

# FONKOZE



**2025 Annual Report**

FANM AN AKSYON : WOMEN IN ACTION

# FANM AN AKSYON : WOMEN IN ACTION



## Our Vision

Fonkoze's vision is a Haiti where people, standing together, shoulder to shoulder, have pulled themselves out of poverty.

## Our Mission

Fonkoze is a family of organizations that work together to provide the financial and non-financial services to empower Haitians - primarily women - to lift their families out of poverty.



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## In Motion:

Her mother's mother did it. Her mother followed. And now here she is.

Dusty feet yet grounded. Struggling hands yet generous. A cry for help that echoes loudly, softened by a smile that feels safe, warm, and strong like the morning coffee she serves. She is a machann on the street corner, the one everyone knows by name, the one people return to rather than making their own.

As I continue to observe, I realize it is not the coffee. It is the consistency. The quiet promise that no matter what has shifted overnight, she will be there. Present. Reliable. Always in motion. In places where systems fail, women do not collapse with them. They become the system. And like any system, it is sustained by daily action.

Action shifts with each passing day when survival itself is daily. Yet the common denominator is resolution—the ability to adapt, decide, and move forward even as conditions change by the hour. Market women move with negotiation, planning, and risk-taking that mirrors any formal structure. What is often overlooked is their ability to make others feel seen even when they themselves may go unseen. There is a human intelligence within that work, one that moves beyond words, money, or titles.

To recognize this intelligence is to rethink what support truly means, creating spaces where women can expand their economic agency. When we invest in women already in motion, we do more than support livelihoods; we reinforce systems that already exist. Economic dignity extends beyond monetary value. It lives in how we perceive the woman behind the market table, recognizing that her work often sustains not only her own household but the livelihoods of many around her. She feeds an entire country not only through food, but through stability, circulation, and care.



I came to understand this not as theory, but as memory. I observed it while sharing my own cup of coffee from the machann and began to understand why an entrepreneurial mindset always felt familiar. It was embedded early, in my first exchange with a machann, trading small coins for roasted peanuts and tablet nwa. Long before I understood economics, I understood value, presence, and trust. It was shaped by the pride in their voices as they called out what they had to offer. What was inherited long before money was presence—the courage to show up, to create value, to be seen even when circumstances suggested otherwise.

What was inherited individually continues collectively. Women in action are not waiting to be empowered. They move like a marching band, in sync with every step, a choir singing in unison, guided by a steady hand that helps orchestrate confidence, direction, and possibility. Even in moments when uncertainty presses in, movement continues. Markets shift locations when streets become unsafe. Work schedules change. Homes open to welcome one another when the path forward requires it. Yet the rhythm remains the same: women adapting, rebuilding, and sustaining their families and communities.

I have witnessed this with Fonkoze—meeting women where they already are and walking alongside them toward greater futures. Because when women move forward, entire communities move with them.

**Tico Armand | Haitian American Author**





# A MESSAGE FROM FONKOZE'S LEADERS

Dear Friends and Partners of Fonkoze,

Women are the pillars of their communities and families. Not in the way monuments stand and are admired from a distance, but in the way that roots hold the earth together, quiet, steady, and essential to everything that grows above the surface. Across Haiti, in the mountains and along the dusty market roads, in the coastal villages and the crowded city corridors, it is women who hold life together. They always have.

Every woman in the Fonkoze family is a key to the economy of her community. She is not a footnote to Haiti's story; she is the story. These women are the lungs of the communities they live in, breathing life into local markets, into households, into the dreams of their children. When they thrive, entire communities breathe easier. When they are overlooked, whole generations struggle to find air.

The women we serve do not walk alone. They walk in the footsteps of ancestors who survived the unsurvivable, women who endured, who built, who refused to be erased from history even when history tried to forget them. That same spirit lives on. It is not inherited passively; it is chosen, every single morning. It is in the hands of a woman who rises before the sun to tend her garden and harvest what she has grown. It is in the steps she takes to the market, carrying the weight of her family's future on her back, her mind calculating what to buy, what to sell, what to save. It is in her eyes when she watches her child cross the schoolyard gate, knowing that she made that possible.

These women never give up. They wake at dawn, take in the harvest, make sure the children are fed and dressed and on their way to school, and then they go to the market, to their clients, to the next thing that needs to be done. There is no version of their day that does not include someone else's well-being. This is not a sacrifice born of weakness. This is strength in its most enduring and most human form.



**“ Se fanm ki plante, se men fanm ki rekòlte —  
retire li, tout jaden tonbe. ”**

**“ It is women's hands that plant, women's hands that harvest —  
remove them, and the whole garden falls. ”**

As you read through the pages of this annual report, we invite you to see what we at Fonkoze are privileged to witness every day: women who are extraordinary not in spite of the world they live in, but right in the middle of it, fully and fiercely present.

With everything that is happening in the world right now, it is easy for voices to be drowned out. It is easy for the woman behind the basket of mangoes, the woman who walks two hours to reach her savings group, the woman who counts her gourdes by candlelight—it is easy for her to become invisible to the wider world. Fonkoze refuses to let that happen.

By supporting Fonkoze, you stand alongside these women— women who may be forgotten by the headlines, overlooked by the systems, and underestimated by the world. But never by us. And now, never by you.

Thank you for standing with us. Thank you for standing with them.

