oftentimes



contradictory. A large potential export market is stalled for lack of information.

So in 2018, TTFF embarked on a 12-month study to quantify breadfruit yield. We need a full year, because fruit bearing is seasonal. We received generous support for the project from Conservation, Food & Health Foundation. We worked closely with Dr Seymour Webster, of the College of Agriculture, Science & Education in Jamaica. Our project advisor is Dr. Nyree Zerega, Northwestern University, TTFF Board Member, and leading authority on underutilized foods such as breadfruit and jackfruit.

In January 2018 we held a kickoff meeting with a team of students. We also recruited a number of volunteer "Citizen Scientists" to participate. We identified over 50 trees in various locations, of different varieties, in different kinds of soil, and with different amounts of rainfall. The teams go out into the field every

two weeks, and they count fruit on each tree in the various stages of ripeness. We tabulate the data at our head office in Northfield, Illinois. The data is scrubbed and reviewed regularly. We already have over 1,000 data points, enough to lead to some meaningful conclusions.

An example of the data we'll be able to show is pictured above. Already we're seeing some trends. Some trees bear over 350 fruit in the main season, equivalent to over 1,500 pounds of food. Other trees much less, for a number of reasons we're working to identify. We also know that the Northeast facing side of the tree produces significantly more fruit than other quadrants! Who knew!? That's why this groundbreaking study is needed.

Our plan is to release the first 12 months of data in 2019, and the second 12 months of data in 2020. Stay tuned as more details emerge!

# Update on Equipment

All fruit is seasonal. Some times of the year there's more than you can eat, other times few or none are available. TTFE recommends preserving the fruit in times of abundance to enjoy during the rest of the year. For breadfruit we recommend making flour, which is a versatile food ingredient. For soft fruit like mangos, drying produces a long shelf life, tasty, nutritious retailable product. Other methods of preparation are many and varied.

TTFE realized a few years ago that we need to help farmers and other entrepreneurs with processing equipment. You've heard stories from us before about that. Sometimes we make an outright grant of the equipment. For larger groups, we negotiate to be paid back with food products!

As 2018 progressed we became more and more involved in delivering equipment. Just a few examples:

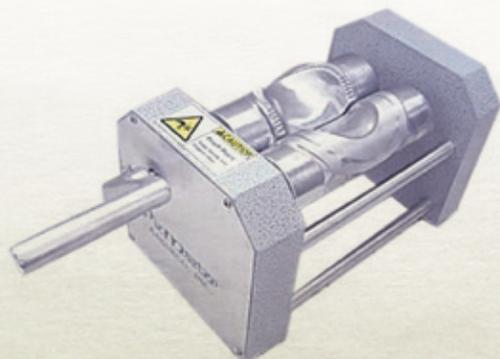
- We commissioned and delivered our hybrid solar dryer, funded in cooperation with Rotary Clubs in Canada. This unit, although it wasn't constructed exactly to specifications, is functioning well. It's being used to dry breadfruit prior to grinding to flour, also mangoes and numerous other fruit.
- We delivered a turnover ("patty") making machine to Mr Philip Lowther (see story on page 6). This increased his speed of production by a large multiple allowing him to expand his business quite dramatically.
- We supplied a heavy duty Robot Coupe CL-50 food processor and a Penagos MDP-60 grinding mill to Shavuot Holdings Ltd. The organization has the potential to deliver large volumes of breadfruit flour.
- We helped Mr. Vaughn Orr to purchase a food shredder.

- We donated a Factory-in-a-Box kit to Good Samaritan Foundation, Île à Vache, Haiti.

Those are just a few examples. We also provided several other smaller pieces of equipment and accessories, such as food safe perforated metal trays.

TTFE tries to provide equipment that matches the capacity of the farmer or entrepreneur involved. No sense spending thousands of dollars on equipment to be used by one smallholder farmer. Likewise a small Nutrimill is of no use in a large factory.

Shown below are a few different types of equipment we supply. Over the years TTFE has become quite good at helping processors to choose suitable equipment. The equipment and training with it adds enormous value and availability, compared with perishable fresh fruit. We're creating more winners!



