

THE HAITI INITIATIVE (SUD)

Tackling Climate Change with Education

NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

MISSION

The Haiti Initiative (SUD) is a project under the umbrella of the YWCA Cambridge. The purpose of the Haiti initiative is to support Haitians in (the Southern region of) Haiti around hurricane preparedness and climate change. The Haiti Initiative (SUD)'s goals are to create spaces to educate the public about climate change, to support with hurricane preparedness, and to work with activists in Haiti.



THE ARNIQUET PROJECT



On Saturday, November 17th, 2018, The Haiti Initiative (SUD) collaborated with members of the Arniquet Association on an event to present the impacts of climate change in Arniquet Haiti. The event was small but filled with folks who are concerned for the small mountain village in Haiti. The event included presentations about the work of The Haiti Initiative (SUD) in southern Haiti; as well as presentations on plastic waste management, a video from the mayor of Arniquet Maurice Chateau, and great food by Marie Nirva Tancyl.

The Haiti Initiative (SUD) remains committed to working in Arniquet and will continue to share updates on the environmental circumstances in Arniquet in the year to come. We are also in conversation with Councilperson Bernadette Genoïs about doing a hurricane preparedness workshop in Arniquet during our February delegation.

For more information about The Arniquet Project and how to get involved, please contact Nirva, haiti.initiative.cayes@gmail.com.

For more information about Arniquet, contact the Arniquet Municipal Government, mairie.arniquet@gmail.com.

THE SOLAR PROJECT

We have made major strides in preparing the solar project pilot. We have raised \$250 towards this project. We have used some of that money to purchase the domain name. We have begun working with Edwin Naranjo to build the website for the solar project website. This website will be very detailed, so we will need to raise more money to pay for the full website. Our partners in Haiti have been doing research on our behalf to lower the costs



of purchasing, transporting, and training volunteers. Most of the costs related to this project are in the transportation portion. The solar posts are purchased in Port au Prince. Then, the posts are delivered to the requested location. The delivery is incredibly expensive. In the past, we have sent all of the money to our partners in the South, they have traveled to Port au Prince to purchase the solar posts. Now, we have established a partnership in Port au Prince, they will receive the funds for the purchase of the solar posts. This should shave off about \$100 from the overall costs. We are hoping to purchase five solar posts at a time, this also cut down on the transportation costs to the south. We are grateful to our partners in Haiti, primarily Udevelt Dorenal and Arold Tancyl for their suggestions for improving the efficiency of the project. Well done to them for their important work. Without their efforts, this project would not exist.

We are still looking for volunteers for the solar project. So if you would like to donate money towards building a microgrid; or if you would like to donate \$1300 towards a solar post; or even if you would like to work with us to erect a solar post in your community in southern Haiti, reach out to us. We can make this happen.

To get involved, contact Marc Herold at haiti.initiative.cayes@gmail.com.

THE PLASTIC PROJECT

The plastic project is moving along. We had been in touch with a funder who proposed the idea of funding a one time project, so long as it has a multiplier effect. We have decided to ask this funder to provide the resources for the baler. Balers are used to minimize waste and condense recyclable materials into dense, easier to transport bales for recycling.

The goal of providing the baler is that we will be supporting a local entrepreneur who is transporting plastic to a recycling facility in Port au Prince. In supporting her capacity to transport more plastic outside of Les Cayes, we are growing the capacity of the entire region to participate in a recycling program. We are also aware this baler will not solve the plastic problem in Les Cayes. We are excited about this project because it increases capacity. Every little bit helps.

This month we have begun the process of collecting the proposal from the [THREAD](#) for the baler. This proposal will have all of the details necessary to make the case for a funder to pay for the baler for Nancy in Les Cayes. The goal is to have the funder agree to fund the baler before the end of the year. So in January, we hope to get all of the documents through to [Hope for Haiti](#) so that they receive the funds. Once we have the funds, we will work between Nancy, Hope for Haiti, and THREAD to purchase the baler and the solar energy. We will have it delivered, installed, and train the workers on the new machine. The three organizations will work together to produce the necessary reports for the auditors and the funder before September of 2019. We hope the December newsletter will be filled with good news regarding this process.

Do you have any questions regarding **the plastic project**, contact Stephanie at haiti.initiative.cayes@gmail.com.



THE DONATION DRIVE

GREAT NEWS!

We are in touch with the [Climate Crew](#). CREW is a network of local leaders building grassroots climate resilience through inclusive & hands-on education, service, and planning. The Climate Crew is a non-profit startup based in Cambridge. Their purpose is to support communities in preparing for climate-related extreme weather and environmental disasters.

