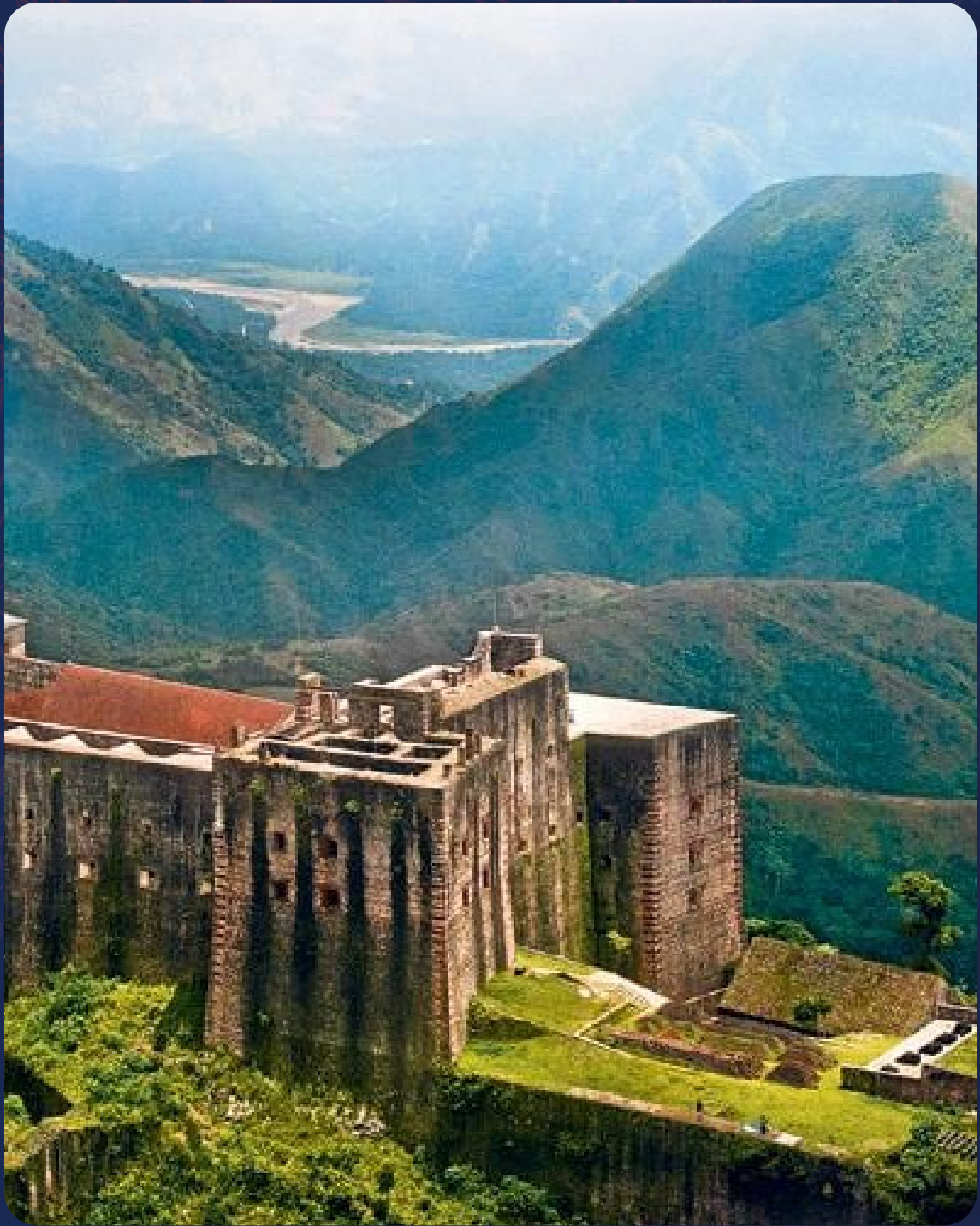




2021 ANNUAL REPORT

ROOTED IN COMMUNITY





We are a group of people dedicating time, talent, and treasure to building a sustainable Ayiti. We are Haitians living in Ayiti and in the diaspora, and friends of Ayiti who believe that, together, we can transform and correct the misrepresentation of Haitians and Ayiti. Motivated and unified by our belief in Ayiti's strengths, we work to supplant relief-driven development with long-term investment in Ayiti's human and social capital.