With deep gratitude and unwavering commitment,



**Dr. Erlantz Hyppolite**  
Executive Director  
**Fonkoze USA**  
Washington, DC



**Dr. Carine Roenen**  
Executive Director  
**Fonkoze Foundation**  
Port-au-Prince, Haiti



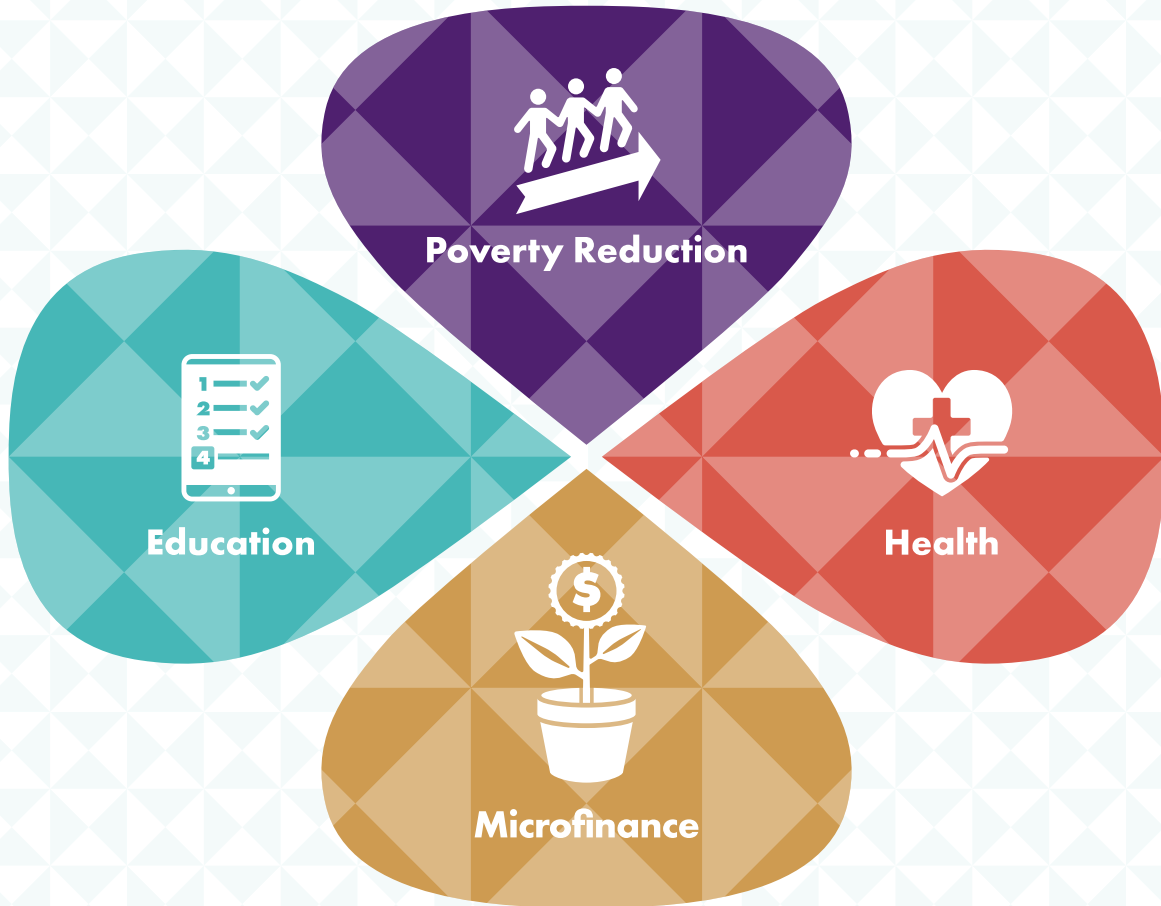
**Dominique Boyer,**  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Fonkoze Financial Services**  
Port-au-Prince, Haiti





# The Fonkoze Approach:

Creating pathways toward economic independence across Haiti



## Poverty Reduction

The Pathway to a Better Life program enables women who live in ultra-poverty to develop sustainable livelihoods.

## Health

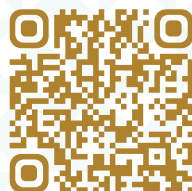
Locally-led healthcare bringing prevention and lifesaving screenings directly to under-served communities in rural Haiti.

## Education

EdTek provides digital education, teaching essential financial literacy and life skills.

## Microfinance

Sèvis Finansye Fonkoze (SFF), Haiti's leading microfinance institution, promotes financial inclusion.



Learn more about our programs



## Chemen Lavi Miyò (CLM) Poverty Reduction

- ▶ This year, Fonkoze partnered with the Haitian government and the World Bank in a research project designed to test how the coaching it provides through its CLM program helps people living with disabilities emerge from extreme poverty.
- ▶ A record high of **1.45 million** people were internally displaced as of December 2025.\* We tested new approaches to support families displaced by insecurity and piloted community contingency funds to help savings groups respond to large-scale shocks.
- ▶ Program learning also informed future direction. Early data showed that participants receiving cash support and making their own investment decisions demonstrated stronger business performance, reinforcing the importance of agency and decision-making in pathways out of poverty.



2025 CLM Graduation | Gwo Mòn

### 2025 in Numbers:

**2,005**

NEW CLM MEMBERS  
ENROLLED AND  
**10,025** FAMILY MEMBERS  
IMPACTED

**2,749**

WOMEN GRADUATED  
CLM AND 13,745 FAMILY  
MEMBERS BENEFITED

**531**

VSLAS IN ONGOING  
ACCOMPANIMENT

# Marilia:

## Building a Future with CLM



In Gwo Moulen, Haiti, Marilia was rebuilding her life after years marked by poverty and domestic violence. A mother of four, she had supported her children through small-scale trading and microloans from Fonkoze Financial Services (SFF), working steadily to keep them in school.

Instability at home deepened her economic hardship. After repeated abuse from a partner, including a violent attack following a long day of work, she made the brave decision to leave in order to protect herself and her children.

She later joined Fonkoze's Chemen Lavi Miyò (CLM) program for women living in ultra-poverty, an 18-month process of weekly 1:1 coaching, savings support, and livelihood development. With early support, Marilia rebuilt her income through small livestock rearing—starting with poultry and expanding to goats, a donkey, and a

pig—creating financial stability for her and her kids

Across CLM cohorts, this same pathway has translated into measurable change: households reporting days without a hot meal have dropped to nearly zero, while daily food consumption has increased significantly. Over the 18-month cycle, participants have invested in income-generating assets averaging nearly 100,000 gourdes (approximately \$760+ USD), creating a foundation for longer-term stability.