We are talking to the Climate Crew about several collaborations:

- **The Climate Change Preparedness Training**

We are working with the Climate Crew to coordinate a climate change preparedness training to take place in January. The purpose of the training would be how to personally prepare for extreme weather (flooding, heat wave, etc.). **If you are interested in attending such a training please reach out to Emmanuella at haiti.initiative.cayes@gmail.com.**

- **February 2019 Delegation**

We have asked someone from the climate crew to join the February 2019 delegation, this is very unlikely due to funding shortages. **If you want to join the February 2019 delegation, please contact Michaelle at haiti.initiative.cayes@gmail.com.**

- **The Climate Change Conference**

Whether or not someone from the Climate Crew can join the delegation, that the Climate Crew will submit some of their materials to be translated into French and Kreyol to be disseminated at the February conference. **Do you know someone in Les Cayes who would be interested in attending the conference? Reach out to Stephanie at haiti.initiative.cayes@gmail.com.**

- **The Donation Drive Material Review**

The Climate Crew folks have agreed to review our materials list for the donation drive in preparation for the 2019 donation drive push. The folks in Haiti had made a list of tools and supplies they need post hurricanes to repair homes, perform first aid needs, and coordinate the execution of disseminating the supplies. **If you are interested in supporting the donation drive, please contact Nirva at haiti.initiative.cayes@gmail.com.**

- **Fierte Cayenne's Workshop**

One of our partner organizations in Haiti, Fierte Cayenne is designing a workshop to help individual households, as well as activists, prepare for extreme weather. They have applied for a small grant to make this happen. The Climate Crew is looking into the ways to support the production of this curriculum.

- **Working in the PORT**

The Haiti Initiative (SUD) and the Climate Crew are discussing the potential to collaborate on an event to support Haitian-American homeowners prepare for extreme weather here in Massachusetts. The Climate Crew will invite people from the city of Cambridge (and others) to present about the flood maps, city resources, etc. **If you are a homeowner who is concerned with preparing for extreme weather in Massachusetts, contact Michaelle at haiti.initiative.cayes@gmail.com** to attend the next event.



REAL SOLIDARITY MEANS SHARING YOUR TOOLS!

Donate some tools to our collection drive. We are still raising supplies for Haiti-based activists to prepare for the 2018 hurricane season. We're collecting tools for Haitians to rebuild their own homes after the inevitable storms. So, don't send your old clothes, send some real tools. [Click here to order some tools online.](#)

*Tools can be **dropped off or delivered** to*

The Haiti Initiative (SUD)

c/o Democracy Center

[45 Mt Auburn St.](#)

[Cambridge, MA 02138](#)

THE HAITI INITIATIVE (SUD)

MEET THE TEAM

US & FRANCE – BASED

YARDLY CESAR, *General Coordinator*
SANDRINE DESIR, *Translator & Project Coordinator*
EMMANUELLA FEDE, *Donation Drive Coordinator*
MARC HEROLD GUIRAND, *Project Manager*
NIRVA GUIRAND, *US Coordinator*
STEPHANIE GUIRAND, *Project Manager*
REGINA HOUSTON, *Treasurer / Accountant*
MICHAELLE SAINTFORT, *Administrative Coordinator*
SUSAN RINGLER, *Subject Matter Expert*

HAITI – BASED

UDVELT DERONAL, *Technician*
AROLD TANCYL, *Electrician*
SAMORA JOCELYN, *Secretary*

ORG HIGHLIGHT

FANM SAJ



FANM Saj in Haitian Kreyol means Midwife but in the context of our work, we use it as Midwife of Consciousness, one who nourishes, builds and communes Black and Brown communities for the transformation of themselves and humanity.

GET INVOLVED

[Donate to The Haiti Initiative \(SUD\):](#)

Your donations are tax deductible through the YWCA Cambridge. And, 100% of your donations will go to projects in Haiti.

Volunteer with us! We need support with a number of administrative tasks that can be done from anywhere in the world. Please email Nirva at haiti.initiative.cayes@gmail.com.

Host a donation drive! We need tools. We would be happy to work with you to host a donation drive in your hometown. We will send you a list of materials, as well as the drums to ship to Haiti. Contact Emmanuella at haiti.initiative.cayes@gmail.com.

A blue poster for a business shower. At the top, it says 'FANM SAJ, INC LAUNCH PARTY :: BUSINESS SHOWER'. Below that, the date and time 'December 6th 6-8pm' and the location 'Naomi's Garden' are listed, followed by the address '650 NW 71st Street | Miami, FL 33150'. To the right is a circular photo of a smiling woman. Below the address, it says 'Monetary Gifts accepted' next to a circular photo of people at a social gathering. At the bottom left is a circular logo with the text 'Build Nourish Commune'. At the bottom right is a circular logo with the text 'Fann Saj' and the phrase 'DISCOVER Who we are? What we do and Ways to partner/ get involved!'.

CONTACT US

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