*Turnover "patty" making machine*



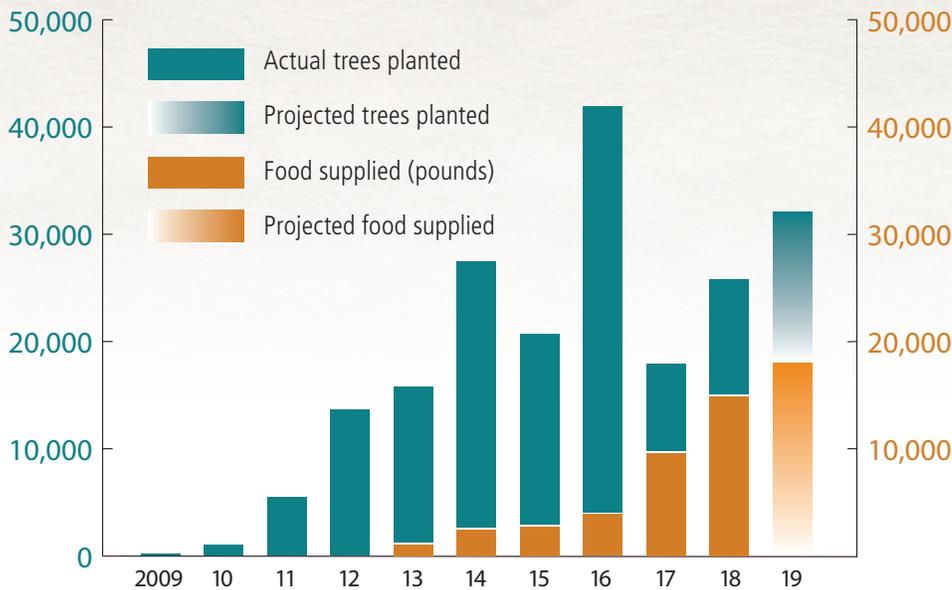
*Penagos MDP-60 grinding mill*



*Robot Coupe CL-50 food processor*

# Financials

TTFF Fruit Trees Planted and Food Supplied (2019 Projected)



	2018	2017
<b>Contributions</b>	<b>\$236,771</b>	\$232,608
<b>Trees</b>	<b>91,577</b>	\$67,085
<b>Equipment</b>	<b>\$24,238</b>	\$23,272
<b>Education, Seminars, Training, Coloring Books</b>	<b>\$11,027</b>	\$18,801
<b>Food</b>	<b>\$44,250</b>	\$42,799
<b>Administrative</b>	<b>\$12,088</b>	\$13,280
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$53,592</b>	\$67,370
<b>Expense Ratio</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	5.7%
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$278,432</b>	\$224,840

Form 990 available on request



## TESTIMONIAL

Global Freedom Project (GFP), a US based nonprofit, which is currently active in the Central Plateau region of Haiti, first connected with TTFF early in the summer of 2018. Thanks to TTFF, 600 fruit trees (many of which were breadfruit) were donated to small farmers in Haiti. A follow up visit in late summer revealed that about 90% of the trees survived and were growing strongly.

This donation helped augment an existing agroforestry program that is starting up in this same community in rural Haiti, called Bernaco. It has helped develop trust with the farmers, who now are more interested to learn about the new method of farming that is being offered to them. In addition to the tree donation, multiple consultations with Mike and Mary, have helped guide GFP's future programs, especially in regards to value-added farm food products such as breadfruit flour and dried mango. As a result of their knowledge and sharing, GFP has kick-started several projects to bring these resources to the same poor farmers in 2019.

GFP hopes to further collaborate with TTFF throughout the year of 2019 and as long as it is mutually desired, for the benefit of some of the poorest people on earth. In addition to outlining our mutual achievements this year, this letter is also meant to convey a heart-felt thank you to TTFF, its donors and all those who played a role in making this happen.

Sincerely,

**ROGER GIETZEN**  
President, GFP



# Our Board Members

Our thanks go to this dedicated group

- 1 **Mary McLaughlin** Chair, Co-founder, Chicago, IL
- 2 **Mike McLaughlin** Secretary-Treasurer, Co-founder Chicago, IL
- 3 **Dr. Nyree Zerega** Researcher, Chicago, IL
- 4 **Gabriel Osson** Author, Toronto, Canada
- 5 **Michael Renetzky** Attorney, Chicago, IL
- 6 **Ken Banks** Environmentalist, Florida
- 7 **Sue Mathewson** (not pictured) (retired), Chicago, IL



“

## TESTIMONIALS

TTF has been a real blessing for us at School of Hope in Arcahaie Haiti. Our goal is to help the school and the surrounding neighborhood to be self-sufficient moving forward. Planting breadfruit trees gives them a nutritious food source, means of a monthly income and helps stabilize the hillsides. The flour used for porridge and breads enables the 450 children to receive a nutritious breakfast.