**At 14 months into the program in 2025, Marilia was working toward a critical milestone: purchasing a small plot of land through a rent-to-own arrangement to secure a home in her own name.**

She used earnings from her livestock activities and savings group participation to finance this goal, determined to create a stable and safe future for her children.

Her journey reflects the broader experience of CLM participants—women moving through structured accompaniment that combines coaching, productive assets, and financial support to rebuild their lives.



**“EdTek has taught me to save money and think about how to achieve my dreams.”**

**– Jessica Bellefleur, SFF client**



## EdTek (Education Through Technology) Digital Learning

- ▶ In 2025, Fonkoze’s Digital Education program adapted to Haiti’s ongoing insecurity by shifting to a decentralized, community-led model so participants could continue learning close to home. Using tablet-based technology that is accessible regardless of literacy or internet connectivity, the trainings focused on practical skills including budgeting, savings, debt management, business planning, and child nutrition. Business education for Community Health Entrepreneurs also strengthened financial acumen and loan use.
- ▶ Participants reported stronger savings habits, improved financial decision-making, greater confidence within their households, and a stronger ability to manage economic shocks. The program reinforced that accessible, community-based digital learning is effective even in fragile contexts.



### 2025 in Numbers:

**3,746**

**PARTICIPATED IN  
DIGITAL LEARNING**

**2,064**

**PARENTS EDUCATED ON  
CHILDHOOD NUTRITION  
(1,934 WOMEN; 130 MEN)**

**10,700+**

**INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN  
REACHED THROUGH THE  
EDTEK PROGRAM SINCE  
ITS LAUNCH**



## Health & Nutrition

# Women Leading Health



- ▶ In 2025, Fonkoze’s health program continued delivering essential community-based care to people and families facing heightened insecurity and limited access to services across Haiti. Health education, nutrition screenings, and hypertension monitoring helped community members access earlier care and strengthened awareness around health and nutrition. Even with constrained resources, targeted interventions continued to support strong recovery outcomes for children and families most at risk.
- ▶ At the same time, ongoing instability made it increasingly difficult to source products through channels aligned with Fonkoze’s operational standards and values. Because those products were central to the Boutik Sante model, Fonkoze made the difficult decision to close that program in 2025. Adapting quickly, Fonkoze is developing a nurse-led social franchise model designed to expand sustainable, locally delivered healthcare while creating employment opportunities within Haitian communities.

### 2025 in Numbers:

**9,231**

**CHILDREN SCREENED FOR MALNUTRITION**

**268**

**MALNOURISHED CHILDREN RECEIVED CARE**

**11,211**

**PEOPLE SCREENED FOR HYPERTENSION CARE**

# Charles Stevenson:

## A Life Saved Through Timely Action



Charles Stevenson was just 18 months old when he was identified as malnourished in February 2025 by Edith Mogene, a Community Health Entrepreneur (CHE) and CLM program graduate. His mother, facing mental health challenges, was unable to provide the care he needed. Although he was referred to a hospital, he was not taken.

One week later, Edith visited the home and found Charles alone in critical condition, struggling to breathe. She acted immediately, bringing him to the hospital and remained with him through his first night of care.

With support from Fonkoze's Mercy Focus on Haiti funded CLM cohort he was placed on oxygen upon arrival and later discharged to

continue recovery at a community treatment center.

Charles' case underscores the importance of close community monitoring, rapid response, and coordination between frontline staff and health services—ensuring that vulnerable children receive care when it matters most.

# Dossou Clotide: Starting Small, Growing Steady



Dossou Clotide began her journey with Fonkoze Financial Services (SFF) in 2006 with a first loan of 3,000 HTG (about \$25 USD). From that starting point, she steadily grew—moving from 5,000 HTG to 7,500 HTG and beyond as her business expanded and her confidence strengthened.

**“I can borrow against the business and resolve other problems that I have with that money.”**

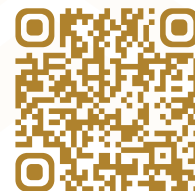
For Dossou, the impact is also about flexibility and trust. Being able to communicate with Fonkoze agents when challenges arise has helped

her stay on track and continue building over time.

**“If you join Fonkoze, it’s never a bad choice.”**

Her story reflects what steady, incremental access to financial services can make possible: not sudden change, but sustained progress built loan by loan, year by year.

Watch Dossou Clotide’s full interview and hear her journey in her own words on [Fonkoze.org](https://fonkoze.org).



**Watch Our Impact**



# Sèvis Finansye Fonkoze (SFF) Financial Inclusion & Microfinance

Fonkoze Financial Services (SFF) is the largest microfinance institution in Haiti and empowers Haitians to grow their businesses while operating in a financially self-sustaining manner. SFF and the Fonkoze Foundation work together to provide financial inclusion where it is otherwise unavailable, due to economic or physical isolation.



March 2026

## Fonkoze Headquarters in Port-au-Prince Burned:



For many years, 119 Avenue Christophe served as a central home for Fonkoze’s work in Port-au-Prince. In 2026, the building was sadly burned following escalating gang violence. More than two years earlier, worsening insecurity had already led Sèvis Finansye Fonkoze (SFF) and Fonkoze Foundation to decentralize staff and programs to alternate operational sites across the country, as such, no staff members were injured.

### 2025 in Numbers:

**186,000**

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

**46,744**

LOANS DISBURSED

**300,000+**

INTERNATIONAL  
REMITTANCES PROCESSED

# A Piece of Home, Wrapped in a Story



**As part of this year’s focus on women in action, we spoke with Haitian diaspora entrepreneur Nelssie Francois Jerome about building a business rooted in culture, creativity, and connection to home.**

When Nelssie Francois Jerome founded Akajou Creation, she was not just starting a business. She was creating a way to carry memory, culture, and connection forward through everyday objects.

Akajou — the Haitian Creole word for mahogany — is a Caribbean-inspired brand specializing in personalized, laser-engraved gifts. Its designs are deeply rooted in the textures and traditions of Haitian life.

