

Annual Report 2024-205



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Mission

Rayjon Share Care works in partnership with communities in Haiti and the Dominican Republic to reach their goals in sustainable development and social justice. We invest in relationship building and the two-way exchange of knowledge, resources and skills to create bridges of sharing—local to global.

Vision

Our community partners in Haiti and the Dominican Republic are empowered and have the resources to determine their future.





See Rayjon's strategic plan at: www.rayjon.org/goals-strategic-plan/



Where we Work

Community Development Highlights





Barbara leads an Aesthetics Course as part of the Life Skills Program

Cap-Haïtien, Haiti

at the Centre for Nutrition & Education for Women and Children (C-NEW-C)

Cap-Haïtien, on Haiti's northern coast, has remained relatively safe and stable. Air travel and trade continue, and many families displaced by violence elsewhere have found refuge there.

Scholarship programs are opening doors for children and youth. This year, **45 students** attended primary and secondary school, and **7 pursued post-secondary studies**. Two inspiring graduates, Kerlande in Nursing and Loudie in Agronomy, achieved their dreams and are now ready to make an impact in their communities. Kerlande is already giving back, lending her skills and compassion to the Nutrition Program.

The Nutrition Program has been thriving, serving an average of **48 children each month**. Families are seeing real improvements in their children's health. Through home visits, the program's nurse is helping parents make simple but powerful changes, such as consistent use of medications and small adjustments to kitchens and living spaces, that create lasting benefits for children's well-being.



Alpha student Paul Mimose studying hard

The Alpha Literacy Program is flourishing, with **32 participants** at C-NEW-C. Three students graduated this year, and 100 percent of participants passed their final exams! After their successful launch in Saint-Marc, new Alpha textbooks written by Rayjon's team in Haiti will soon be introduced in Cap-Haïtien, for even stronger results.

The Life Skills Program continues to empower women. This year a new aesthetics course was added, taught by Barbara, a former scholarship student who is now inspiring others. Women are gaining practical skills, building supportive relationships, and finding strength together. Many have expressed feeling more confident and hopeful for the future thanks to both the skills they've learned and the encouragement of the group.

Community Development Highlights



RSCH and FEFEH leaders stand in the flourishing Grand Fon Community Garden

Saint-Marc, Haiti

with Rayjon Share Care Haiti (RSCH)

RSCH and the Women's Federation of Saint-Marc (FEFEH) continued to lead sustainable change across communities this year, with a number of major accomplishments.

One of the most visible changes is the thriving community garden in Grand Fon, **inspiring over 80 families** to start their own home gardens.

A new water pump was installed in Pyè Savari, **serving an estimated 1,375 people each week**. Located near a church, market and 20 homes, the site sees heavy daily foot traffic. Overflow grates and piping redirect excess water to the nearby community mill, where it is reused to cool equipment, improving safety and reducing waste.

The community mill also expanded, with FEFEH covering 50 percent of construction costs – a milestone in local ownership. The new space is fully equipped and ready to increase breadfruit flour production. Innovation followed, including 500 coconut-free snack cakes called "Cris de Femmes" and breadfruit chips now sold at three schools. One of these is Pinson Community School, located high in the mountains of Saint-Marc and accessible only on foot or by motorcycle, serving over **250 students** from kindergarten to grade 7.

Training and leadership development remained strong. **Nineteen FEFEH and microcredit members** joined a business resilience workshop to learn new skills. Technology training with Rayjon Canada volunteers helped strengthen digital skills and collaboration.



Microcredit entrepreneurs celebrate completing their training

The Alpha Adult Literacy Program enrolled **86 participants in five villages, 83 percent of whom are women.** Three Level 4 classes graduated this year, and two new villages will have classes in 025-2026! The new Alpha text books created by the team delivered amazing results in the Saint-Marc region!

Stories of Impact

Berlande in Pyé Savari

For 21-year-old Berlande, collecting water used to mean long hours at a muddy pond where animals drank. "There was no drinking water here," she says. "We had to use a pipe to catch drops of clearer water because the pond was dirty."

When FEFEH made Pyè Savari a priority for clean water, everything changed.



