

# CHALLENGE

OFCB (l'Organisation de la Force Chrétienne de Bayonnais) Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 5

May 2018

## Actionnel's May U.S. Visit

We are excited with all of the enthusiasm about Actionnel's visit this month. He will be visiting many area churches as we look to find additional sponsors for children in Bayonnais.

Look through the events calendar and know that you are welcome to attend any of the events listed. We hope you will find at least one opportunity to catch up with Actionnel during his visit.



Your shopping matters. This Mother's Day, shop for Mom at [smile.amazon.com/ch/26-3588310](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/26-3588310) and Amazon donates to World Of God.

### YOUR SHOPPING SUPPORTS US

Buy Mother's Day gifts at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and Amazon donates




## CALENDAR

**May 6: SMPC: Worship and Sponsorship Campaign: 8:10 AM First Service**  
 Contact Judy Nichols

**May 7: FPC Concord: 5 - 7 PM**  
 Contact Lynne Keel 704-788-2100

**May 8: World of God Meeting: 4:00 PM**  
 Contact Eleanor Shell

**May 9: Sardis Presbyterian: Sponsorship Campaign 6:30-8:00 PM**  
 Contact Brenda McKay

**May 10: Pastor's Lunch, Sardis Presbyterian Church 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**  
 Please RSVP: [eleanor@worldofgod.org](mailto:eleanor@worldofgod.org)  
 Contact Eleanor Shell

**May 13: Lake Norman Baptist: 8:30 & 9:45 Worship and Sponsorship**  
 Contact Ron Hoppe

**May 15: Friends of OFCB Mtg: 6:15 PM**  
 Contact Philip Cope

**May 16: Radiant Life Church: 5:00 PM**  
 Contact Chris Thompson

**May 20: First Baptist Florence - Sponsorship Campaign**  
 Contact Chris Handley

# Where is the economy in Bayonnais, Haiti?

This question has haunted me for years. Where is the economy? I have worked in the world of business my entire life and am intrigued by business wherever I go. While traveling, I enjoy the sights, the people, the culture, etc. But I am always curious about business.

Beginning with my first visit to Bayonnais in 2010 where my church assessed the long-term viability of a relationship with them, and continuing in my visits in 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015, I was always looking for the economy. It was hard for me to see much sign of an economy in Bayonnais.

However, as I returned to Bayonnais each time, either on a mission trip or going down to provide leadership training, what I begin to see were people who were industrious, who care for each other and who were thirsty for information. In 2015 as I was thinking about what we might do to help our friends there I came across people who were already helping people in Third World countries develop businesses, to earn a living for themselves and their family and, most importantly, develop self-worth. That led to the discovery of the incredible Alternativ Entrepreneur Training Course. This training is based on concrete principles, namely:

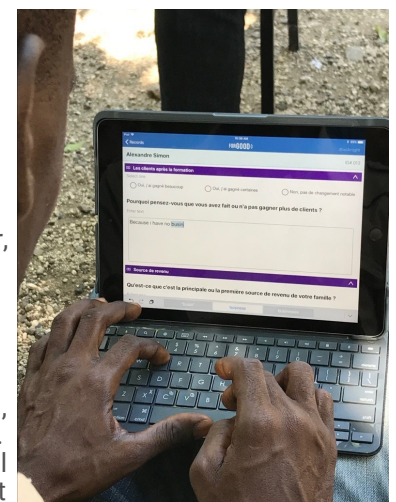
1. Teach indigenous people the material so that they can train others. We [US] don't know the culture and the language and therefore are inferior instructors.
2. The students in the course are to figure out their own way to finance their business; we do not provide money.
3. Build relationships. Christ talks about relationships and love as one of two most important commandments. Relationships should be our focus when we go, not just the material.
4. Don't answer their questions. Help them discover the answers to their questions, either on their own by thinking or by teaming with their friends and their fellow entrepreneurs. Our solutions may fit in the US; they rarely fit in Developing Countries.
5. Biblical principles. The course is filled with scriptural references and Biblical principles.



Bayonnaisians conducting the 6-month survey with Entrepreneur Wallace Mannasse (Director of Agronomy). [Note that one of the 13th grade Entrepreneur interns – Jean-Francois Wilderson – is conducting the interview.]

The discovery of the Alternativ course started me on a journey of faith. I saw no economy. However, I saw tools that could possibly stimulate one. I had no idea what types of businesses the attendees might start. I saw no real evidence that the economy would actually support what this training taught.

So, on faith, we conducted the Entrepreneur Training workshop in October 2017. We mentioned this training in November 2017 Challenge, but it was premature to tell the whole story until we saw outcomes. We (Stephanie McAnuff – a fellow World of God board member, Gray Scott – a longtime friend of Bayonnais from Florence SC, and I) taught the 9 instructors over an intense three days prior to the workshop, and an hour before and an hour after each Class Day. And we were their “gophers” during the training. We retrieved teaching collateral. We led the skits. And we watched and listened. They were in charge. They were in control. The enthusiasm and learning were palpable. They were overjoyed learning business principles – Dreaming Big, Business Basics, Business Plans, Budgets (Business and Personal, Expense Tracking, Saving Plans (Business and Personal). They saw how the incredible value. We took this material to Bayonnais on faith, not knowing what the course might actually instill in the participants. And that is what faith is – stepping out into the unknown and trusting that the outcome will honor God.



iPads captured all of the assessment information – no paper forms – and the user could toggle between English and French.



Tucked beneath the sign (which is shortened to “OFCB” for us in the US), are the US team: Brian Weissesg (Alternativ), Stephanie McAnuff (World of God), Marc Stevens, (World of God), Shelly Crouch (Alternativ), Dow Bauknight (World of God).

Last month, we returned to Bayonnais to do a six-month checkup. And the 6-month wait was filled with Hope (and, to be honest, some doubt!). Hope is what is anticipated with eagerness, with no assurance that it will actually materialize.

You may have personally experienced a workshop that created incredible enthusiasm and excitement, only to evaporate in 72 hours. So, we returned after six months, filled with Hope, but not sure of the outcome. We were incredibly amazed. 16 of 31 entrepreneurs had already started businesses. The standard for Alternativ is that 50% start businesses within 12 months; in Bayonnais, over 50% have started businesses within six months!

What businesses did they start? What revenue is being created? How many new jobs have been created? Which of the four teams “won” the Chappell Market Assessment? Find out in future issues of *Challenge*.

I would like to conclude with a big “shout out” for the US team that went down, as well as the Entrepreneurs in Bayonnais who are making it happen!!