

Zanmi Lakay is a non-profit dedicated to improving the quality of life for current and former street children in Haiti by providing educational and economic opportunities and resources to help these children while they are on the streets and to help build a life for them off the streets.



Zanmi Lakay literally means friend and home in Haitian Kréyol, and is also a warm greeting among old friends. It is in this spirit of Zanmi Lakay that our organization continues to support street children in Haiti.

In 1997, Jennifer Pantaléon, a Bay Area photographer working with at risk youth, began a project photographing daily life and teaching photography at Lafanmi Selavi, a home for hundreds of street children in Port-au-Prince. Jennifer was introduced to the hardships, misery, and joys of the lives of the children living there.

The Photography Workshops

The Photography Workshops began during that first trip with two three-week sessions in 1997 and then continued over the next three years. Jennifer shared her love of photography and the children found a way to express themselves, telling their stories and sharing their lives with other people through their photography. Every student learned how to use a 35mm camera and became more excited about visual journalism with each class. The Workshops consisted of visiting photographers, class time to learn about the importance of photography, a pinhole camera workshop, outdoor slideshows, a permanent exhibit in Port-au-Prince, and sales of prints and postcards. Just holding a camera in their hands made the students fall in love with photography. It was something they never imagined they could do, and now had a thirst for more.

Individual photography lessons have continued with boys and girls living on the streets. In 2004 and 2005, Photography Workshops were held at Caritas St. Antoine, a small home for former street children. Photographs were created in a makeshift darkroom, students went on field trips, a Haitian photojournalist presented his story of becoming a professional, and two U.S. photojournalists visited the class with their digital cameras. In 2007, we held a Photography Workshop with young children in Jacmel during Kanaval time using disposable cameras. More to come!



Ti Maché and Community

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters and their donations over the last ten years, we have been able to provide street children and other arts programs in Haiti with school and art supplies, basic daily living supplies and expenses, school funding, clothing and shoes.

Our Ti Maché (little marketplace) allows us to share Haiti's rich culture with people in the San Francisco Bay Area through sales of Haitian art. We sell beautiful work purchased directly from artists throughout Haiti, and the proceeds help fund our projects. Slideshows and the sale of prints and postcards have been used to educate the public and bring awareness to the plight of Haiti's street children. Many local schools have participated in donation drives after viewing slide presentations about the children's lives. It is through this support from our community that we have been able to help street children in Haiti.



As the situation in Haiti has recently become more hopeful, Zanmi Lakay looks forward to increased community support so that we can help children in need on a more consistent and substantial basis.

Children on the street have no one and they need our help. They want to learn and go to school. They are hungry. They want a place to live. They want to be safe and they want to contribute to society. Let's help them achieve better lives.

The Plan for Zanmi Lakay

The short-term goals for **Zanmi Lakay** are to continue helping children in an outreach capacity with basic needs, school and living assistance, health care problems, and more Photography Workshops.

Zanmi Lakay will continue giving school and art supplies to other organizations for poor children including Art Creation Foundation for Children in Jacmel, Haiti.

Zanmi Lakay will offer mentoring and tutoring, health care resources, educational assistance, and give children a chance for their talents to be nurtured.

We are developing a program to give assistance to transitional teens that are in between the final years of school but are not yet prepared to support themselves on their own. Help is needed now to support two groups of teenage boys whose programs have been cancelled, and **Zanmi Lakay** is working to fill the void so that these good students can continue their education and have a place to live.

Wish List

- Laptop computers
- Digital cameras
- Funds for rent and school expenses
- School and art supplies
- Small spiral notebooks
- Compact dominos games and playing cards
- Teen size sneakers, socks, t-shirts
- School backpacks
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- soap
- Mentors
- Volunteers

Thank you for supporting
Zanmi Lakay and the street
children in Haiti!



Your funds and donations directly help
current and former street children
in Haiti improve their lives.

If you are interested in supporting our
programs, purchasing Haitian art, or a
photo presentation please contact us.

Zanmi Lakay

zanmilakay.org
Jennifer and Guy Pantaléon
153 Montecito Avenue
Pacifica, CA 94044
650.359.6225
zanmilakay@aol.com

All photos ©Jennifer Cheek Pantaléon

Zanmi Lakay



Helping current and former
street children in Haiti
improve their lives

ZanmiLakay.org