**MIKE AND LIA MUELLER**  
SOH Ltd., [www.schoolofhopehaiti.org](http://www.schoolofhopehaiti.org)

TTF has been extremely generous to our request for trees to plant as a renewable source of food and future income at The Olive Foundation Orphanage in rural LaVictoire, Haiti. The founders passion to feed and employ people is very commendable. God bless them for all they do.”

**BONNIE BINNING**  
The Olive Foundation,  
LaVictoire, Haiti

Good evening. My name is Ms. Thompson, Home Eco teacher. I figured I would share some pictures of the students preparing fruits to make a variety of products. They dried pineapple, apple, and naseberry to be used to make a fruit medley for a competition Thursday. They also dried sweet potato to make a cereal mix and breadfruit to get flour to do a snackable bar. The solar dryer is a blessing to our school.”

**SYDNEY PAGON**  
**AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL**  
St. Elizabeth, Jamaica

”

# 2018 Calendar Date Line

A partial list of TTFF activities and accomplishments in 2018

## JANUARY

Visit to breadfruit tree orchard at Knockalva Agricultural School, Jamaica

Breadfruit Yield Study kickoff meeting, at Hibiscus Lodge, Jamaica

First Meeting with Raquel deJesus, FINCA Panapen, Puerto Rico

Breadfruit muffin recipes from Jamaica Jerk, Chicago

Penagos grinder delivered to Jeffrey Town

Cooking school in Haiti using breadfruit flour recipes

## FEBRUARY

5,000 educational coloring books printed in Jamaica

## MARCH

Booth at Go Green Wilmette exhibition

Installation of hybrid solar dryer at Sydney Pagon Agricultural School, Jamaica

Visited UWI factory, Elim

## APRIL

3,000 breadfruit trees shipped to St. Croix, US Virgin Islands

## MAY

Presentation to Rotary Club, Wilmette, Illinois

## JUNE

Mary McLaughlin receives Paul Harris Fellow award, Rotary Club of Rochelle, IL

Barrel of school supplies shipped to Haiti

Agriculture Conference in Haiti

750 breadfruit trees shipped to Kenya

200 educational coloring books donated to Violence Prevention Association, Jamaica

## JULY

1,000 coloring books printed in Creole in Haiti

New variety mango scions to Barbados

## AUGUST

Solar dryer in Jamaica tested

Mary interviewed on WBEZ Public Radio

Meeting held with Jamaica Minister of Agriculture, million tree project

Visit to Source Farm, an organic-food farm and community

Engineering drawings completed by Northwestern University engineering student

## SEPTEMBER

500 breadfruit trees delivered to Dominica

Lab tests of breadfruit flour quality

Exhibition at Emanuel Congregation Synagogue

## OCTOBER

Breadfruit pastry sales begun by Philip Lowther, baker, Jamaica

Sponsorship of Institute of Jamaica Heritage Festival: 225 years of breadfruit

First breadfruit shipment from Haiti to Dominican Republic for processing

Visit to Mr. Glover's agroforest, St. Thomas, Jamaica

Breadfruit flour becomes available in supermarkets in Jamaica, Haiti

## NOVEMBER

Mary's presentation at Echo conference, Naples, FL

Factory-in-a-Box equipment supplied to Shavuot Farms, Jamaica

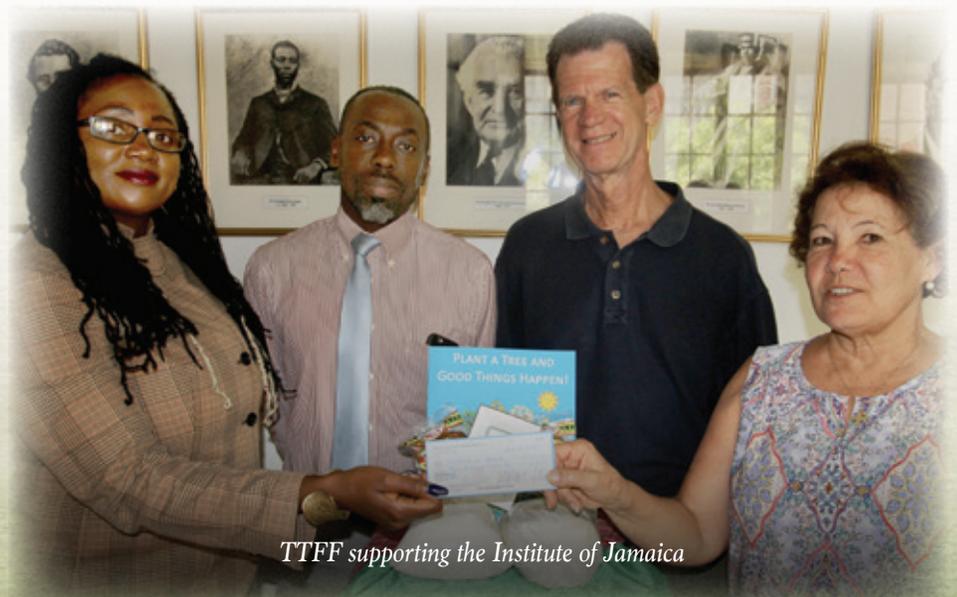
Breadfruit flour production started by Women & Children's Hope, Haiti