Table of Contents

Message from Our Chairman	4
Highlights	7
Our Work	9
Investing in Communities	12
Ayiti Connect	16
Event Highlights	18
Earthquake Relief Fund	20
Honor Wall	22
Financials	26

Please note: Ayiti Community Trust uses the indigenous and Haitian Creole spelling Ayiti for the country of Haiti, with exception to names of organizations and collectives.

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



2021 was a seminal year for the Ayiti Community Trust (ACT). **We celebrated our 5th anniversary** and launched several new initiatives rooted in community. As the year began, the full effects of the pandemic were still being felt. Nonetheless, we made aggressive plans on many fronts to have the impact that our donors, friends, supporters, and most importantly, Ayiti (Haiti) require.

Our new campaign, **United in Legacy**, was launched to highlight the concept of the **Haitian Nation**, which underscores that we are a borderless nation with a common legacy that unites us over space and time. This campaign was met with great enthusiasm and achieved the twin goals of fundraising and raising awareness to build a sustainable Ayiti.

In June, ACT **convened over 15 of the organizations** that are active in the Civic Education sector to establish a dialogue among them. It was refreshing to see organizations from all over the country reconnect and explore new ways of collaborating. This led to a productive in-person conference in October in Cap-Haitian. Also, in June, ACT hosted its first **Dessalines Society Meeting** where we unfurled the concept of “Asset Framing” through which our efforts around fundraising focus attention on a positive narrative. The many ongoing successes that are underappreciated are celebrated as a means to reflect why ACT needs support.

On August 14, 2021, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck the southern peninsula of Ayiti. We had boots on the ground immediately and were able to work in solidarity with local communities to identify what they most needed. This bottoms-up approach, guided by deep-rooted relationships, was critical when informing our donors of the urgent situation. By establishing the **Earthquake Relief Fund**, we were able to raise funds on a level that we had not reached up to that point. As many donors, foundations, and corporations found our work, ACT became recognized as a go-to organization that serves as a critical vehicle to make a difference. Through ACT’s model, we collaborated with local partners and community leaders to navigate how funds could have the largest impact.

In the fall, our **annual grantmaking program** continued apace. Four grants, focused on the environment and civic education, were announced at our **Annual Board Retreat** that was held in Cap-Haitian. Overall, 2021 was a year that brought forth many ways of making and growing our impact, with the support of our community: our grantees, partners, donors, board of directors, and volunteers. We continue to make progress and are poised to even greater heights in the years ahead.

Our nation is united, our purpose is clear; and most of all we know that Ayiti is possible!

Ghislain Gouraige, Jr.
Board Chairman



2021 HIGHLIGHTS



Supported by
Miami-Dade County Mayor
and elected officials



United in Legacy
Inaugural Campaign



Established Earthquake
Relief Fund and Mental
Health Fund



Civic
Education Summit



Fundraised
\$1 million dollars



AYITI
COMMUNITY TRUST

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE AYITI

LEADERSHIP & COMMITTEES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Guerda Nicolas, Ph.D.,* Co-Founder
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Natacha J. Janac,* Communications Committee Co-Chair
Vanessa Prosper, Communications Committee Co-Chair
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Samuel Dameus
Carole M. Berotte Joseph, Ph.D.
Daphnée Charles
Nicholas Charles
James Meyer

FRIENDS OF ACT

Jonathan Vilma**
Sarah Bouchereau**
Pascale Charlot**
Wendy Francois**
Abner Septembre**
Trabian Shorters**
Michele King Soffer**
Joanne Maislin**
Samuel Ludington**
Dave Lawrence**
Roman Lyskowski**
Rock Soffer**
Mireille Chancy Gonzalez**
Maryse Pénette Kedar**

STAFF

Guerda Nicolas, Ph.D., President
Guitele Nicoleau, Ed.D., Chief Strategy Officer
Ireola Olaifa, Operations Manager
Dreema Stokes, Development Associate

KEY: * Founding Member
+ Friend of ACT



MISSION AND **PILLARS**

Our mission is what drives us.

