

# ERITAJ CHRONICLE

A newsletter for the friends and supporters of Haiti

July/August 2005

Eritaj Foundation  
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## The Economic and Social Assistance Fund of Haiti (FAES)

FAES was established in 1990 by Presidential Decree, as an agency of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, within the strategic framework of the war on poverty. The organization is structured as a para estatal agency with a Board of Directors comprising of Government ministers, representatives of Non-Governmental organizations, representatives of local associations and an Executive Director.

FAES's work involves projects in Education, Support to Children in Vulnerable Conditions, Health, Nutrition, Sanitation, Clean Water, Agriculture, Food Production and Transportation. The organization is also interested in projects that support rural women and youth. FAES supports short term projects in these areas which are located all over the country.

The organization is a financial mechanism for poverty eradication projects; while it does not implement projects, it finances activities submitted by commu-

nities represented by an assortment of organizations (foundations, local organizations, community based associations, etc.), as long as they work in deprived communities. Infrastructure projects are also supported when they are implemented within 36 months.

FAES has established relationships and collaboration with development organizations working in Haiti, such as Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the UN Equipment Fund (FENU) especially after Hurricane Georges and for the rehabilitations of rural roads in Southwest Haiti. It has also collaborated with the Ministry of Environment and provided technical assistance for the protection of parks and forest and for the Small Investors Projects. In all, FAES has contributed to the financing of 1046 projects.

Since 2002, FAES has taken over for ten years, the implementation of the Support Program to Rural Production Initiatives (PAIP) with a 28.15 million US dollar projects from FIDA (IFAD). The organization is also monitoring for the Interamerican Development Bank and the Haitian Government, the Local Development Program, a support project for rural communities. It also manages the infrastructural component of the Basic Education Program, also financed by IDB and the Haitian Government. Over the next ten years, FAES will be managing 122 projects totaling 465,240,140.68 Haitian Gourdes. For further information on FAES, contact Thierry JEAN-BAPTISTE Chargé de Communication at [dpri@faeshaiti.org](mailto:dpri@faeshaiti.org)



Children of Children of Baquet- Anse a Veau.

# ABRAAM DI SÈTASE!

Mesyadam lasosyete, onè respè!  
Anpil pale anpil fèt chak jou sou pwoblèm Ayiti ki yon gwo liv aritmetik. Si nou kapab pale de yo, sèke yon fason yon lòt, nou chak gen yon nivo lanmou pou peyi natifnatal la byenke anpil nan nou ka poko montre okenn sakrifis pou pwouve lanmou sa a.

Anpil nan nou gen tandans blame zòt tout tan pou tout pwoblèm nou olye nou menm nou aprann pran konsyans de eta nou epi apran pran responsablite nou an men. Donk li lè li tan pou chak grenn Ayisyen fè yon egzamenkonsyans pou antre nan yo menm lè y ap panse a sous tout pwoblèm Ayiti (ki chita anndan Ayisyen). Konsa, mwen te tonbe sou yon bonjan tèks yon sèten JOPHIMANA jophimana@aol.com ekri ki refleto «prizkonsyans» sa a nou bezwen pou fè yon dekabès

dekwa pou kapab rive chanje vizaj negatif Ayiti.

Lè w fin li tèks sa a ak tèt poze, èske w pa panse li ta dwe antre kare bare nan korikilòm kou «sivik» an(n) Ayiti? M ap reponn «wi!» paske m panse se depi piti pou n aprann drese yon ti pyebwa si nou pa vle l grandi kwochi. Demèn, li enpòtan pou lekòl Ayiti kòmanse enjekte nan tèt timoun yo bonjan «dòz konsyans» pou prepare yo pou vin bon sitwayen ki ka itil sosyete a demen. Mwen pran plezi tradui tèks anba a an kreyòl pou tout Ayisyen gen aksè konprann li, epi pou pran yon ti moman pou reflechi sou li. (Emmanuel W. Védrine).

Nan istwa Ayiti, istwa pa repete tèt li men pito li an mosyon pèpetyèl. Sot sou Dessalines rive sou Aristide, yo touye pifò nan prezidan nou yo, sa yo bay koudeta, e sa yo pa t janm bay

chans fini manda yo san oken pwoblèm. Sa yo ki te gen chans fini, siksesè yo toujou aji kòm yon ènmi ki la pou l pwouve l pi bon, donk dechoukay manchlong travay sa dènye a te fè; peyi a toujou kòmanse a zewo.

