

## Haiti - Social: The Art Therapy "help Haitians to help Haitians"

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Caroline Maby and Gabrielle Le Brize, art therapists have spent fifteen days in Haiti (March 25). The mission of initiation to the Evolutive Art Therapy of March/April 2011, of the humanitarian organization "Couleurs du Coeur" is now completed.

The Evolutive Art Therapy is a method of psychological accompaniment through art, which consists to analyze a drawing to highlight blockages and emotional suffering that the unconscious does appear in it. After this step, the Evolutive Art Therapy accompanies the the person in the transformation of its creation to enable it to reveal its qualities and its creative potential.

The first week, the two young women have introduced to art therapy thirty teachers of the École Sainte-Anne in Saintard (50 km north of Port-au-Prince) "We chose to transmit our know to persons in charge of children traumatized or suffering of emotional overflow in Haiti, so they can develop therapeutic workshops quickly [...] Help Haitians to help Haitians" is the motto of the association "Couleurs du coeur". The afternoon workshops were held in refugee camps with children.

The association has built its agenda by taking into account of the Haitian culture, beliefs, like voodoo, whose symbolic color is different from ours "For example, pink expresses the sweetness here. Among Haitians, is the

brown" says Caroline, "If we project our Western theories, this does not work." explains one of the trainers.

The second week, Caroline and Gabrielle have intervened at the "Maison Arc-en-ciel", whose primary purpose is the care of orphans of AIDS, whether they are infected or affected. "The Maison Arc-Ciel" also manages a team of nearly 400 volunteers and professionals who work with children in the camps of Cite Soleil, Carrefour, Petion-Ville. The morning theoretical courses with 21 volunteers, social workers, psychologists and cultural followed by workshops that have helped identify children in distress. "There are a lot of violence, rape, insecurity. All this appears in the drawings" stresses one of the trainers.

Caroline Maby and Gabrielle Brize met with NGOs such as Action against Hunger and UNICEF. So far, volunteer, they would like to integrate a NGO, in order to put in place formations over the long term. The budget remains to find...

## Learn more about "Couleurs du Coeur"

"Couleurs du Coeur" is a humanitarian organization that provides psychological support by art therapy in situation post-traumatic. "Couleurs du Coeur" conducting an international humanitarian action. It organizes missions of psychological assistance as form of art therapy workshops. It conceives and implements initiation sessions and of formations in art therapy adapted to the specificities ethno-cultural and clinics of the public concerned (stakeholders in the cultural field and/or psycho-social).

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