Breadfruit trees transported to Uganda, Tanzania

## DECEMBER

Equipment to Global Freedom Project, Île à Vache, Haiti

Fruit tree nursery planning with AACARI, Bahamas



Thanks

**Thank You, Donors.** We appreciate your financial support and we use it wisely. **Thank You, Volunteers.** Your hard work greatly multiplies our strength. **Thank You, Trusted Partners.** We collaborate effectively to the benefit of the people of Jamaica, Haiti and 14 other countries. **Thank You, Friends.** You're helping to tell our story. We would like to single out two special people who have supported us this year. One is older, one is younger.

**Doug Kinney**, of Lake Forest, Illinois, has had an enormously successful career in business and as an investor. Several years ago he created the Breadfruit Institute, operating within the National Tropical Botanical Gardens, in Maui. The Breadfruit Institute has conducted leading research into breadfruit, its origins, its characteristics, and its nutritional value. Doug has been a philanthropist in other areas too, including funding research into Alzheimer's and ALS diseases.

Mary McLaughlin was introduced to Doug just as Trees That Feed was being formed. Doug was ecstatic to hear of TTFE plans to popularize breadfruit for nutrition, jobs and the environment. Doug and his wife Liz have supported Trees That Feed Foundation significantly every year since our inception.

At 87 years young, he still loves Hawaii and still can be spotted on the golf course occasionally.

Doug ... no way we could have done this without you.

**Eli Rakofsky** is nearer to the opposite end of the age spectrum. Eli was coming up for his Bar Mitzvah. His mom heard Mary on Public Radio's World View program. She told Eli about Trees That Feed and he decided this would be his service project. Eli shared his excitement about TTFE with his friends, family and Rabbi, and asked everyone to donate to TTFE in honor of his Bar Mitzvah.

Our jaws dropped when we heard of this kind of generosity from a young person. Most other young people want fancy new high tech gadgets. In response to Eli's request, over 30 people made contributions. And that wasn't all! At the Emanuel Congregation Holiday Market in Chicago's Edgewater neighborhood, Eli set up a booth and collected additional cash for TTFE. In all, we received several thousand dollars, through the rare unselfish idea of bright young Eli Rakofsky.

Eli, thank you, you show exceptional love and generosity.

“

## TESTIMONIAL

Dear Mike & Mary – What a blessing it has been to be able to have the connection of your organization and to be able to join hands in the breadfruit journey. We just returned from Haiti and were able to see first hand all that is being carried out. And also, the changes and updates of equipment etc. that need to be made. James has many aspirations of what could take place in the future.



*Effort Vision chef stirring cake batter*

First, I will give you a little better idea of what they are doing in Haiti. Two and sometimes three of the women that are working with James prepare banana cake (they have also come up with a recipe of their own "rum cake") at least 3-4 times a week. They earn US\$6.00 per cake. The breadfruit is providing so much—nutritious food processed right in Haiti along with income for the Haitians that prepare it.

Thank you again for all that you do!

JOHN & DAWN ASHFORD  
Effort Vision, Haiti

”

# Our Partners

**Trees That Feed Foundation could not do what we do without the help of our many partner organization. Here is a partial list:**

## **Supporters:**

**American Friends of Jamaica  
Ascension Church  
Buddhist Global Relief  
Clif Bar Family Foundation  
Commemorative Distribution LLC  
Conservation, Food & Health Foundation  
Dr Scholl Foundation  
Evanston Garden Club  
Grupo Finca Panapen  
Patagonia Foundation  
Rotary Clubs  
And over 300 individual donors**