*“ I grew up in Okap, on the north side of Haiti. I grew up in a wooden gingerbread house full of color. The doors were red, the house itself was yellow, and there were all types of colors you could imagine. ”*

That house became the foundation for Akajou’s visual identity. The company’s logo is inspired by the wooden door from her childhood home, and many of the products she creates today reflect the objects and imagery that shaped her early life in Haiti.

“I wasn’t just thinking about gifting,” she explains, “I was also thinking about culture. I wanted people to still have a little piece of home wrapped in a story.”

Across mugs, cutting boards, jewelry boxes, bookmarks, and engraved keepsakes, Haitian identity is intentionally present.

Akajou’s designs feature gingerbread houses, wooden doors, palm trees, boats, and the pilon — the traditional wooden mortar and pestle found in many Haitian kitchens.



For Nelssie, these are more than design elements. They are reminders of home and ways for people in the diaspora to stay connected to memory, family, and culture.

At first, Akajou began simply as a creative outlet. While studying in Canada, Nelssie started making jewelry by hand during a school strike that left her unexpectedly at home with time to fill. She shared her creations online without any expectation of building a business, but people quickly began asking to purchase them.

After moving to the United States in 2013, she began expanding the business while studying accounting and business. What started as a hobby gradually became something larger.

**“The real shift happened when customers started asking for more. I realized I was not just selling gifts. I was creating pieces connected to culture, memory, and meaning.”**

Like many women entrepreneurs, Nelssie says growth required persistence, learning, and support systems.

“Capital. A lot of capital,” she says with a laugh. “But also support systems. Not just family support, but organizations and communities where you can bounce ideas off people and realize you’re not alone in the journey.”

As a woman balancing multiple responsibilities while building a business, she understands how important that encouragement can be.

**“There are times when I don’t know what the next step is. But my purpose is bigger than those moments.”**



Today, Akajou Creation continues to grow while remaining rooted in the same vision that inspired it from the beginning: creating meaningful pieces that help people feel seen, connected to Haiti, and remembered.

**“If you have an idea—just do it. Just go for it.”**

**Read Nelssie’s full interview on our website:  
[Fonkoze.org/news/nelssie](https://fonkoze.org/news/nelssie)**



**Enjoy Nelssie’s Designs:  
[akajoucreation.com](https://akajoucreation.com)  
Miami, Florida**

# FONKOZE USA

Fonkoze USA engages U.S. donors, faith-based communities, and the Haitian diaspora to support local, Haitian-led solutions that help women and families move out of extreme poverty and build lasting stability. Through fundraising, storytelling, and strategic engagement, we connect philanthropic investments to programs that strengthen livelihoods, expand access to community-based services, and advance long-term economic inclusion in Haiti.

## Steve Werlin BOOK RELEASE

From Fonkoze team member, Steven Werlin, comes a deeply human look into how Fonkoze made the bold decision to target extreme poverty at its roots and adopted a program tailored to lift families out of it—permanently. Featuring firsthand accounts from women who have walked this journey, the book brings to life the resilience, courage, and transformations that define the Fonkoze approach.



## GIVING TUESDAY Haiti In Her Words: \$150,000+

Fonkoze USA's Giving Tuesday Campaign, "Haiti in Her Words", raised over \$150,000 for Fonkoze through the generosity of donors who matched giving and through the Haitian diaspora voices of Zama, Francesca Momplaisir, Tico Armand and more, who helped amplify the stories of Fonkoze's clients to a broader audience.





**RISE: A Celebration of Women on a Pathway to a Better Life in Haiti**

In partnership with Gwynedd Mercy University and Mercy Focus on Haiti, Fonkoze USA hosted RISE: A Celebration of Women on a Pathway to a Better Life in Haiti on November 3, 2025. The event featured Haitian artist, ZAMA and celebrated Haitian culture and resilience through art, music, storytelling, and conversation centered on Fonkoze’s CLM poverty alleviation program and the lives it is helping transform.

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**From Our Board Chair: Lawrence Arbuthnott**

In this recent crisis, the international development community and many critical organizations have retreated from Haiti. In stark contrast, Fonkoze is still standing and fighting to ensure its work supporting Haitian women perseveres. This of course hasn’t come without major challenges, but it speaks to a key truth about Fonkoze: we are Haitian-led and we are embedded in communities around the country...so we don’t run or give up when the going gets tough. In fact, that’s when we’re needed more than ever.



**Lawrence Arbuthnott, Board Chair Fonkoze USA, Senior Director, Capital One Travel, Head of Growth**

# Carrying Haiti Forward: Chef Taïssa Mazile



**Chef Taïssa Mazile, founder of Port-au-Prince-based Tasty Bites by Chef Taïssa, traces her culinary identity back to her mother's kitchen in Haiti, where food first became, in her words, "love, discipline, culture, and care—all at once."**

Watching her mother host and cook for others shaped both her sensibility and her purpose. "She was my first inspiration," she says. "I learned that food carries emotion and memory."

That foundation continues to define her work today. As a Haitian woman, she describes her craft as inseparable from identity: "Haiti taught me resilience, richness, flavor, and hospitality. We love to gather people together." Through her catering and private dining experiences, she aims

not only to serve food, but to create something lasting. I want everything I create to be excellent. I want people to remember what I create—not just taste it. At the beginning before launching her culinary business, Taïssa worked in banking and the airline industry. Yet cooking remained central to how she connected with others. "There was a moment when I told myself, 'You need to stop minimizing your gift,'" she reflects. Choosing to build her business meant turning passion into purpose—even amid the uncertainty of entrepreneurship in Haiti.

***"Choosing myself meant turning passion into purpose, and purpose into a business."***

Her approach is grounded in discipline and precision, especially in preparation. "Cooking is about precision, respect for ingredients, and knowing your process," she says. She emphasizes that excellence is not negotiable: "Some people say you should cut costs to increase profit, but I don't believe in that. I would rather prioritize excellence and satisfaction over the money."

For Taïssa, her work also reflects a broader commitment to women's empowerment and economic independence.