We are dedicating time, talent, and treasure to support sustainable development innovation in Ayiti. This stems from the belief that a new Ayiti is possible, and that Haitians have the will and power to lead their own destiny. We actively support Haitian-led innovation within an asset-framing model that empowers Ayiti to do for self.

Our three core pillars of support are: **civic education**, **environment**, and **entrepreneurship**.



CIVIC EDUCATION



ENVIRONMENT



ENTREPRENEURSHIP

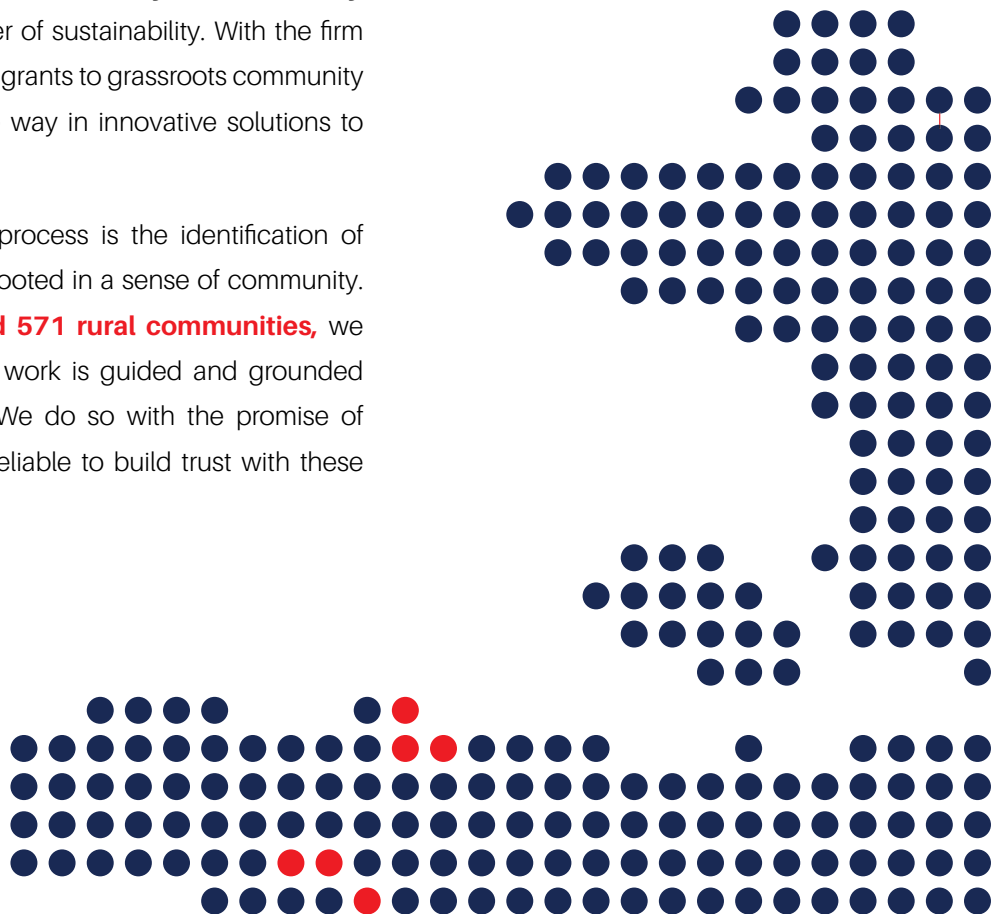




OUR **WORK**

As a grantmaking community foundation, **Ayiti Community Trust** positions itself as an enabler of sustainability. With the firm belief that Ayiti is capable, we offer grants to grassroots community organizations that are leading the way in innovative solutions to Ayiti's challenges.