## **Operational partners:**

**4-H Clubs  
Caribbean Farmers Network  
Carita Foods  
College of Agriculture,  
Science & Engineering  
ECHO  
Effort Vision  
Floresta Ayiti  
Haitian Connection  
Hope for Haiti  
Global Freedom Project  
Good Samaritan Foundation  
Government of Barbados  
Government of Dominica  
Government of Jamaica  
Grace Project, Kenya  
Jamaica Organic Agricultural  
Movement  
Rotary Clubs  
Rural Agricultural Development  
Agency  
Three Angels Childrens Relief**



*Shredding breadfruit manually for flour production*

Dear Mary,

On behalf of GRACE Initiative, I wish to thank you and the Trees That Feed Foundation (TTFF) for your support in our efforts to help improve food security for families in eastern Africa. We have continued to see food production continue to suffer as a result of drought, disease and competing priorities for land. Your strategy of providing families with trees that feed is an easy model that has produced results in several countries. Thank you for bringing us into your TTFF family!

Since we partnered in the sourcing and caring of the 750 plants that we received in June of last year, we are pleased to inform you that a good number of the trees survived the trip from Germany and have now been planted. These plants were initially kept in a greenhouse environment in Kisii and have since been planted in parts of Kenya and some are already in Tanzania, awaiting planting in April when the long rains set in.

Since we introduced the trees into Kenya and Tanzania, we have continued to see a tremendous interest in the trees. This interest stems mainly from the productivity of these trees, the versatility of the fruit and also the health benefits associated with the fruit. In Kenya for example, we have seen the creation of social media groups of individuals that are passionate about breadfruit and are eagerly waiting for trees to be made available for purchase. The interest in Tanzania is no less. We have been approached by groups that know of these trees but lack access to them.

Our goals for 2019 are modest. It is our desire to continue to work with TTFF to:

1. Avail more planting material in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania
2. To avail planting materials in two other new countries such as Mozambique and Angola
3. To promote breadfruit in these countries through field demonstrations and other media
4. To establish mother blocks for tree multiplication

These goals will be achieved by working through GRACE Initiative Kenya and GRACE Initiative Tanzania; a new entity to be formed soon.

We wish you and TTFF continued success and look forward to a mutually beneficial partnership in the coming years.

Best regards,

Joseph Matara

Founder – GRACE Initiative Kenya

# Your Support

Help us to continue our mission!

TFFF works to alleviate hunger, boost employment, and benefit the environment. Your support provides opportunities for individual farmers, families, and communities to support themselves successfully.

- \$15 provides a food-bearing tree that can feed a family for decades
- \$120 supplies educational coloring books and accessories to a classroom of young children
- \$500 provides 1,500 locally sourced meals for a school in the Caribbean area
- \$2,000 funds a basic Factory in a Box kit for a community group to make breadfruit flour

**We appreciate all contributions of any amount!**

Donate online at: [www.treesthatfeed.org/donate](http://www.treesthatfeed.org/donate)

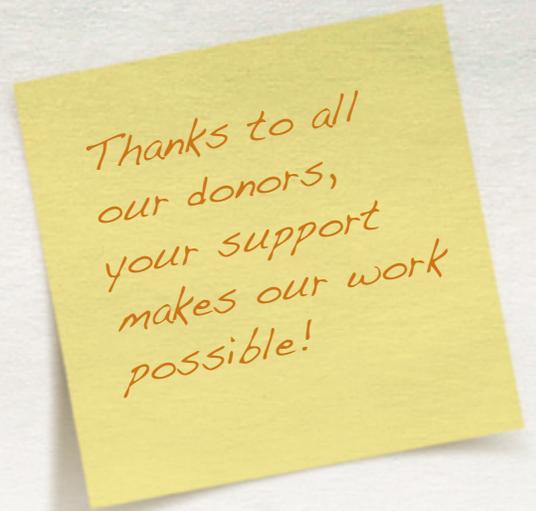
or mail a check to: **Trees That Feed Foundation**  
1200 Hill Road, Winnetka, IL 60093

## Get Involved

Different ways you can help us:

- Spread the word about Trees That Feed Foundation to friends, family, church and business associates
- Find speaking engagements for us
- Sign up for email updates at [www.treesthatfeed.org](http://www.treesthatfeed.org)
- Participate in our website blogs
- Like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/treesthatfeed](http://www.facebook.com/treesthatfeed)
- For volunteer opportunities, contact us by email at [info@treesthatfeed.org](mailto:info@treesthatfeed.org)

**Thanks to all our donors ... your support makes our work possible!**



*Farmer (above) and happy, well-nourished young students.*

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