# e's Culinary Enterprise Across Borders



Economic independence gives women the ability to choose for themselves, provide for their families, and create a legacy,”

she says. “That kind of empowerment doesn’t just change one life—it transforms generations.”

Her advice to women starting their own journey is simple but direct.

**“ Your hands already hold power, start with what you know and what you have. Trust your gift. Stay consistent. Never underestimate what can grow from something small. ”**

Above all, she returns to the value of consistency and self-belief. “No matter where I cook—whether in Haiti or abroad—I make sure the quality and taste remain the same, consistency is key.”

And for those still unsure of their path, she offers a final reminder:

**“ Your story matters. Your culture, your resilience—those are your greatest strengths. Build from them, and create your own journey. ”**

Read Taïssa’s full interview on our website:  
[Fonkoze.org/Culture/Chef-Taïssa](https://fonkoze.org/Culture/Chef-Taïssa)



Follow Chef Taïssa

**@cheftaïssa33 | @tastybitesht**  
Port-au-Prince

# The Day We Touched the World

by Dr. Oda Mukuaka, Team Physician — Haiti National Football Team

We were all on that field, and nobody could stay still. Two matches were happening simultaneously. We were playing Nicaragua, while Costa Rica was facing Honduras elsewhere. So we played, and we watched our phones with a ten-minute delay between us and the truth. We were winning 2-0, yet we still didn't know our fate. We couldn't even celebrate properly when the referee blew the final whistle on our match. We were frozen, waiting.

Then the final score of the other game came through: 0-0. And something broke open inside all of us.

*Nou tout tonbe rele anmwey!!! We screamed from somewhere deep. Some of us cried real tears, unashamed. Some of us burst out laughing, completely overwhelmed "Yo te tèlman sezi ke yo pa t' konn sa pou yo fè."*

Some ran circles around the stadium like children. Some just lay down on the ground, flat on their backs, staring up at the sky as if they needed a moment with God. Nou te fin fou tèlman nou te kontan. Nobody had words. Nobody needed them.



And then, slowly, it began to sink in. I woke up and had to remind myself it was real.

Because you have to understand what this means. Not just for us, for eleven men on a field, but for an entire nation. Haiti. A people who have carried earthquake, hurricane, poverty, and grief on their backs for generations, and who wake up every morning and carry it still. A people the world has too often looked at with pity or forgotten altogether.

“Pèp ayisyen an soufri anpil men li pa janm kase”. The Haitian people have suffered much, but they have never broken.

**And on this night, “Ayiti te kanpe doubout.” Haiti stood tall.**

A dream that had seemed so far away became real on this very day. The 18th of November.

**“Jou komemorasyon batay Vètyè”. The day our ancestors rose against the impossible and won. The day they chose freedom and paid for it with everything they had.**

Maybe it was not a coincidence. Maybe they were there with us on that field.

**For every Haitian who has ever hoped when hope was hard, “nou fè li pou nou, nou fè li pou nou tout.” We did it for us. We did it for all of us.**

Haiti is going to the World Cup. And I was there when we found out.



# A WORLD CUP OF FLAVOR: *Haitian Cuisine Takes the Field*



**Chef Alain Lemaire and Erlantz Hyppolite, Fonkoze USA Executive Director**

Food has always been part of how communities gather, celebrate, and share culture across borders. As the world comes together through sport, Haitian cuisine offers its own form of connection – vibrant, layered, deeply rooted, and meant to be shared.

Chef Alain Lemaire is a Haitian chef and culinary entrepreneur known for elevating Haitian cuisine through his platform, *Ou Manje Deja?*®.

His work blends traditional Haitian flavors with contemporary presentation while celebrating the depth and cultural significance of Haitian food.



**Watch the Video &  
Get the Recipes**

***Chef Alain Lemaire shares two recipes inspired by the energy and spirit of the World Cup dishes designed for gathering around the table with friends, family, and community:***

### **Pâté Kode ak Aransò / Haitian Fried Dough with Smoked Herring**

Found across Haiti in markets, roadside stands, and neighborhood gatherings, pâté kode is a staple of Haitian street food culture. Chef Lemaire’s version highlights the richness of smoked herring balanced with crisp dough and bright pikliz – a combination that reflects the layered flavors and culinary traditions that define Haitian cuisine.

#### **Chef’s Note:**

“Pâté kode is more than a snack—it’s a cultural staple. The balance between the crisp dough and the savory, aromatic filling defines its character.”



### **Poul Fri / Haitian Fried Chicken**

For Chef Lemaire, Haitian fried chicken is about technique and flavor rather than heavy batter or excess coating. Marinated in epis, citrus, and spices, the dish captures the bold simplicity that defines many Haitian home-cooked meals.

#### **Chef’s Note:**

“No batter, no shortcuts—just flavor. The epis marinade is the foundation, delivering depth, balance, and authenticity in every bite.”



*“ Haitian cuisine is also deeply communal and symbolic. Food is tied to memory, ritual, and celebration — from street vendors serving fritay to family gatherings. Each plate is an act of storytelling, of resilience and pride, connecting people not just to the land but to generations before them.”*

*– Chef Alain Lemaire*

### **About Chef Lemaire:**

In 2025, Chef Lemaire was recognized among the World’s Top 50 Haitian Cultural Icons, and his work has been featured in USA Today, The New York Times, and Food & Wine Magazine, alongside appearances on Chopped, Cutthroat Kitchen, and Food Network Fire Masters.




**OU MANJE DEJA?  
cheflemaire.com  
Central Florida**

# SFF financials

In FY2025, SFF remained focused on disciplined execution and strategic priorities amid an increasingly uncertain operating environment. The institution improved portfolio

quality, maintained tight control over expenses, and made targeted investments aimed at reducing long-term operating costs.

Despite the loss of two branches to gang violence, SFF was able to grow its portfolio significantly, working closely with clients to ensure repayments and reduce provision expenses. Strategic partnerships, including guarantee funds, also helped reduce costs, diversify revenue sources, and support cautious and sustainable growth. 

