



3PHaiti.org

# Project Piti Pami

EDUCATION • ADVOCACY • SERVICE

November 2017



## Hitting the Streets

On Saturday, September 30th, Project Piti Pami hosted their largest fundraiser yet, the Hit the Streets for Haiti 5K run/walk at Saginaw Valley State University! Coordinated by Tom Taugher, the fundraising director, volunteers in Lansing and Saginaw put in countless hours behind the scenes contacting local businesses for sponsorship and for silent auction donations, working with the SVSU campus administration to plan the route and reserve space for the event, coordinating equipment, creating signs and flags, and spreading the word via social media and personal invitations. The fundraising committee donated hundreds of hours to this event, and the results speak for themselves.

Over the course of the day, there were 48 runners and walkers, t-shirt sales, 28 silent auction donation baskets, and donations from local businesses. Project Piti Pami raised over \$2500! Raising far more than the operational costs of the event, all of these donations will be used to further the mission of Project Piti Pami: to promote sustainable healthcare and wellness for the people of Haiti through community health education and training. The event was also an incredible opportunity to share the mission of 3P with the runners, volunteers, and others attending the fundraiser, helping raise awareness for the health needs in Haiti. Also available was a team of doctors and medical students offering Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) to the runners and

walkers after the event, free of charge! The success of this event was a huge encouragement to the Project Piti Pami fundraising committee and to the nonprofit as a whole. The fundraising team will continue to be hard at work behind the scenes, organizing additional fundraising events and reaching out to individuals and businesses to continue the mission of 3P.

## Going Local

Project Piti Pami will be participating in its first official Leadership Retreat trip to Haiti this coming December! The primary purpose of our trip is one of both service and learning. Many of 3P's current members have never previously travelled to Haiti, so this will be an important opportunity for them to become acclimated with the nation, culture, and communities they will be serving. While we are there, we are planning to participate in clinics run by the Haiti Medical Project and begin collecting data for our research projects. We also hope to meet with community members who are involved with public health education through the Haiti Medical Project and learn how we can best assist their efforts through program development. Lastly, we hope that each member participating will return home to the United States with refreshed perspective and new-found inspiration in their continued service with 3P.

HIT THE STREETS  
FOR HAITI 5K



SEPTEMBER 30TH  
SVSU CENTER CAMPUS

# Committee Corner

## CE&D

Hey everyone, it's Aaron and I'm here to give you a quick update on what the Community Education and Development team is working on before our inaugural trip this December. Since most of our work will focus on how to make healthcare more sustainable through education, our committee has been going through a book by international healthcare worker David Werner called *Helping Health Workers Learn*. Much of the process has been about reorienting our minds when it comes to problem solving. So far, it's showed us the importance of asking questions instead of providing answers. While our first trip will involve aiding the medical clinics already run by the Haiti Medical Project, our main goal is to ask questions. We want to find out common ailments, causes of those ailments, and identify the barriers people face in finding relief. In order to help, we first need to learn. Along with surveying patients, we're also interested in studying the operations of the medical clinic and find out how we can integrate interactive educational experiences with a patient's visit. Expect more ideas to come from this arm of 3P once we have a better idea of what is needed and what we gain from our experience in December. Thank you all for your support!

## Fundraising

The Project Piti Pami fundraising team is finally rested up after the successful Hit the Streets for Haiti 5K run/walk, and under the oversight of Fundraising Director Tom Taugher, is planning further fundraising opportunities. The teams in Lansing and Saginaw are continuing to raise funds and awareness for 3P, selling pins to medical students at Michigan State University and Saginaw Valley State University; and continuing to build relationships with individuals and businesses in their communities. The Hit the Streets for Haiti 5K was quite a large endeavor, and the team has learned a lot from the experience. The lessons learned will help in organizing future, large scale fundraisers. Right now, the fundraising team is planning to hosting a variety of smaller, local fundraisers in the Lansing and Saginaw areas, with a goal of growing the fundraising team capacity to eventually sponsor two large-scale fundraisers per year. Encouraged by the results of the 5K, the team is excited to discuss and plan future events to continue raising funds and awareness for Project Piti Pami.

## Research

The research committee of Project Piti Pami is gearing up to start a few projects targeted at the health status of the populations in Haiti. We are looking at starting off slow, utilizing a hygiene and nutrition questionnaire to assess a variety of risk factors for disease. This information should serve as a good stepping stone for many projects in the future. Other projects in the works are child growth and development, child ophthalmic disease, and water quality. The goal of all of our projects is to improve the health status of those living in Haiti and although we are starting off slowly, we're happy to say we are making progress.

## Did You Know?

75% of Haitians live on less than \$2.50 per day. This makes it incredibly difficult for the average Haitian to afford quality health care.