

Rebati Sante Mentale

Mental Health Program for Teachers

Archaie Project

Session 1 Summary Report: Session Dates; January 28th to February 1st, 2013

The session was held at the conference room in Musee Orgier-Fombrun. This is a perfect location for a training focusing on mental health and history. Most of the individuals in the area have never been to the museum nor have heard of it.

Cuisine Luloise, head by Mr. Jean Paul Webens of Luly, catered food in. This is very important give that the training site was at the Musee located at Moulin Sur Mer. It required some negotiations to ensure that an outside caterer conducted the food. This was central as it enables us to support the economic development of a community business in the area. Furthermore, we wanted the Musee to be exposed to this partnership with the hope that they might utilize them for future events at the museum

A total of **15 teachers** attended the first session of the program; **10 males and 5 females**. These teachers represented three main sectors of the area: Montrouis (tourist area), Archaie (main town), St. Marcs, and Tbwa (mountain) and different types of schools (public and private). They came from the following institutions:

- Educative D'excellence de Montrouis
- Institution Mixte Maison D'espoir
- Hope on a String
- Lycee C. Belair Archaie
- Museum Ogier Fombrun (3 tour guides)
- College Bethesda the Montrouis
- Ecole Nationale Congreganiste St Francois De Sales
- Centre Social de Petit Bois
- Ecole Nationale du Drapeau

They work with the following grade levels:

- 4th AF
- 1-4th AF
- 7th AF
- Fondamental-secondaire



Arranging the group in this manner enable us to accomplished some additional benefits of the program:

- ✚ Teachers from different parts of the region connected with each other for the first time
- ✚ Teachers had a chance to share experiences across different types of schools
- ✚ Teachers from the mountain area felt that they had a voice and place at the table and were instrumental in ensuring that the participants knew their presence and their importance.

Mayor Jean Francois Wilson of Arcahaie welcomed the group as well as all of us to the training. He thanked Rebaty for coming to the region to conduct this training.

Dr. Joel Piton from Boston and Dr. Guerda Nicolas served as the first set of trainers of the mental health program. Mireille Fombrun was the trainer of the history and museum component of the program.

Individuals paired with an individual whom they do not know and spent a little time getting to know each other and then introduced their partners to the team. Then individuals were put in teams of 4 individuals (with one group consisting of 3). In their team, members re-introduced themselves to each other and were asked to create a team name, which they then presented to the larger group. Each

group had the chance of decorating a paper with their names, which will be placed in their section of the table where they will seat. The following team names were generated during this session:

- ✚ **Hope**-despite difficulties and challenges that Haitians always have hope
- ✚ **Excelsior** (slogan: “plus haut, plus fort, plus loin” (higher, stronger, more advanced)
- ✚ **MACABEJO** (representing the first two initials of their team members)
- ✚ **Union**-it is by working together that we will be able to accomplish our main objectives as Haitians



The training materials were distributed to each participant and the main objectives of the day and the week were discussed with the group. Both French and Creole books were distributed but the group will mainly be working from their Creole book.

The Training focused on the following key areas:

- ✚ Difference between maladie mentale and Sante Mentale
- ✚ Difference entre normal development and mental health issues among kids
- ✚ Difference between symptom, syndrome, and disorder

- ✚ Causes of mental illness
- ✚ Roles of teachers
- ✚ Overview of specific disorders were discussed: Depression, Anxiety, Trauma, and Grief
- ✚ Guided tour of the museum; a overview of the history of Haiti from pre-colonization to 1804 is provided; and the link between history and mental health.