## SÈVIS FINANSYE FONKOZE - BALANCE SHEET

All amounts are expressed in Haitian gourdes (HTG)

	Year ended September 2025	Year ended September 2024
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### CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	491,252,397	486,992,446
Term deposits, net	1,699,387,285	1,930,817,232
Loans and interest receivable	3,158,450,217	2,592,383,305
Expected credit loss	(335,973,831)	(411,294,526)
Loans, net	2,822,476,385	2,181,088,779

### OTHER CURRENT ASSETS

Accounts receivable, net	553,138,803	451,253,188
Prepaid expenses and supplies	99,726,733	132,432,666

<b>OTHER CURRENT ASSETS TOTAL</b>	<b>652,865,537</b>	<b>583,685,854</b>
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<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>5,665,981,604</b>	<b>5,182,584,311</b>
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### NON - CURRENT ASSETS

Equity investments	1,843,634	1,843,634
Fixed assets, at cost	782,045,231	755,117,458
Accumulated	(490,357,555)	(406,128,569)
Fixed assets, net	291,687,676	348,988,889
Right-of-use assets, net	48,533,513	75,287,452
Investment property	19,440,665	19,440,665
Forward contracts and other assets	119,076,832	137,639,620
Intangible assets	174,575,385	148,382,564

<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>6,321,139,309</b>	<b>5,914,167,135</b>
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## LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

### CURRENT LIABILITIES

Deposits	3,919,888,628	3,572,558,186
Other notes payable (current portion)	276,490,064	270,677,273
Lease liabilities-current portion	32,060,057	38,210,143

<b>OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>662,909,294</b>	<b>285,655,232</b>
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<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>4,891,348,043</b>	<b>4,167,100,833</b>
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### NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES

Other notes payable (Long-Term Portion)	141,499,870	106,713,865
Lease liabilities	17,232,317	40,020,414
Other non-current liabilities	828,161,745	1,091,904,950

<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>986,893,932</b>	<b>1,238,639,228</b>
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<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>5,878,241,975</b>	<b>5,405,740,061</b>
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### SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

Capital stock:		
Common shares	87,867,146	87,867,146
Additional paid-in capital	637,183,231	637,183,231
(Accumulated deficit) retained earnings	(413,308,240)	(347,778,500)
Legal reserve	43,955,400	43,955,400
Revaluation reserve (land and buildings)	84,391,757	84,391,757
Acc. other comprehensive income	2,808,041	2,808,041

<b>TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>	<b>442,897,334</b>	<b>508,427,074</b>
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<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>	<b>6,321,139,309</b>	<b>5,914,167,135</b>
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## SÈVIS FINANSYE FONKOZE - INCOME STATEMENT

All amounts are expressed in Haitian gourdes (HTG)

	Year ended September 2025	Year ended September 2024
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### INTEREST AND OTHER FINANCIAL INCOME

Loans	1,240,049,644	1,003,115,061
Other	30,447,645	46,844,916

<b>TOTAL INTEREST INCOME</b>	<b>1,270,497,288</b>	<b>1,049,959,977</b>
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### INTEREST EXPENSES

Interest paid on client deposits	35,077,962	30,343,571
Debt (line of credit and notes)	35,941,039	39,368,712

<b>TOTAL INTEREST EXPENSE</b>	<b>71,019,001</b>	<b>69,712,283</b>
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<b>NET INTEREST INCOME</b>	<b>1,199,478,288</b>	<b>980,247,693</b>
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<b>PROVISION FOR CREDIT LOSSES</b>	<b>325,774,965</b>	<b>435,738,572</b>
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<b>NET INTEREST INCOME AFTER PROVISION FOR CREDIT LOSSES</b>	<b>873,703,322</b>	<b>544,509,122</b>
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### OTHER OPERATING INCOME

Commissions and loan penalties	179,591,620	139,435,818
Income from foreign exchange (trading)	16,181,883	19,552,069
Income from remittance services	48,943,692	52,631,508
Savings accounts fees	1,381,975	5,469,637
Recoveries of loans written off	46,549,656	1,624,788
Other	2,604,443	43,384,659

<b>TOTAL OTHER OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>295,253,269</b>	<b>262,098,480</b>
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<b>NET INTEREST AND OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>1,168,956,592</b>	<b>806,607,601</b>
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### OPERATING EXPENSES

Personnel expenses	681,096,209	717,781,473
Premises and equipment expenses	256,808,981	274,719,556
Depreciation and amortization	91,013,655	72,542,701
Lease charges	2,461,207	2,451,983
Other expenses	246,904,653	283,133,965

<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,278,284,706</b>	<b>1,350,629,679</b>
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<b>(LOSS) PROFIT NET FROM OPERATIONS BEFORE OTHER INCOME AND INCOME TAXES</b>	<b>-109,328,115</b>	<b>-544,022,076</b>
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### OTHER INCOME (EXPENSES)

Unrealized (loss) gain on foreign exch.	11,438,551	4,405,194
Grants		9,075,424
Other non-operating income	4,275,649	10,731,835

<b>TOTAL OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>15,714,200</b>	<b>24,212,453</b>
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<b>NET OPERATING (LOSS) PROFIT BEFORE INCOME TAXES (TAX CREDIT)</b>	<b>-93,613,915</b>	<b>-519,809,624</b>
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### TAX CREDIT (INCOME TAX)

Tax credit (current income tax)	-28,084,175	-155,942,887
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### DEFERRED INCOME TAXES

<b>TOTAL TAX CREDIT</b>	<b>28,084,175</b>	<b>155,942,887</b>
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<b>NET (LOSS) PROFIT</b>	<b>-65,529,741</b>	<b>-363,866,737</b>
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# Foundation financials

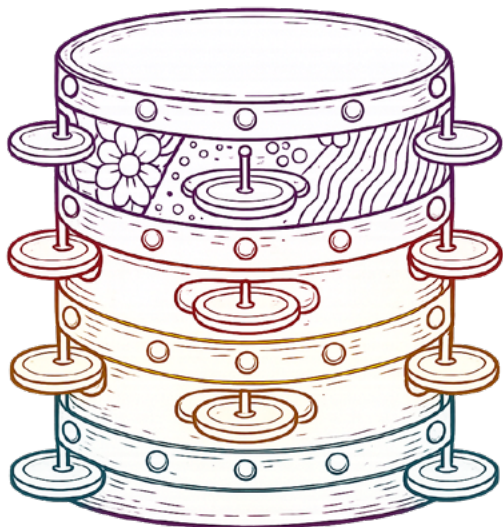
I am pleased to present Fonkoze Kole Zepòl Foundation's Statement of Financial Position for the year ending December 31, 2025.

