

100K Jobs Haiti Welcomes the Chapel as its Newest Collaborating Partner



100K Jobs Haiti is pleased to announce that the Chapel Church in Fort Wayne, Indiana has signed on as the Initiative's newest Collaborating Partner. Not only has the Chapel offered generous financial support for the Initiative, but members of the Chapel are committing to serve as business mentors to a group of Haitian entrepreneurs who have created a Local Business Affiliate (LBA) in Jacmel on the southern coast of Haiti.

A church dedicated to service, the Chapel offers its 5,000 members a wide range of opportunities to engage in domestic and international outreach work. The message describing outreach on the Chapel's [website](#) states, "To engage, ignite, equip and involve you in your local, national, and global community to Change Your World so that all people have an opportunity to experience the Gospel and receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior."

The Chapel has been thoughtful in determining their international involvement. The outreach department does not respond to solicitations to support charities, rather they research the most effective global mission projects, and investigate respected agencies working on the ground in developing nations. In Nicaragua they have financed three wells through *Living Water International* and in China they support *Living Hope International* which provides education and vocational training for children living in orphanages. Additionally, the Chapel is involved in the work of *Project Mercy* in Ethiopia which offers much needed education, training, medical assistance, and community development in a region that is vulnerable to drought and famine.

The church first became involved in Haiti when it sent a team to participate in a short-term mission trip with *100K Jobs Haiti's* Implementing Partner, *Mission of Hope*. *Mission of Hope* works to transform lives in Haiti by spreading the Gospel message, providing orphan care and education, feeding the hungry, and offering health care.

After watching the Poverty Cure DVD series, members of the Chapel became committed to poverty alleviation. They found Partners Worldwide, the main funding agency for 100K Jobs Haiti, on the Poverty Cure website. After sending members of the outreach committee to the PW headquarters in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the Chapel made the decision to sign on as collaborating partners with the 100K Jobs Haiti Initiative.

A goal has been set by the outreach members of the Chapel to build a Global Business Affiliate (GBA) of 12 members. GBA teams of two or three Americans will travel to Jacmel, Haiti every few months to train and mentor Haitian entrepreneurs in the LBA. The business backgrounds of the GBA are diverse: Haiti team leader, Paul Phillips, is a financial advisor, David Fikes runs a business services company, Todd Holliday is a pharmacy supervisor, and Chris Popp is the Vice President for a large bread baking company. These men will be able to use their varied skills to train and mentor their Haitian partners.

The business men from Fort Wayne, Indiana will meet their partners in Jacmel for the first time at the end of October 2013. The 20 Haitian entrepreneurs have already begun their business training with 100K Jobs and have begun to organize themselves. The members of the Haitian LBA will continue their training, which includes writing business plans, and upon successful completion of the program become eligible to obtain a small business loan administered through [Fonkoze](#).

Mentors are an invaluable piece of the success of the local business affiliates in Haiti. The relationships that develop through these partnerships are rewarding and meaningful to all involved. Congratulations to the Chapel for making this commitment, and for helping to facilitate job creation in Haiti.