At the core of our grantmaking process is the identification of grassroots organizations that are rooted in a sense of community. Across **all ten departments and 571 rural communities**, we aim to identify innovators whose work is guided and grounded by the communities they serve. We do so with the promise of being transparent, credible, and reliable to build trust with these communities.





“

“During the year 2021, following the earthquake of August 14 that hit the southern peninsula of Ayiti, Centre Banyen Jardin Labo, Association des Paysans de Vallue (APV) and Ayiti Community Trust started a very active collaboration in Toirac and Lievre. It is a very active, fruitful and rewarding collaboration both for the population of the two communal sections in question and for Centre Banyen Jardin Labo, Association des Paysans de Vallue and Ayiti Community Trust, by the quality of the exchanges and by the lessons learned.”

”

- APV (Yvon Faustin & Abner Septembre)





INVESTING IN **COMMUNITIES**



INVESTING IN **COMMUNITIES**

Grantmaking Foundation

Each year ACT's grant committee partners with Papyrus to identify, vet, and select qualified Haitian-led organizations in Ayiti doing work around our three pillars (civic education, environment, and entrepreneurship). Selected organizations are then invited to submit a full proposal for a project that they seek to be funded.

In 2021, **four organizations** were selected—two focused on civic education and two focused on the environment. Grantees are supported both financially and holistically with quarterly meetings, access to ACT'S networks and additional funding opportunities, interim and final reports, and site visits. Grantees are supported for a period of one year and can reapply for an extension or a new proposed project.

2021 **GRANTEES**

SOLDARITÉ HAITIENNE POUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT DE KENS COFF (SOHADERK)

ORGANIZATION MISSION: SOHADERK works to reverse the environmental degradation of natural resources in the mountainous community of Kenscoff. They provide agricultural extension services and innovative training to a growing network of farmers in the region.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE: SOHADERK will train its network of farmers on the use of biofertilizer and biopesticides in order to promote sustainable agricultural practices that protect the environment, increase farmer incomes, and yield more nutritious foods. This will serve as a demonstration project that could be expanded to new communities across Ayiti whose livelihoods are dependent on agriculture and a thriving natural environment.



★ **COOPÉRATIVE DES ACTEURS DE PÊCHE D'ENVIRONNEMENT ET D'ÉLEVAGE (CAPEELAG)**

ORGANIZATION MISSION: CAPEELAG is a cooperative of fishermen and local associations on the island of La Gonave working to protect coastal ecosystems that are critical to their livelihoods and well-being.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE: Mangroves are an essential component of the coastal ecosystem. They provide habitats for high-value marine species, prevent coastal erosion and storm surges, and sequester 10x more carbon than terrestrial trees. However, the cutting of mangroves for use in charcoal production has threatened their existence. CAPEELAG proposes to combat this trend by rehabilitating La Gonave's mangrove forests and establishing a community goat park to generate new sources of income that can help offset charcoal production money.

★ **BASKETBALL POU ANKADRE LAJENÈS (BAL)**

ORGANIZATION MISSION: BAL uses basketball as a tool to educate and mentor vulnerable Haitian youth. In addition to basketball, participants partake in a wide variety of educational and enrichment activities designed to maximize their capacity as citizens and keep them out of trouble. BAL operates in two of Port-au-Prince's most underserved urban neighborhoods: Cité Soleil and Martissant.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE: BAL proposes to use ACT funding to launch a citizenship program that will catalyze a new generation of youth citizen-leaders. Participants will receive innovative training in civic education and community service that will help them grow into agents of change for a new Ayiti. A portion of the awarded funds will also be used to cover the organization's operating costs.

