



FRIENDS OF MATÈNWA



Final Report on Projects Funded By School Sisters of Notre Dame (2021-2022)

Mother Tongue Books

With SSND funding, we distributed book kits to 13 schools and created 12 new books, including translation and printing costs to send trilingual editions of these new titles to the libraries of established schools in our network.

Student-authored titles serve as a space for learners to not only develop their writing skills but process and express their perspectives on social issues:



MCLC students authored *Tipitap* to explain how to build the hand-washing stations the school installed as a COVID prevention measure.



Jerizalèm Co-Ed School students' book about a child servant offers a blueprint for how school administrators and community members can intervene against abuse.



MCLC student Daina Charles wrote about a child being punished for a misunderstanding with a beating. The main character concludes, "That wasn't fair to me at all" – an important starting point for advocacy.

Math videos progress and next steps

Farah Saint Juste has been an asset to the SSND/LKM teacher training partnership. She is a young, vibrant Haitian Montessori teacher who speaks fluent Creole, English, Spanish and French. She resides in Cabarete, Dominican Republic. Unfortunately, Farah was unable to travel to Matènwa to do teacher training on the new distance learning math videos she had been making in collaboration with Friends of Matènwa and the SSND team. Given the social and political situation in Haiti she could not get her papers in order. So instead, Chris did the traveling with support from SSND. In November 2021, Chris met with Farah in the Dominican Republic and finished up 10 weeks of videos for grades K through 3. Then in January Chris went to Matènwa and asked for feedback from the LKM Kindergarten through third grade teachers on the first 4 weeks of videos. They felt that the videos were clear and easy to follow, and they appreciated that they could watch the videos again if needed. In April they said that these activities were great for choice time. The teachers want to practice introducing these activities at math time and then see how independently the children can do these activities at choice time. During July camp the teachers will take the opportunity to do more of these activities with the campers. In September K-3 classes will follow the Ministry's calendar for introducing math concepts and the SSND/LKM activities.

Lisa Palette has agreed to continue creating two-week calendars of math activities for grades K-3 and videotaping herself describing and demonstrating each of these activities. We will review these new teacher training videos and materials in July. In September we will launch the curriculum pilot and meet with SSND again in October to report on how the pilot is going.

Friends of Matènwa remains appreciative of the depth of our partnership with School Sisters of Notre Dame. Thank you for your collaboration and the change you are enabling for students, teachers, schools, and communities in Haiti.

In solidarity,

Friends of Matènwa and the Matènwa Community Learning Center