

Overview of Partners in Haiti Literacy Project

Mission of the partnership:

To provide French and Creole books and literacy services for libraries, schools, and homes to enhance Haitian families and children's literacy level.

Need:

The adult literacy rate for both sexes aged 15+ is 55%.

Average years adults attended school is 4.9.

Only 1 in 5 children have access to public school.

Expected years children will attend school is 6.8. (UNESCO 2009)

Partners Sought

A steering committee will serve as an informal board composed of individuals, Rotarians, and other organizations. We also would like to work with a Rotary club in Haiti; USA-Haitian work teams; Rotary clubs, Rotary's Caribbean Partnership.

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Cange is in the Central Plateau region of Haiti.

First Project Year

Rotary District 7750 began the project at the request of Cange leaders after a Rotary visit to the library and six schools in 2009. January 2010's earthquake delayed progress by a year.

The First Year Plan adopted in January 2011 will carry out 3 goals in 2011-12:

- 1) To begin to establish a functioning community library with a paid part-time librarian.
- 2) To provide 50 Creole and French books in 19 preschool classroom library book bins.
- 3) To give all four year olds, 520 children total, their very first book (Brian Wildsmith's L'Abecedaire). Various club donations funded \$7800 for this effort.

Subsequent 4-5 Project Years

The project team will work with the Cange librarian, Library Committee and school administrators to fund and add library books, classroom books, library furniture, IT equipment, materials and supplies, container shipping costs. Estimated funding need: \$25-\$40,000 per year.



RYLA (continued from the previous page)

to come to an awards breakfast before picking us up and returning home. The very last award that was given before everyone left was the Ultimate Servant Award. This award was given to one boy and one girl that exhibited leadership skills by serving others during the week. I was shocked when they announced that I had won the Ultimate Servant Award for the girls. Without knowing it, RYLA had taught me, using the Four Way Test, the importance of being a servant rather than the one being served.

As a counselor at RYLA 2011, I hope I instilled the truths I learned as a delegate in someone else. I realize how

important it is to understand the Four Way Test and be able to apply it to my life. I am passionate about serving others because of what I learned through my experience at RYLA. As I move into a new stage of my life, my goal is to carry the Four Way Test with me, never forgetting to ask myself these four simple questions that make such a lasting impact.

What can we do for **VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH**? Find out at rotaryresources.blogspot.com. Just click in this box to go there now.