

# 516NOW Report: *Dominican Republic* February 2024

**Blandón family: Jaime, Jacqueline, Jaimeline, and James:**  
*Serving God in the Dominican Republic*

Jaime is one of the founders of 516NOW and currently serves as the country director for the Dominican Republic, as well as the director for Latin America. He and his family have been serving in the Dominican Republic for over six years in partnership with 516NOW.



**1**

## Equipping Haitian Pastors



Currently, ministry efforts in the Dominican Republic are primarily focused on reaching the large community of Haitian immigrants, who experience extreme poverty and discrimination. 516NOW is working to equip local Haitian pastors to reach their communities and seeking to improve their lives spiritually, economically, and educationally.

516NOW helps resource local churches through hosting conferences and workshops for pastors, supplying audio-visual equipment, and aiding in the repair and construction of churches. Jaime has also partnered with a missionary couple who taught a course on discipleship in many of the churches. Finally, in 2023, seven new churches were planted, with two more being planted in 2024.



**2**

## Implementing Microloan Program



516NOW helps pastors support their families financially through the microloan program, which offers an interest free loan that they can use to start small businesses like food stands or pig farms (see picture). They must then pay back the loan from their profits, at which point the money is loaned to another person. Since Haitians are unable to take out a loan through a Dominican bank, the microloan system allows them to start sustainable businesses.

Haitian children are often unable to attend school because Dominican schools are overcrowded. In May of 2023, 516NOW started a school program to teach elementary aged children. Classes are hosted at one of the local churches Monday through Friday. The teacher is an associate pastor from another church, and he receives his salary through 516NOW.

### 3

#### Starting the Haitian School



Jaime and his family are currently building a mission house in a neighborhood on the outskirts of Bani. Hopefully, they will be moving in sometime in the next couple of weeks. They will be able to use their new home to do youth ministry events, host mission teams, and offer a retreat for local pastors and their families to rest and recharge.

### 4

#### Building the Mission House



Each year, Jaime and his family receive around eight mission teams who support the ongoing ministry by assisting in construction projects, kids' programs, youth ministry, discipleship classes, and ministry training. The mission house will soon provide them with a more convenient space for hosting future teams.



Jaime is also overseeing the production of Radio Resurrección online. He reports about 28,000 listeners per month through the radio's website and other streaming services. Additionally, they are producing five different podcasts, four in Spanish and one in Creole. This ministry is greatly impacting listeners across Latin American.

### 5

#### Broadcasting Radio and Podcasts



Ways to get involved:



Interested in learning more?

Check out: <https://516now.org>

Want to support the ministry in the DR?

Scan the QR code or visit <https://516now.org/donations/give/>