Ankò, pwoblèm peyi nou an se pa youn ki politik, pwoblèm nou se AYISYEN. Epiou nou pa gen yon pwoblèm LIDÈ, nou gen yon pwoblèm twòp lidè, nou gen yon pwoblèm fanatik. Nou pa konnen kijan pou suiv avèk pasyans, se poutèt sa apre chak swadizan revolisyon, kaka biznav (anyen), anyen pa kontinye. Nou konnen kijan pou n reyini an gwoup, men nou manke kapasite pou ini pou n konstwi; sa a se yon woutin ki dwe kraze. Kèk nan nou ki la a tèlman fyè

*Continued on next page*

## MetroWest and Beyond

❖ **Remembering Haiti:** Metrowest Haitian Americans and Friends of Haiti are meeting for an evening of reflections, sharing, fun and images of Haiti on Saturday August 20, 2005 at the Eritaj's office on 73 Union Avenue, Framingham, MA (Across the Danforth Museum and near the Framingham Library). A conversation about the worth of Haitians living abroad as potential resources to follow the video Port au Prince is Mine "Konbit" (Haitian Creole generic work for pitching in and getting something done pronto) a mailing of Eritaj Chronicle newsletter after the meeting. Call (508)620-1424 for more information.

❖ **Faire Cohabiter le Progrès et le Bien-être:** AlterPresse, an online journal of Haiti affairs has recently developed a space for sustainable development. Organizations working in Haiti can visit the site, send releases, support and help keep institutions accountable for their undertakings. Among others, current news include: ·UNDP is contemplat-

ing work with the Haitian government to address environmental issues; ·promotion of dissemination of information in Haiti needs the commitment and support of the government and the civil society alike; ·Canadian International Development Agency responds to urgent needs in the health and education fields, with a focus on the rehabilitation of physical infrastructure with multi year grant ·web address: www.alterpresse.org

❖ **Haitian Student Day Picnic:** On August 13th, 2005 from 1P to 5P, amidst fun and games, parents, students and the community reflect on the importance of family communication, education and the Haitian heritage. They will talk about Haiti's historical past and its relevance in everyday life. For directions to the Princeton University Community House and registration form contact Naomi Jean-Baptiste, Project Coordinator · NJIPN- Haitian Outreach Program · 89 Market St. · 7th Floor ·

Newark · New Jersey 07102 · Phone: (973) 621-0031 · njbaptiste@njipn.org · www.njipn.org

❖ **The Committee To Support the Children of Baquet** cordially invites all to attend its 5th annual fundraising dinner to be held on Saturday August 20, 2005 From 8:00PM to 12:00 Midnight At VFW Post 920 River St Hyde Park, Massachusetts. Tax-deductible donations are \$25.00 per guest. Contact: 781-961-9951 · 617-265-1910 · baquethaiti@yahoo.com Proceeds to support humanitarian projects in the region of Baquet, 2nd rural section of Anse-a-Veau, Haiti.

❖ **Employment Offer:** Mercy and Sharing Foundation is currently accepting applications for a Deputy Director position to oversee all of their operations in Haiti. Send letter of interest and resume to Susie Krabacher susie@haitichildren.com Visit their site at www.haitichildren.com for requisites and complete listing.

## ABRAAM DI SÈTASE!

*Continued from previous page*

pou enimer depi kilè nou nan konba, e ap konte konbyen revolisyon yo pote anba sentiwon yo, yon bagay ki pa konte pou anyen si n gade rezilta yo. Se ta yon tristès pou m ta rele tèt mwen «revolisyonè» lè m pa gen anyen pou pwouve

Nou toujou ap plenyen de krim Duvalier te komèt kont Ayisyen, mwen vle fè nou sonje ke l pa t ale ni Kiba ni an Dominikani al chèche moun pou fè krim yo, se Ayisyen ki te komèt yo kont Ayisyen. Se frè ki te denonse frè nan menm fanmi an, vwazen ki te touye vwazen pou yon ti lòsyè kòb, swetan pou ta amelyore sityasyon yo, pou yon meye plas nan sosyete a. Li lè li tan pou n sispann blame yon moun pou pwoblèm nou, epitou yon sèl moun pa kapab solisyone tout pwoblèm.