★ **ACTION TOWARD INITIATIVES AND VOLUNTEERING FOR EDUCATION IN HAITI (ACTIVEH)**

ORGANIZATION MISSION: ACTIVEH harnesses the passion and potential of students as a force for positive change. They help youth channel their energies toward professional internship placements and good-will community service projects in Ayiti.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE: With funding support from ACT, ACTIVEH will enhance its existing programming in several key domains:

- Recruit and train new members to serve in volunteer community service projects.
- Grow its Action Eco program to foster civic & environmental education and launch more "eco-citizens."
- Expand its Women in Power initiative that provides mentorship and career orientation for young women.
- Provide digital literacy training for more students, with an emphasis on provinces outside of Port-au-Prince.



AYITI
COMMUNITY TRUST







AYITI CONNECT

Ayiti Connect is a series of programming of the Ayiti Community Trust that aims to educate young Haitian Americans on Ayiti's history and culture to build a generation of Haitian American philanthropists dedicated to the island's long-term development and to sustain vibrant communities in Florida and across the United States. We launched two programs in 2021 to mobilize the diaspora and help cultivate a new generation of philanthropists rooted deeply in their commitment to the Haitian community.

Ayiti Connect - TiKont

The *TiKont* (short stories in Haitian Creole) program draws from Ayiti's rich storytelling traditions to shape a narrative about the lived experiences of Haitian immigrants, their contributions to their communities, and their enduring connections to Ayiti. We believe that tapping into our collective experiences and sharing these stories will provoke relevant memories of personhood, heritage, and culture. *TiKont* empowers the transformative narrative about Ayiti. Thereby, creating authors who will use deeper context to illustrate the connections of social, political, economic, and environmental dynamics towards a new paradigm.



Ayiti Connect - TIKONT MIAMI, FL—DEC 4th, 2021

- Tchaka distribution
- Historical background discussion about flags with children
- Painting of Ayiti Flags
- Flag exhibit
- Curated discussion by scholars
- Cultural dance and drumming performances



Mapping Grant Program

Connecting Haitian Communities is a partnership between the Haitian American Professionals Coalition (HAPC) and Ayiti Community Trust (ACT) funded by Connecting Communities in the Americas—CF Leads (CCA). The project will connect HAPC's 18+ organizations and community partners, as a network, to enhance the collective strengths of the Haitian American Community in Southern Florida, and to improve socio-economic impact of Haitians in the U.S. and Ayiti.

The project will seek to achieve the following 4 areas of impact:

1. Identification of shared mission, goals, and desired impact
2. Development of shared strategies and program outcomes
3. Development of a common platform for advocacy and fundraising
4. Strategies for how to structure the Haitian diaspora's support of Ayiti through a transnational lens



EVENTS

United In Legacy

In July 2021, we launched United in Legacy, a fundraising campaign that shined a light on the many ways members of the diaspora can invest in our vision. This peer-to-peer initiative provided a rare opportunity to harness the collective power of their family and friends to drive an innovative approach to solidarity with their ancestral home. Participants reached out to their network from all over to raise awareness and get involved with ACT.

It culminated in a culturally rich event hosted live (and virtually) from the Ekolojik Resort Hotel in Cap-Haitien on October 16, 2021, which commemorated the history of the Haitian people and the legacy of founding Emperor, Jean-Jacques Dessalines.

With the support of the participants and donors over \$30,000 was raised.

“ 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. ”

- Joelle Cerge, ACT Board Member

Unite with us for United in Legacy 2022.



www.AyitiCommunityTrust.org/United





Civic Education Summit

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

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.
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

- **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.

