

# Communi-clik

**Breaking News** from Florida's International Volunteer Agency

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**SIX PROVIDE TRAUMA CARE IN THE CENTRAL PLATEAU**

Following the January 12<sup>th</sup> earthquake in Haiti, [Hosean International Ministries \(HIM\)](#) opened their complex in Pignon to house, feed, and educate over 350 people seeking refuge from the disaster. While many of the initial needs for food and medical attention were being met, founder of HIM Caleb Lucien noticed that many of the refugees especially the youth were potentially suffering from post traumatic stress. In 2008, after four hurricanes devastated the town of Gonaives, Lucien requested FAVACA trauma counselors to work with Haitians who had lost so much. Seeing similar reactions in and around the camp, again Lucien contacted FAVACA which responded with two recovery teams of three Haitian-American trauma counselors. FAVACA volunteers Lory Servil, Deerfield Beach, Natacha Jean-Francois, Miami, and Hardy Nicoleau, Loxahatchee, traveled to Haiti February 21- March 1 and provided group therapy and individual counseling primarily to youth.



Building on work and needs identified by the first team of counselors, Nikcy Clervil of Jacksonville, Florida, Tania Delinois, Ft. Lauderdale, and Danielle Romer, Miami, traveled March 1- March 8 to reach additional youth and to provide children with additional counseling. Focus was given to coping mechanisms for trauma experienced during the earthquake and to help children cope with the loss of family and friends. The teams recommended that a full time counselor be assigned to the camp for ongoing sessions and to implement more activities such as sports, movies and crafts to occupy the children and reduce time focused on the negative experiences they witnessed.

### **FAVACA OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED - APRIL 14, JOIN US!**

The Outstanding Volunteer Achievement Award was created in 1989 and each year FAVACA recognizes top volunteers that go above and beyond. This year we will honor veteran volunteers, Mary Ann Jones and Lory Servil for their dedication and service. This past year Jones worked with youth counselors on improving their counseling skills as well as with young men in need of help with issues of self-esteem, tolerance, and violence in Guyana. She also dealt with gender violence concerns in Antigua and St. Kitts. Servil worked tirelessly to provide post-trauma counseling immediately after the earthquake in Haiti and she returned to Haiti in March to continue to help children cope. Servile also assisted victims of the 2008 hurricanes and floods in Haiti.

The reception will be held April 14, 2010 at the Florida State University Conference Center, Room 214, from 3:00-4:30 and is open to all. The reception will coincide with the [Florida Chamber of Commerce "International Days"](#) April 13-14 which FAVACA is a sponsoring. We encourage you to register and attend this two-day networking event during the Florida Legislative Session designed to promote and highlight the significant role international business and development plays in Florida's economy.

Please join us in recognizing outstanding Florida volunteers in Tallahassee, Florida on April 14, 2010 at 3 pm. We look forward to seeing you there! To RSVP or get more information please e-mail [angie@favaca.org](mailto:angie@favaca.org).

### **GUYANA COMMUNITY IMPROVES NATURAL OIL AND SOAP PRODUCTION**

The Three Brothers Community in Guyana, an Amerindian community located near the [Waini River](#), produces a natural oil and soap from oil extracted from the seeds of the Crabwood tree ([Carapa guianensis](#)). Its oil is thought to have therapeutic value and is reputed to be an anti-inflammatory, antifungal and antibacterial as well as being very high in Vitamin E. A small cottage industry has been created and additional cosmetic products such as lotions and shampoos are hoped to be developed to allow for entry into new markets. FAVACA in collaboration with [Partners of the Americas' John Ogonowski and Doug Bereuter Farmer to Farmer](#) program agreed to support the community by providing a cosmetic scientist to assist in developing new products. The community requested an expert



to provide training on improving the quality and consistency of the oil while also increasing the scale of production. Likewise, the community would like a cosmetic scientist to look at the resources available to develop new products. Bruce Akers, a cosmetic scientist consultant from Larkspur, California agreed to traveled to Guyana February 13-28, 2010 and provide training on product development and quality control measures. While in the Waini River community, Akers trained participants on how to consistently produce the oil by mixing it at a specific temperature. Improving the quality and consistency of the oil increase market potential

by having a reliable and consistent product vendors can purchase throughout the year. Additionally, Akers instructed how to increase the scale of production and to collect flowers and other natural

products to add new fragrances to the oil, soap and lotions produced. Additional products such as shampoos can be produced with local resources and chemical ingredients found in Georgetown, Guyana.

### FAVACA PANEL A SUCCESS

FAVACA's sponsored panel "Post-Earthquake Haiti: The Role of Social Entrepreneurship in Sustainable Redevelopment" on March 18, 2010 in Miami included Dr. Robert Maguire, [Trinity Washington University](#) professor and Haiti expert; [Aaron Rose](#), entrepreneur, business consultant, and government advisor specializing in market readiness and foreign direct investment; and Marc Roger, FAVACA's Haiti Representative. The panelists held an open discussion on the best practices in fostering a favorable environment in Haiti for long-term investments while simultaneously emphasizing the need to build the capacity and wealth-generation of the population. FAVACA is dedicated to promoting social entrepreneurship in rebuilding Haiti utilizing market-based solutions that ensure long-term, societal benefits. FAVACA also sponsored Anne Hastings from [FONKOZE](#) in Haiti to speak as a panelist on microfinance.



### MARC ROGER RE-JOINS FAVACA TEAM



During his seven years with FAVACA, Marc Roger placed over 110 volunteers carrying out development projects throughout Haiti. In 2004, Marc returned to his home country and worked directly for Prime Minister Gerard Latortue as Liaison for International Organizations and Minister of Tourism Patrick Delatour on disaster relief and recovery after the 2004-2008 hurricanes and floods. He has also developed numerous regional tourism strategic plans and urban development projects, most notably a beach rehabilitation and artisan market project in Port Salut. Welcome

back Marc!

**FAVACA - The Florida Association for Volunteer Action in the Caribbean and the Americas**

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Promoting social and economic development in the Caribbean  
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