



Our **Zanmi** Project

**This is the story
of our journey to help Haiti:
where it began and where has led.**



Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere.



and the Central Plateau is the poorest region in Haiti.



Here in Haiti's Central Plateau



daily life is a constant struggle to survive.



Food is scarce



and people have no means of refrigeration.



Charcoal is commonly used for cooking.



Cooking with charcoal presents many serious problems. Charcoal is inefficient, expensive, very harmful to the environment and poses a serious health hazard.



In this region there is no electricity



The scarcity and access to clean water is a daily



problem for families living in the Central Plateau.



When the rainy season begins



daily life becomes even more difficult.



Typically in this region houses have dirt floors.



So when it rains, the dirt floors turn to mud.



During the rainy season daily life is a constant struggle.



**In an effort to give these Haitians hope and an opportunity
to improve their lives in 2010 we began**



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our **Zanmi** project, in partnership with Project Medishare.

* **Zanmi** means "friend" in Haitian Creole



**Our goal: To help improve the lives of these women
and their families, living in Haiti's Central Plateau.**



Project Medishare's Marie Charline Noel
manages our **Zanmi** project in Haiti.



**With her help , the lives of these Haitian women
and the lives of their children are improving.**



The ladies in our project have learned how to create one of a kind **Zanmi** dolls using recycled t-shirts.





and how to create colorful baskets using recycled fabric.



For the first time in their lives



these ladies are earning an income.



Thanks to all who have purchased **Zanmi** handcrafts.
With the sales proceeds we have purchased gas stoves



and solar lanterns to improve the lives of
all the ladies in our **Zanmi** project.



The women in our **Zanmi** project



are in desperate need of water tight roofs.



Building water tight roofs



for these women is the next step on our journey to help Haiti.



The Malibu High School's **Zanmi** club has played a big part
in the success of our Haiti project.



During the school year
Zanmi club members
collect used t-shirts and
fabrics to donate to Haiti.





Under the guidance of their teacher/sponsor, Jennifer Gonzalez, the **Zanmi** Club members then sell these Haitian handcrafts. All the sales proceeds are then donated to help the women in our **Zanmi** project and their families.

**Kudos and appreciation also goes to the following
Zanmi Project supporters:**

Malibu High School *Zanmi* Club

Jennifer Gonzalez

Jill and Jeff Harris

Van Schley

Hotel Oloffson and Richard Morse

Malibu Farmers Market, Deborah Bianco

La Crescenta Baptist Church

Rowe-Powell Circle

Sunland Women's Club

Malibu Times

Chantal Gillberg

Maisy Turow, Grace Diekhaus

Linda Gold, Jan Mecagni

Christine Steiner

Malibu Methodist Church

Malibu High School Boosters

John Payola



**Dedicated in memory of Marie Chery
whose work lives on.**