

## Story Sharing - Andre

2020 #5 July



**Sharing Our Stories**” has always been at the heart of Rayjon. Today, as we see and hear so many negative images and narratives, we want everyone to know that Haitian and Dominicans are effecting positive change in their communities, often in the face of deep injustice and seemingly insurmountable obstacles. We want their voices to be heard. We invite you to check out the links below, and to follow us on social media, so you won't miss any of these inspiring tales.

**#ChangeTheNarrative**



Andre was born in Port-de-Paix, Haiti, but moved to Florida at the age of 7 where he attended school. He has a total of 9 sisters and 2 brothers. He speaks English, Creole, Spanish and French, and has been Rayjon's Field Director in Haiti since 2011--overseeing programs for the most vulnerable, building partnerships, and mentoring young leaders.

**“It just feels good to know that I am not only giving back to my community but also to know that I am investing in the next generation**

of Haitian leaders and young people coming up.”

[Read Andre's full story](#)

online at [www.rayjon.org/stories/#Andre](http://www.rayjon.org/stories/#Andre)

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Rayjon's President hosted a special online connection for about two dozen Rayjon supporters across Canada via Zoom. **We heard directly from leaders Andre and Renaud, who were able to join the call from Haiti and update us during the Covid-19 pandemic.** We are sharing below some short video clips of their messages.

Renaud speaks about the complex problems in Haiti, and presents his thoughts on solutions.

Visit

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJuF7JRM0ww&t=8s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJuF7JRM0ww&t=8s)



Andre speaks to challenges in Cap Haitian during Covid-19, and how Haitians are pulling together to face those challenges

Visit

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=5NY2p2yadTU&t=2s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5NY2p2yadTU&t=2s)

The direct connection with Haitian leaders—the chance to hear their reports of the situation on the ground and to ask questions—was definitely the highlight of the evening! We also laughed together, shared stories from Rayjon’s history, and remembered our special partners and friends from [Hope for Haiti](#) (St. Mary’s, Ontario). We plan to host another similar event later in 2020.

---

**We need YOU to be involved.**

barriers to equality and justice, our partners are counting on us to be in their corner. Let's stand behind them as they continue their efforts toward sustainable progress.



A fun way that you can support Rayjon is by being part of our upcoming **Trail & Ale Run/Walk**. Visit our website for more details and to register! (Click on the [Trail & Ale](#) banner).



## More stories to tell!

We are privileged to know so many Haitian & Dominican changemakers...and we want YOU to be able to hear their stories! Please visit the growing **"Stories"** section of our website ([www.rayjon.org/stories](http://www.rayjon.org/stories)) to learn more about these inspiring individuals and the sustainable development initiatives they are involved in.

**Please stay well and we hope to see you soon!**

Our mailing address is:

PO Box 2482

Sarnia, ON

N7T 7T1

[rayjonsc@gmail.com](mailto:rayjonsc@gmail.com)