- **Louino Robillard**, participant, and Co-founder of Konbit Bibliyotèk Site Soley



EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND

On August 14, 2021, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti’s southern peninsula, affecting the South, Grand-Anse and Nippes Departments. Less than three days after the earthquake, Tropical Depression Grace arrived with 35mph winds, dumping rain on the region at a rate of 2 inches per hour. The impact was severe: over 2,200 deaths, 12,268 injured, 52,953 homes destroyed, and an additional 62,862 houses were damaged. The rural areas up in the mountains were particularly hard hit.

The Ayiti Community Trust’s Co-founder and President was in southern Ayiti at the time of the earthquake and sprang into action. She visited several communities in the three Departments: (1) **Department of the South** (Departement du Sud), which includes the town of Aquin, Les Cayes, Camp-Perrin, Torbeck, Cavaillon, Saint-Louis du Sud; (2) **Department of Nippes**, which includes the town of Lievre, L’Asile, Sunai, etc); and (3) **Grand-Anse Department**, which includes the towns of Jeremie, Pestel, Corail, Beaumont, etc.).

Phases of Implementation

The Earthquake Relief Fund is a designated fund that supports others to rebuild their lives in the three phases of relief, recovery, and reconstruction. Our partnership with grassroots organizations restores a sense of agency to communities in remote access areas and promotes the use and economy of locally sourced goods.

PHASE 1 | RELIEF

- Construction of shelters
- Retrieval of essential documents
- School preparation
- Seed funding for essential crops

PHASE 2 | RECOVERY

- Mental health support
- Back community-led clean-up projects
- Support intergenerational dialogues around best practices for rebuilding
- Support farmers to replenish livestock & additional crops.

PHASE 3 | RECONSTRUCTION

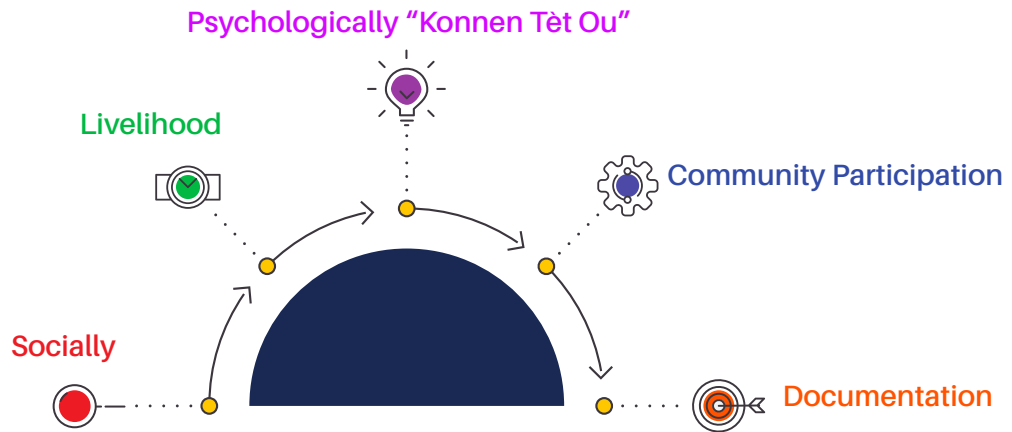
- Conduct in-depth focus groups to create environmentally durable infrastructure
- Reinforce community-based initiatives
- Leverage government assistance and presence in the remote target rural areas.

Partners in Ayiti



Area of Focus

The Earthquake Relief Fund is a designated fund that supports others to rebuild their lives in the three phases of relief, recovery, and reconstruction. Our partnership with grassroots organizations restores a sense of agency to communities in remote access areas and promotes the use and economy of locally sourced goods.

