



CHALLENGE

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

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Entrepreneur Bayonnais: What are the businesses they started?

By Dow Bauknight

In the [May Challenge newsletter](#), I shared the wonderful training course for the Entrepreneur Program in Bayonnais, which we conducted (or rather, the Bayonnaisians learned and conducted!) in October 2107. I also gave a brief peak at some of the outcomes we saw, when we went for a 6-month visit (April, 2018). I promised to share with you some of the businesses in this and future newsletters.

As a reminder, though, it is important for all of us to keep in mind the principles that form the basis for not only the conduct of the training but also the Entrepreneur Bayonnais program implementation. Here they are, repeated from last month's Challenge:

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.

So, who are the Entrepreneurs from the first class, and what businesses have the Entrepreneurs started?

The class was comprised of the OFCB leadership team. While the curriculum is designed for people of all educational levels, including people who cannot read and write, Actionnel suggested that the first conduct be for the leaders. Why start with the OFCB leadership team, all of who already have jobs? His rationale was: The leaders need to know the material and believe in it, so that they can:

- advocate for it,
- help others who take the course by coaching them, and
- create their own businesses so that they are not totally reliant on the salary that they receive in their role at OFCB.

This reasoning proved to be very sound, and as a result of their enthusiasm and leadership, the Entrepreneur program is thriving and "Entrepreneur-Speak" [i.e., Entrepreneur



Entrepreneurs and Student Interns at the 6 month review.

terminology] has become a fluent language in the community.

Of the 31 Entrepreneurs, 16 had started businesses by the 6-month visit in April [training program average is 50% start businesses in 12 months; 50+% in six months is outstanding!]. The total revenue for the 16 businesses in the month of March was 53,450 gourdes (\$822.30 US). To put this into context, a factory worker in Port au Prince makes 7,800 gourdes per month. An entry level teacher makes 8,125 gourdes per month. So, the revenue from the 16 businesses equaled one half year's pay for an entry level school teacher. And keep in mind that these businesses had been recently started!

In addition to creating additional income for themselves, the Entrepreneurs employ twelve other people. Twelve jobs now exist which did not exist in October 2017!

The businesses that have been created are varied and practical. Facile charges cell phone, sells cell phones, sells credit cards for cell phones, and has purchased a backup battery for charging in case there is a power failure. Iverner shows movies. Edilia sells jams and peanut butter, in Bayonnais and in Gonaives, and is now selling products to the university instructors in Gonaives. Vennette makes and sells liquid detergent, door to door. Rachelle sells textbooks (she had tried this before the Entrepreneur course; the course taught her budgeting, pricing and other skills that allowed her to re-launch her business). Pressly shows movies and charges cell phones. Charlesen sells Coca Cola and has a snack bar. Labonte sells Coca Cola. Kenold provides lighting for Bayonnaisians. He has also bought a car (with a loan from Fondepne Bank) and he uses it to rent and deliver 2x4 framing and plywood forms for forming concrete/rebar roofs.

The businesses are a witness to practicality. The businesses are meeting community needs. Many of the businesses address "the last mile" of products being available to consumers [in Bayonnais, the "last mile" is actually 17 miles!). For even basic necessities, Bayonnaisians have to travel 17+ miles to Gonaives, St. Mark or Listere. And they don't have transportation, so they walk or pay for a ride (moped, truck, etc.). The trip can easily consume an entire day. The Entrepreneurs are making products available in the community, and at a fair price.

How You Can Help the Bayonnais Youth become Entrepreneurs!

By: Stephanie McAnuff

[World of God](#) is headed back to Bayonnais, Haiti this July to train and equip 60 of our brightest students with [Alternativ's Business Essentials Training](#). We will be leading training over the course of 2 weeks and we need your help! We need to raise \$3,000 to cover the cost of all of the supplies and lunches for this crucial training.