The Foundation continued to operate in an exceptionally challenging economic and humanitarian environment throughout 2025. Persistent socio-political instability, inflationary pressures, and uncertainty in donor funding required prudent financial management, disciplined cost control, and continuous adaptation to ensure the uninterrupted delivery of programs serving Haiti's most vulnerable communities.

At year-end, total assets were **USD 4.47 million**, compared with **USD 6.20 million** in 2024. The decrease reflects the planned use of donor funding to implement development and humanitarian programs during the year. Cash and cash equivalents totaled **USD 852 thousand**, providing sufficient liquidity to support ongoing operations and short-term obligations. Grants receivable remained strong at **USD 1.34 million**, reflecting continued donor commitments, while long-term assets increased to **USD 1.95 million**, demonstrating continued investment in the Foundation's operational capacity and long-term sustainability.

Total liabilities declined from **USD 4.15 million** in 2024 to **USD 2.96 million** in 2025, primarily due to the planned utilization of deferred donor contributions as projects were implemented.

Throughout 2025, the Foundation maintained strong internal controls, sound financial governance, and rigorous compliance with donor requirements while managing an expanding portfolio of development and humanitarian initiatives. These efforts enabled the organization to continue delivering high-impact programs, strengthen accountability, and preserve operational resilience despite an increasingly complex operating environment. 🌸



## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

All amounts are expressed in U.S. Dollars (USD)

	Year ended December 2025	Year ended December 2024
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	<b>852,484.90</b>	<b>3,035,261.81</b>
Reserves Fund	<b>157,109.09</b>	<b>307,430.84</b>
Investments	<b>170,665.57</b>	<b>170,665.57</b>
Grants receivables	<b>1,338,130.66</b>	<b>1,381,115.53</b>
Other Receivables	<b>(2,048.34)</b>	<b>26,689.82</b>
Prepaid expenses	<b>5,864.81</b>	<b>5,919.83</b>
Third party related assets	<b>(2,027.53)</b>	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS (SHORT-TERM)</b>	<b>2,520,179.16</b>	<b>4,927,083.40</b>
<b>ASSETS LONG-TERM</b>		
Immobilisation	<b>527,689.20</b>	<b>527,689.20</b>
Other Assets	<b>1,417,374.72</b>	<b>744,728.79</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS (LONG-TERM)</b>	<b>1,945,063.92</b>	<b>1,272,417.99</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$4,465,243.08</b>	<b>\$6,199,501.39</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current liabilities	<b>1,770,769.12</b>	<b>1,113,057.54</b>
Other liabilities		
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES (SHORT-TERM)</b>	<b>1,770,769.12</b>	<b>1,113,057.54</b>
<b>LIABILITIES (LONG-TERM)</b>		
Promissory Notes -Long Term Liabilities	<b>146,072.62</b>	<b>146,072.62</b>
Deferred Contributions	<b>1,047,779.55</b>	<b>2,889,734.21</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES (LONG-TERM)</b>	<b>1,193,852.17</b>	<b>3,035,806.83</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$2,964,621.29</b>	<b>\$4,148,864.37</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted	<b>2,050,637.02</b>	<b>1,710,603.07</b>
Restricted	<b>(550,015.23)</b>	<b>340,033.95</b>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>1,500,621.79</b>	<b>2,050,637.02</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$4,465,243.08</b>	<b>\$6,199,501.39</b>

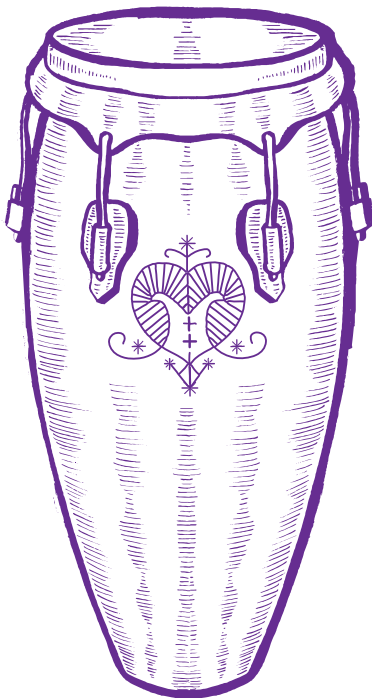
(Financial figures presented for 2025 have not yet been audited.)

# USA financials

Fonkoze USA, a Washington, DC-based nonprofit, connects international donors with Haitian communities to support sustainable development and poverty reduction.