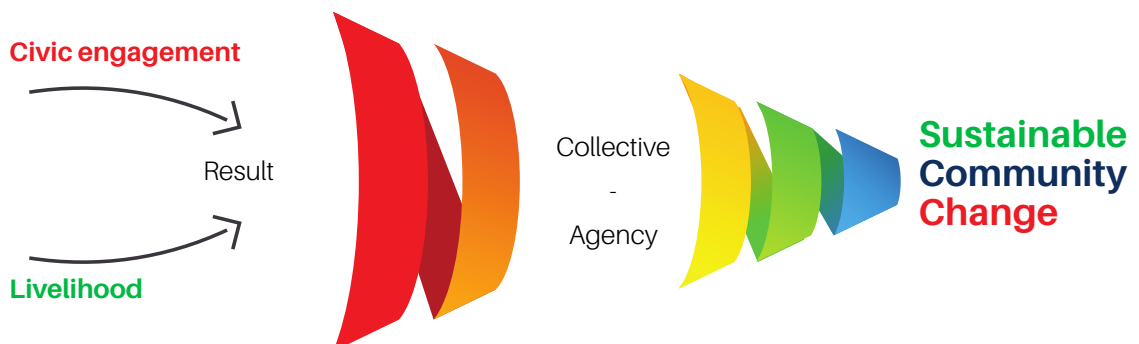


Community Participation

- Community leaders and local governments (CASEC, ASEC) hosting planning meetings of
- All activities were designed, planned, and implemented by the community-community driven Initiatives
- Integration of local governments (CASEC, ASEC) in all phases of activities
- Civically engage activities to include the participations of women and youth
- Build partnerships between rural communities to response to disaster



Community Model at Work



HONOR WALL

We express our deepest gratitude to **all** our generous supporters. Your contribution is part of a community with a shared vision for Ayiti's future.

\$100,000 and Above	\$50,000-99,999	\$25,000-49,999
Anonymous (1)	Anonymous (1) Jonathan Vilma The Grove Foundation	Anthony Tamer Knight Foundation United Way Miami
\$10,000 - \$24,999	\$5,000-\$9,999	\$2,500-\$4,999 Donors
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Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan	Edison Properties Newark Foundation	Islamic Association of Collin County
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William James College
Zea Malawa





Dessalines Society | \$2500+ individuals

The name **Dessalines Society** honors Jean-Jacques Dessalines, Ayiti's first emperor, who, after the 1803 Battle of Vertières, declared that all persons on Ayiti's soil would inherit life and liberty. The names listed represent individuals whose contributions support our General Fund in the amount of \$2500 and above. In the words of this revolutionary "**We have dared to be free**. Let us dare to be so by ourselves and for ourselves." We are excited to highlight these remarkable individuals who are helping to create a sustainable Ayiti.

Don d'Adesky
Ghislain Gouraige
Harry LaRosiliere
Herb Brown
James Meyer
Jonathan Vilma
Manolia Charlotin
Marie Denis Gervais
Nick Charles
Solanges Vivens

“ My donations and heartfelt support to Ayiti Community Trust is my expression of love for Ayiti my country, my roots, my home and the foundation that allows me to be the person I become. I encourage everyone to support their mission. ”

