

Opportunities for Communities, Inc.

260 Lincoln Avenue, Amherst, Mass. 01002

opportunitiesforcommunities.org



April 3, 2009 Newsletter 1

The Communities

Opportunities for Communities brings together **three communities** to provide education, service and contribution opportunities.

The **first community** is the group of young people in the western Mass. area. OFC provides opportunities for this community to see and serve others. These youth gain an education and a sense of service that only such involvement could provide.



The **second community** is the multiple host communities. OFC provides this second community with the opportunity to share their culture with our young people, who in turn provide tangible help.

The **third community** is you. OFC provides opportunities for our adult community to lead and support the work of the other two communities. You can help young people have these life-changing experiences and perhaps be affected yourself!

The Opportunities

OFC has established long-term relationships with communities in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. There OFC is managing a rent-to-own tool project and a sewing school, sponsoring a youth soccer team, and supporting a school for servant children, know as *restaveks*. A teacher has been hired with OFC funds! Adding a kitchen with a gas stove is a priority, as trees for firewood are scarce in Haiti.



Rent-to-own tools in La Vega, Dominican Republic

OFC is also developing service programs with the Flathead reservation in Montana. The first experience with the Flathead reservation was last summer, and another trip will be this coming summer.

We will keep you informed as these develop. Join us and let us know how you can help!

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Yes! I am ready to help!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail or phone \_\_\_\_\_

My cash donation is enclosed (please make checks out to "Opportunities for Communities")

Please contact me to help plan projects



### Current project needs

The OFC *sewing school* needs working used or new sewing machines, fabric, and notions. We also hope to provide

Marie, the instructor, with a stipend.

*Les Ouragans futbol club* needs soccer balls, cleats, and other supplies. (Thanks to Belchertown Sports Shed for assistance with jerseys!)



School supplies, backpacks, good shoes and clothes are needed for the *restavek school*.

Also needed are experts in the

design of efficient cooking facilities.

OFC welcomes administrative support and publicity! Please share this newsletter widely.

## OFC people

Board --

Doug Albertson, President

Dave Wintsch

Ken Mundt

Operations --

Pam Albertson, Treasurer

Elizabeth Mundt, Manager

Timothée Indrik, Haiti & Dominican Rep. Program Director

Dave Bell, Advisory Board Chair

Student Advisory Panel --

Amanda Mundt ~ Jackson Ulrich ~ Ona Vredenburg ~

Jack Palley ~ Tim Light

## Opportunities for Communities' First Year!

Welcome to Opportunities for Communities! We are thrilled to introduce you to the communities and to provide a report on the successes we've had just since our incorporation three months ago. Look inside for the communities, the opportunities, and how you could become involved!

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