- ▶ **In FY2025, revenue increased 29%, driven by a 33% rise in contributions, reflecting strong donor confidence.**
- ▶ **Program services grew to \$2.0 million, representing 79% of total expenditures, with expanded grants and technical assistance supporting Haitian partners amid ongoing security challenges.**

Social loans to Sèvis Finansye Fonkoze strengthened rural microfinance, while capacity-building grants supported critical health and poverty programs. Improved financial stewardship reduced the deficit significantly, while assets and net assets remained stable, reinforcing organizational resilience. 🌸



## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

All amounts are expressed in U.S. Dollars (USD)	Year ended December 2025	Year ended December 2024
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Contributions	2,186,126	1,649,806
Contract Revenue	116,994	116,748
Investment Income, Net	115,575	101,140
Interest on Loans Receivable	67,439	61,614
Interest Income	17,070	14,641
Other Income	\$4,196	\$0
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$2,507,400</b>	<b>\$1,943,949</b>

## EXPENSES

<b>PROGRAM SERVICES AND GRANTS TO HAITI</b>		
Grant Making	1,090,241	868,604
Technical Assistance	592,619	523,278
Education	329,814	307,721
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>\$2,012,674</b>	<b>\$1,699,603</b>
<b>SUPPORTING SERVICES</b>		
Management & General	294,573	233,480
Fundraising	229,115	215,861
<b>Total Supporting Services</b>	<b>\$523,688</b>	<b>\$449,341</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,536,362</b>	<b>\$2,148,944</b>

<b>CHANGE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS</b>	<b>(\$28,962)</b>	<b>(\$204,995)</b>
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## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

All amounts are expressed in U.S. Dollars (USD)	Year ended December 2025	Year ended December 2024
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Equivalents	997,985	986,733
Investments	1,950,007	1,878,329
Accounts Receivable	30	9,729
Contributions Receivable	269,171	463,459
Loans Receivable, Related Party	2,755,953	2,469,505
Other Receivables	0	14,356
Prepaid Expenses & Other Assets	39,927	21,148
Right-of-Use Operating Lease Asset, Net	9,315	63,861
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$6,022,388</b>	<b>\$5,907,120</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	20,237	19,129
Accrued Payroll and Related Liabilities	38,891	25,906
Grants Payable, Related Party	449,000	549,000
Loans Payable- investors	2,747,862	2,461,415
Operating Lease Liability	4,168	60,478
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$3,260,158</b>	<b>\$3,115,928</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
<b>Total Without Donor Restrictions</b>	<b>\$2,266,999</b>	<b>\$2,076,901</b>
<b>Total With Donor Restrictions</b>	<b>\$495,231</b>	<b>\$714,291</b>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$2,762,230</b>	<b>\$2,791,192</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$6,022,388</b>	<b>\$5,907,120</b>

# LEADERSHIP TEAM



## FONKOZE FAMILY SENIOR STAFF

SÈVIS FINANSYE FONKOZE

Dominique Boyer  
(Chief Executive Officer)

Guy Paraison (Treasurer)

Edrix Alcimé (Secretary)

Marie Mucie Descieux

Jean Jacky Alexandre

Johnny F. Dawin Louis

Astride Joseph Alcine

Frednel Isma

Jean Garnier-Belizaire

Marie George Salomon

Moïse Iraus

Philomène Guillaume

## FONDASYON KOLE ZEPÒL

Dr. Carine Roenen  
(Executive Director)

## FONKOZE USA

Dr. Erlantz Hyppolite  
(Executive Director)

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Lisa W. Clark (Vice-Chair)

Robyn Mordeno (Treasurer)

Steven Cartwright (Secretary)

Jean-Garnier Bélizaire

Roxann Thomas Chargois

Claudia Cyrill

Melanie Steger

Mackenzie Keller

Clifford Reginald Nau

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Claude Alexander (Vice Chair)

Deanna Durban, Secretary

Cara Forster

Jean-Garnier Bélizaire

Fr. Joseph B. Philippe, CSSp

## SÈVIS FINANSYE FONKOZE, S.A.

Maurice Chavannes (Chair)

Josie Sentner (Vice Chair)

Florence Dejean

Kelly Bottone

Nathaelle Chavenet

Georgette Jean-Louis

Amir Oveissi

Guy Paraison

Fr. Joseph B. Philippe, CSSp

Ronald Rosarion

## FONKOZE USA ADVISORY BOARD

Beth Daniels

Marguerite Lathan

Jorie Roberts

Laura Roberts Wright

Laura Stephens

## FONKOZE USA EMERITUS BOARD MEMBERS

Leigh Carter

Anne Hastings

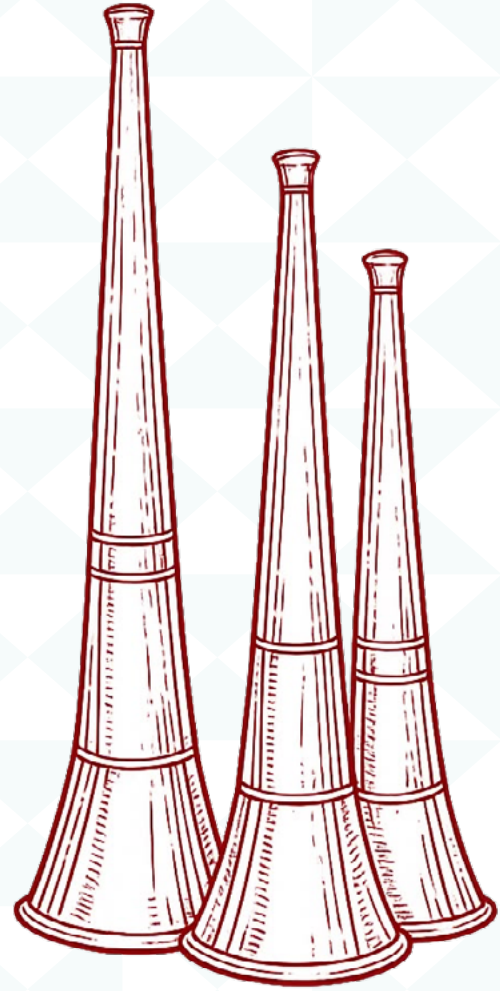
Father Joseph B. Philippe, CSSp

## FONDASYON KOLE ZEPÒL

(FONKOZE FOUNDATION)

Claude Alexander (Chair)

Herold Rodrigue (Vice Chair)



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Maxence Bradley is a Canadian photographer, who specializes in documentary, journalism, humanitarian and social photography.

Fonkoze is so appreciative to work together with Maxence on capturing our programs, clients and the essence of Haiti.

Cover photo and photos on pages 5, 8, and 12, 13 and back cover are by Alex Polinis.



**FONKOZE**  
Empowering Families Across Haiti



**FONKOZE.ORG**