



HPI Establishes Peg Downing Scholarship Fund

Peg Downing, an avid supporter of The Haiti Plunge since the program's inception in 1984 died on Feb. 24th. She provided an opportunity for many children living in the villages HPI serves, the chance to attend school. Memorial donations were received by the organization to set up a scholarship in her memory. The scholarship will be awarded to a Haitian student interested in pursuing a nursing career. Peg was a lifetime educator, first as a teacher at St. Joseph Central Catholic High School in Pittsfield, MA then as its principal. Her life was dedicated to molding and shaping young people. The Peg Downing Scholarship is a fitting tribute to Peg and will be awarded to the recipient for four years. The Haitian student selected to receive the scholarship will receive it annually until she graduates from nursing school. Donations to this scholarship fund may be sent to: Haiti Plunge Inc./ PDS, PO Box 376, Adams, MA 01220.

INTRODUCING THE HPI BOUTIQUE

The HPI Boutique is opening on our Facebook page and will be selling one of a kind accessories and jewelry. All purchases of Tchaka bags, embroidered products, handmade bracelets, sandals and other items can have a deep impact in the nine villages where women are often restricted from education and other opportunities. This unique "store" allows women to find financial security for themselves and their families through entrepreneurship. As this business venture continues to develop, other women will become involved and more items will be available at the boutique. The HPI staff would be willing to set up a display table at local functions. The women will receive 100% of the sales.



Tchaka small cosmetic bags.

These bags are made with recycled chip bags.

HPI Receives Henriquez Grant

Haiti Plunge Inc. recently received a \$4,500 Youth World Awareness Program grant. The money will be used for scholarships to help defray trip costs for youth between the ages of 14—22 who choose to participate on a Haiti Plunge team and request financial aid.

The March and April Haiti Plunge teams have been cancelled due to the current world health issues surrounding the coronavirus. The summer teams are on hold.