

## A publication of the Haiti Plunge Inc.

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FB The Haiti Plunge

The mission of the Haiti Plunge is to provide a transformational experience for its participants, especially youth. The purpose of the program is to empower youth to be of service to others.

### The miracle of the neem tree



Haitian women learn how to make neem paste to treat scabies, a skin infection common among children living in rural Haiti. The fact that there is so little available water for hygiene exacerbates the problem. Scabies is contagious and spreads quickly in families. Untreated scabies can develop more serious health issues. The neem tree is indigenous and plentiful in Haiti. It has both medicinal and nutritional value for the people. When the leaves are dried and added to petroleum jelly, olive, vitamin E and palm oils an effective paste to treat scabies can be made.

### Dry erase board magic



Education is the major priority of the Haiti Plunge. Since January each team has been involved with training teachers on the many uses for dry erase boards. During their time in Haiti they showed both the teachers and students how to use the boards for math and language arts. Haiti Plunge Inc. brought in boards for every student in the Desab primary school. Text books in Haiti are very expensive and children have to pay for their own books separate from their school tuition. Purchasing books is cost prohibitive for most families.

### Propelled into the future



In a remote village school deep within the Haitian bush where electricity is non-existent a laptop initiative was introduced by the January '13 team. Brian Anderson visited Haiti with the October '12 team and introduced the idea to the teachers. Based on the Kahn Academy concept, netbooks were purchased through a donation and each team worked with the teachers on computer skills. Once the teachers master the necessary computer skills, netbooks will be purchased for the students.. Electricity for this project is generated via solar panels and a generator which keeps the laptops charged. Each team researches curriculum that correlates with the Department of Education in Haiti, and delivers it to the netbooks via flash drives. All curriculum must be downloaded in French.

Students Maddie Roulier, St. Joseph H.S., Pittsfield, MA, Zac Leamon and Harrison Dilthey, Mt. Greylock Reg. H.S., Williamstown, MA give netbook instruction to teachers during their April team visit.

### Quarterly Major Donors

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