Tout rasin pwoblèm nan makònen ak fason nou leve, apati mantalite destriktif ke n eritye nan men zansèt nou yo. Nou pa t grandi ak yon sans patriyotis, pesonn pa t anseye nou kijan pou n renmen peyi nou. Nou grandi ak yon mantalite ke bagay yo toujou pi bon aletranje. Anpil nan jenerasyon nou leve ak yon sèl bi, kite peyi a pou ka souse yon pi bon zo, e lè nou pa jwenn li nou pa janm gen kouraj retounen (lakay nou). Bagay yo pral chanje lè n aprann respekte youn lòt. Pwoblèm nou ka parèt difisil pou solisyone men nou ka kòmanse kote n montre respè youn pou lòt; premye pa nou se asepte ide lòt moun, byenke yo ka diferan de ide pa n. Fò n aprann dakò pou n pa dakò.

Nou tout ki la a konsyan de tout pwoblèm Ayiti genyen, kèk nan nou ap admèt kèk solisyon ladan yo, men pesonn nan nou pral pran inisyativ pou eseye pote yon solisyon).

## Our Churches, Our Strength

### Thirty Two Christian Political Parties Join Forces to Give Governing Haiti a Go

The situation in Haiti is continuing to deteriorate and according to a recent United Nations report the ten year trend for this country is negative. The only bright spot on the horizon is that there are elections scheduled for October/November 2005. What makes the elections particularly hopeful is that there is a Christian political party that has united 32 of the 35 existing Christian political parties and as a result has a good chance to win this years election.

Unfortunately, many Protestant Christians (42% of the population) have traditionally not participated in the political process. Partners Worldwide has launched a massive civic education initiative aimed at encouraging Christians to register to vote. The strategy for reaching Haitian Christian voters is an organization birthed by Partners known as the Consortium for Civic Education.

The Consortium for Civic Education is a joint effort of Non Government Organizations (NGOs), Churches, Religious Denominations, Pastor Leagues, Schools and Businesses to promote civic education and voter registration in Haiti. The short-term objective of the Consortium is to provide civic education and to promote voter registration to two million eligible voters in time for the 2005 elections. The long-term objective of the Consortium is to foster indigenous democratic processes for the purpose of creating long-term political empowerment and sustainable democracy in Haiti.

The Consortium's strategy is to enlist as many organizations as possible to assist in providing civic education and promoting voter registration to Haitian citizens. Since every existing organization has a built-in constituency, using these organizations to accomplish the Consortium's objective is more effective and efficient than building a new infrastructure to accomplish this objective. Partners Worldwide, a US based NGO and the Founder of the Consortium, has agreed to raise the funds to pay for the printing and distribution of civic education material and to support effective, grass roots civic education efforts of Consortium members.

The inaugural meeting of the Consortium for Civic Education was held on July 15, 2005 in Port-au-Prince. The meeting was attended by 75 representatives of Haitian based organizations. As a result of the meeting 31 organizations agreed to join the Consortium.

To enlist your church in the Consortium, visit [www.partnersworldwide.org/haiti](http://www.partnersworldwide.org/haiti) or contact Ted Boers at Partners Worldwide (616) 443.7066 [tab@datacompusa.com](mailto:tab@datacompusa.com)

## Meet Eritaj's Current Website Manager

In this publication, we salute Evings Pierre, one of many Haitian American volunteers in Massachusetts. Nearly a year ago, Evings offered to volunteer with us doing website management. His arrival could not have been timelier as Eritaj was engrossed in relief efforts to assist the people of Gonaives, following the unprecedented flood disaster in the country's history. Evings fulfills an important aspect of Eritaj's concern to address structural challenges of Haiti-based service organizations. He is a noted writer and poet, holds a



Bachelor degree and a Master's in electrical Engineering from UMASS. You can visit Evings' personal site at <http://home.comcast.net/~epierre1/ps.htm>

## Support Eritaj Programs

- Adopt a Child  
\$120 full adoption; \$60 school tuition;  
\$30 books & supplies
- Femmes en lutttes
- Helping Hands
- Eritaj Chronicle

Method of payment:

1. Check or money order (to Eritaj Foundation, Inc.)
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