Now, a solar-powered pump provides safe water right in the village, saving hours every day. "Water is now abundant," Berlande explains. "Life has improved. We drink it, cook with it, wash dishes, do laundry, and shower. My life has been changed for better."

The water site has become a gathering place. "People come from nearby villages. From six in the morning to eight at night, hundreds get water. The pump works even with little sun."

Through collaboration of RSCH and FEFEH, with support from Alongside Hope, Berlande and her community can focus on building a better future.



Kerlande in Cap-Haïtien

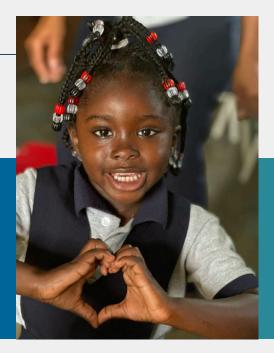
Kerlande recently graduated with a nursing degree after completing a rigorous four-year program. Her graduation marked the achievement of a long-held dream and the beginning of a promising healthcare career. Throughout her studies, she volunteered at C-NEW-C during summers and now continues to give back by interning with the nutrition program a few days a week. Applying her skills on the ground, Kerlande gains valuable experience while making a meaningful impact. Her dedication and passion for healthcare promise to benefit the communities she serves, reflecting both her personal achievement and her commitment to improving health and well-being.



Community Development Highlights



Teacher Carolina guiding her preschoolers through a day of learning



Consuelo, Dominican Republic

with PLADESCUBA and UMUJUVYOC

PLADESCUBA plays a central role in Barrio 41 and we, at Rayjon, are proud to partner with them. While primarily operating as a preschool, educating 50 children over the past year and providing nutritious meals, it also serves as a vital community hub. The garden behind PLADESCUBA is thriving, supplying fresh produce for the children's daily meals, with any surplus shared with community members.

PLADESULBA also supports adults in developing skills such as sewing, celebrating three graduates of the sewing program this year.

Looking ahead, PLADESCUBA plans to expand offerings in the coming school year to include computer literacy and English classes for the wider community.



UMUJUVYOC President Darío distributing grocery packages to a family in Mote Cocoa

Unión Municipal De Juntas De Vecinos Y Organizaciones
Comunitarias De Consuelo (UMUJUVYOC) is also based in Consuelo,
focusing on addressing community needs collectively. Over the past
year, some of the most urgent needs were related to survival for
many families of Haitian descent, who faced increased threats from
immigration authorities. Throughout the year, there have been periods
where families were unable to leave their homes to work or gather
supplies. In response, UMUJUVYOV distributed 42 packages of
grocery essentials to families across 3 bateyes in March.

When children were able to attend school, there was a pressing need for educational supplies. To support learning, UMUJUVYOV distributed 45 backpacks filled with school supplies in September.

Community Development Highlights

Consuelo, Dominican Republic

with ASCALA and PUENTE



With Rayjon support, ASCALA supported **over 800 active documentation cases**, helping migrants and Dominicans of Haitian descent secure or renew legal status. They facilitated **707 migration appointments**, renewed **537 temporary work permits** and **63 residencies**, and addressed 38 complex civil documentation cases.

In local development, ASCALA trained 38 women entrepreneurs, provided seed funding to 19, and strengthened three community savings and loan groups in Barrio 41, supporting economic resilience in underserved areas.

Through Rayjon collaboration, ASCALA positively impacted more than **1,800 people last year**.



Canadian team members join the Monte Coca data collectors and PUENTE team.

PUENTE is led by communities who identify and prioritize key infrastructure needs. Residents collect data, vote on projects, and contribute at least 25 percent of the costs, often through volunteer labour, while PUENTE and Municipal Public Works provide support.

In 2024-2025, as a result of Rayjon-PUENTE collaboration, a full team of data collectors in Monte Coca was trained for the job, including students, homemakers, and others, showing just how collaborative the process really is. This year, PUENTE completed key infrastructure projects in Monte Coca and Batey AB6. In Monte Coca, 33 roofs were built, improving housing for 84 people. In Batey AB6, 23 families gained access to water, and 14 roofs were completed, benefiting 128 residents. These efforts enhanced daily life and strengthened community resilience.