In October 2017, we conducted the first Business Essentials workshop for the leaders in the community. In the article above this one, you see the quantifiable results from the October workshop that we observed in April. In addition, many learned the importance of budgeting and saving for the very first time, leading them to create budgets and savings plans including emergency funds for their families.

The outcome so far has been amazing. We can not wait to see what happens when we bring this training to the youth of Bayonnais. We know that the surest way of securing and stabilizing Haiti is by engaging the minds of the young people and ensuring they are set up for success.

Can you help us? A donation of any amount would help us equip these students this summer. Be a part of something bigger, invest in changing lives through business!

Donate Online Now:

[GoFundMe](#)

[World of God](#)

or by check

Mail checks to: World of God, 338 S. Sharon Amity Rd. No. 280, Charlotte, NC 28211 mark for "Youth Entrepreneur"

Thank you, Eleanor!

Eleanor Shell has been with us for two years and is now moving on to the next chapter in her life. Attached are excerpts from the letter she wrote to the board, summarizing what she has helped the organization – along with the help and enthusiasm of lots of others! – achieve during her time with us. Thank you, Eleanor, for your time with us!!

Dow

June 4, 2018

Good Morning, World of God Team!

Thursday [May 31] was my last official day in my current role with World of God. It was a full day wrapping-up some loose ends and making sure Joan and others had what they needed from me to move forward.

This season together has been filled with many ups and downs as we worked together to find a way forward. As I reflect on our time working together, I find myself filled with joy because despite many false starts and detours, we have found great success. A few of the highlights include:

- 1. Bringing new churches into the World of God Family (FPC Concord, Radiant Light Fellowship, FBC Lake Norman). In addition, we have several churches who have traveled to Bayonnais for the first time in the past year, which have potential to become members of the family.*
- 2. Navigated the separation of the AoH [Acres of Hope] team into their own 501c3, which will allow US based organizations to focus on the specific needs of their in-country partners.*
- 3. First stab at a fundraising campaign, "Soiree for Bayonnais" at Ciel Gallery raising over \$2000 for the community in Bayonnais.*
- 4. Updated our website and marketing materials. In addition, we have advanced our technology in scheduling Actionnel's visit and connecting with interested parties.*
- 5. Began to build a community among the pastors of US churches supporting OFCB Ministries with the Pastors' Lunches with Actionnel.*
- 6. Navigated a mission/vision process that led to a clear and exciting Mission for World of God.*
- 7. Launched a successful entrepreneurial and artisan program.*
- 8. Last, but certainly not least, this Spring, had our most successful season of Sponsorship Campaigns in four years.*

As Dow mentioned in the last board meeting, I will be around to help with projects as my schedule allows. I look forward to seeing how God leads you all into the future.

*Blessings,
Eleanor*



Clinic: Meet the Nurses

By: Judy Nichols

There are four nurses at the clinic. Three of the nurses — Sherlouné Sanon, Edilia Flerismat and Sainsoi Estalien graduated from the OFCB high school and then from nursing school in Gonaives in 2012. Gonaives is a large city located about 17 miles from Bayonnais. They are all married.

Edilia married her high school sweetheart before nursing school. While she was finishing her education, her husband, Kenold Decimus, earned a bachelor's and a master's degree in engineering. They have a son and a daughter.

Sherlouné Sanon was one of the nurses who successfully cared for patients during the Cholera outbreak in 2010, before graduating from nursing school and before the clinic was constructed in 2012. Sherlouné is married to Robert Alderin, the Financial Manager of OFCB, and they had a baby boy in January.

Sainsoi Estalien is the male nurse in the group. Like Sherlouné and Edilia, he is from Bayonnais and graduated from the CESMED nursing school in 2012. Sainsoi is married and has one son and one daughter.

The fourth nurse, **Elisemene Jacques** has recently been hired to work with the Manman (pregnant ladies) program. Her nickname is Wislene. She is from the town of Gros Morne, which is about 30 miles from Gonaives. She completed nursing school 2015 and is single.

