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CIVIC EDUCATION SUMMIT & UNITED IN LEGACY VIRTUAL PROGRAM LAUNCHED IN CAP-HAITIEN

Miami, November 5, 2021 – Ayiti Community Trust (ACT) is happy to announce that it held a Civic Education Summit and the United in Legacy virtual fundraising program during ACT’s Annual Board Retreat in Cap-Haitien, Ayiti (Haiti) from October 14 to October 18, 2021.

Fifteen members of the board of Directors and friends of ACT, coming mostly from the United States, made the trip to take part in the events organized by Ayiti Community Trust in Cap-Haitien, Ayiti. Besides attending the board meeting, the Civic Education Summit, the United in Legacy virtual fundraising program, the group met local civic leaders and authorities, and visited the historical park of Milot and the Citadel Laferriere, delighting in their stay in the second city of the country.

About the Civic Education Summit

Over 70 change agents committed to Civic Education participated in the 2021 Civic Education Summit organized by Ayiti Community Trust in collaboration with Fondasyon Felicitee, Anseye Pou Ayiti, Centre Haïtien du Leadership et de l’Excellence, Baskètbòl pou Ankadre Lajenès, and College Bell Angelot on Friday, October 15 at College Bell Angelot in Cap-Haitien, Ayiti.

For over 200 years of Ayiti’s independence, the moto of *L’union fait la force* has guided Ayitians’ consciousness no matter where they reside. Grounded in this theme, is the importance of Civic Education. Historically, the subject was part of the national curriculum of country. However, over the last few decades, the subject has been ignored with the consequence of a marked erosion of civic behavior, dehumanization of citizens, as evident by the growing insecurity, gang activities, kidnapping, etc., taking place throughout the country. A strong democratic society requires informed and engaged citizens. ACT’s civic education pillar is premised on the concept that self-aware, competent, and purposeful people are best able to build and sustain a nation. ACT supports community-building initiatives that encourage leadership development, public stewardship, and active collaboration to promote civism and the greater good of Ayitian (ahh-ee-shuhn) society.

The goal of the Civic Education Summit was to engage civic education organizations and youth to: (1) Create a common definition for Civic Education, (2) create a network of collaborators working on Civic education in Ayiti; and (3) Identify methods for effective and continuous collaboration.

“I thank ACT for this great initiative because my people have generally lost the sense of civic commitment and duty. All my compatriots, especially the youth, must engage, because Ayiti needs committed citizens to develop this nation now more than ever” says Woody Monsanto, university student in Port-au-Prince and summit participant.

“I spent a productive day with educators, historians, and many professionals; I needed this. The summit reminded me of the common objective most Haitians’ have. We have much responsibility ahead.” says Louino Robillard, participant, and Co-founder of Konbit Bibliyotèk Site Soley.

About the United in Legacy Program

Following the success of the **United in Legacy** campaign launched in July 2021, Ayiti Community Trust hosted a virtual event live from Ekolojik Resort Hotel in Cap-Haitien on Saturday, October 16, 2021.

The **United in Legacy** fundraiser was created to help raise awareness and funds towards building a sustainable Ayiti with support from Ayitian Nation and friends of Ayiti. Ayitian Nation is how Ayiti Community Trust describes Ayitians in Ayiti and throughout the Ayitian Diaspora as one Nation.

“This year’s United in Legacy Campaign gave me the opportunity, not only to contribute towards Ayiti Community Trust’s mission to support and sustain development innovation in Ayiti, but also to proactively reach out to family, friends and members of the community to donate to this special cause so dear to my heart” says Joelle Cerge, ACT board member.

During this culturally rich event, ACT also commemorated the heritage and history of Ayitian people and the life legacy of founding Emperor, Jean-Jacques Dessalines.

Funds raised through United in Legacy contributes to ACT’s mission to support innovative grassroots organizations in Ayiti and enhances ACT’s efforts to build an endowment for long-term investment in Ayiti’s development.

About Ayiti Community Trust

Ayiti Community Trust’s (ACT) is building an endowment for long-term investment in Ayiti’s development. ACT’s mission is to build a sustainable Ayiti by supporting the work of innovative organizations in Ayiti in the areas of civic education, environment, and entrepreneurship.

For more information about Ayiti Community Trust’s programs, visit www.AyitiCommunityTrust.org

WE ARE BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE AYITI!