- Solanges Vivens



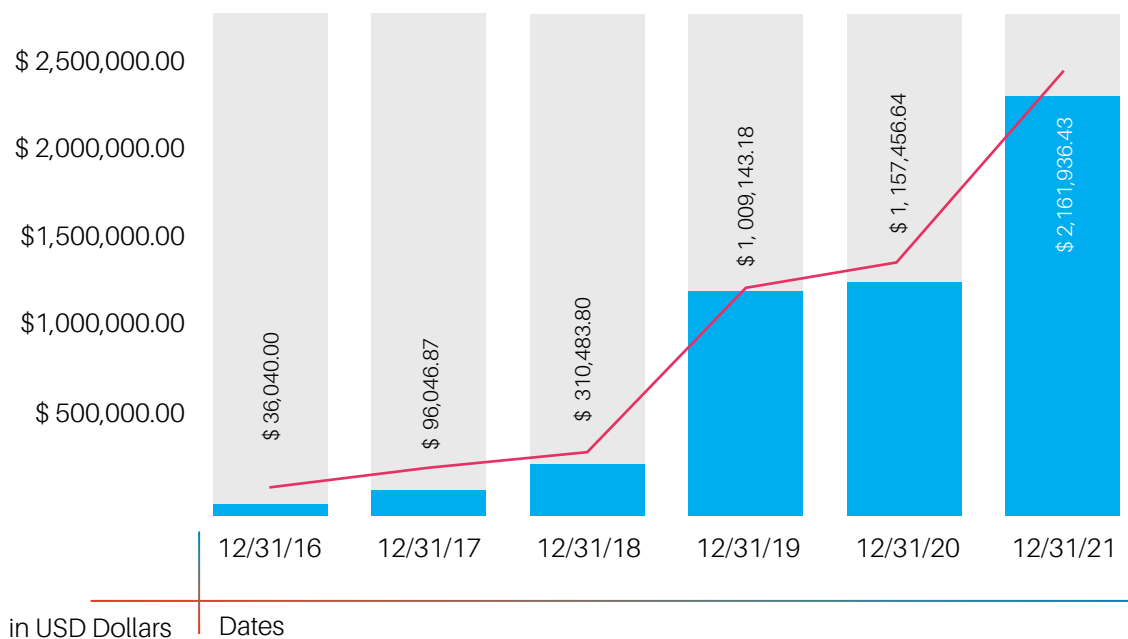


BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE AYITI

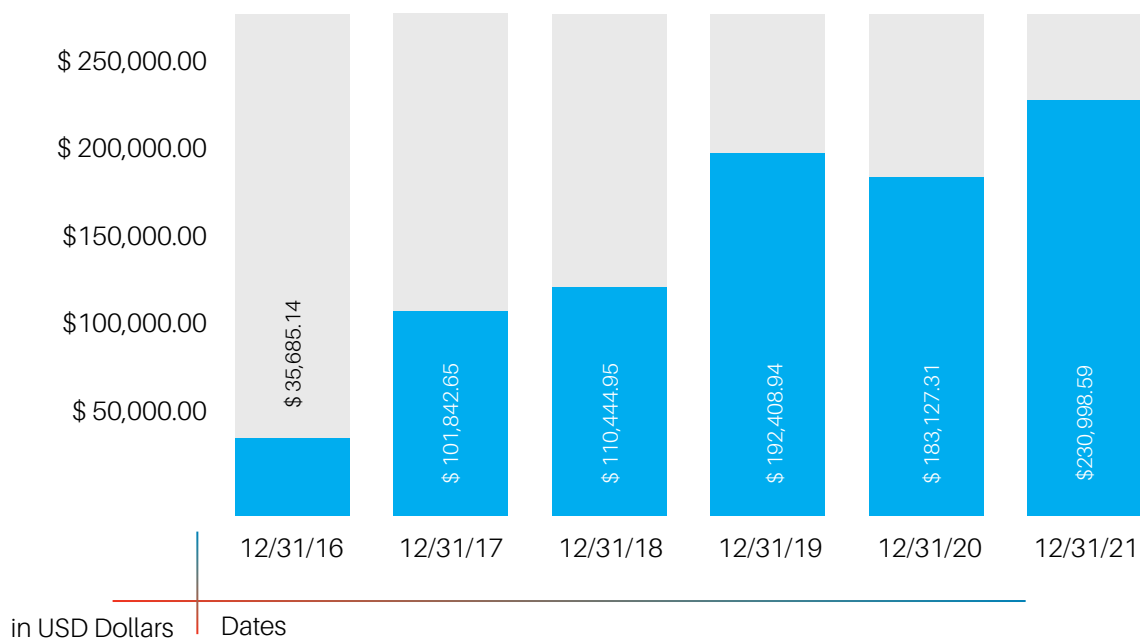
2021 FINANCIALS



Total Donations to Ayiti Community Trust | in USD 2016 to 2021



Assets Held at The Miami Foundation





AYITI

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info@ayiticommunitytrust.org

685 NE 126th Street, North Miami, FL 33161



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