Mariol, resident of AB6 stands with Valentin of PUENTE, next to the new water spigot in her yard

In Canada Highlights



This year was one of growth, innovation and record-breaking success across our fundraising and engagement efforts. With strong community support, we launched new initiatives and deepened connections both locally and globally.

In May, our popular Degroot's Plant Sale sold out in under two days, our fastest ever. Thanks to our incredible volunteers and plant-loving supporters, it was a blooming success once again.

Trail and Ale also reached new heights, **drawing 156 participants**, our largest turnout yet. Led by Race Director Erin Gilbert, the event continues to grow as a vibrant celebration of fitness, community, and impact.



We also launched the Local to Global Committee, focused on connecting Sarnians with the stories and work of our international partners. With exciting projects already underway, this group is creating new opportunities for meaningful local and global engagement.

To more deeply connect Canadian supporters with our partners, we introduced From the Field, a webinar series featuring firsthand stories from our partners. These sessions are available anytime on our website and YouTube channel so supporters can stay connected wherever they are.

Culture and Kwizin: Heart of Haiti

One of the year's most memorable events was Culture and Kwizin, an evening dedicated to celebrating Haitian culture right here in Sarnia. Guests were treated to authentic Haitian food from the local gem **Ali's Kwizin**, along with rich storytelling and live music that brought the heart of Haiti to our community. It was an unforgettable night that reminded us of the beauty and power of cultural exchange.



Eyeglass Program

This past November, the Eyeglass Team traveled to Morazan, Honduras and provided **vision** care to 655 patients. The majority received prescription glasses on-site; 76 patients

were referred to the CCSHH Ophthalmology Clinic in El Progreso for further treatment. Another 7 received custom-made glasses, as a specialty perscription was needed.

The team included **21 Canadian volunteers, with a mix of returning members and three newcomers.** They worked alongside a local optometrist and a group of young translators. An unexpected delay caused by Hurricane Sara disrupted the team's return home. Alternate flights were arranged, with some team members rerouted through different cities.

Despite the circumstances, the group remained adaptable and positive. This was a successful trip marked by collaboration, flexibility, and a shared commitment to improving vision care for marginalized communities in Honduras.





Moment of Gratitude



Our partners do the hard work abroad, but it's the dedication of Canadian volunteers and supporters that makes it possible to strengthen communities together. Community leaders in Haiti and the Dominican Republic contribute countless hours, as do many community members here in Canada who give generously of their time and talents. As we enter our 40th year, we're deeply grateful for the long-time and new volunteers who continue to inspire us. A special thank-you to our Volunteer Coordinator, Marlo Beaton, who brings smiling faces together and keeps the spirit of volunteerism alive.

Our deepest gratitude to all our board members, volunteers, and supporters who make Rayjon the vibrant community it is today.

Financial Summary

for fiscal year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

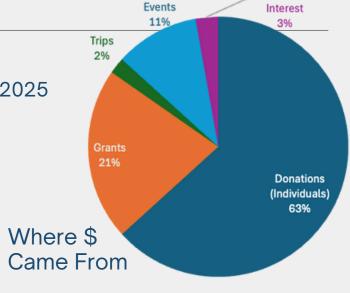
Statement of Financial Position

Statement of Operations and Fund Balance

Revenue	2025	2024
Donations	\$500,296	\$511,553
Program Fund	\$120,323	\$96,842
Eyeglass program	\$14,871	\$403
Fundraising events	\$77,239	\$70,931
Post secondary	\$4,348	\$7,731
Investment/exchange	\$20,725	\$19,110
	\$737,802	\$706,570
Other Revenue		
Trip Revenue	\$18,393	\$17,734
Trip Admin Fee	\$0	\$450
Total Revenue	\$756,195	\$724,754

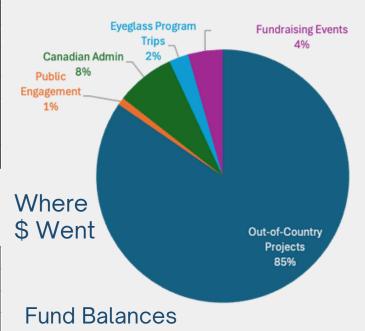
Assets

Current Assets	2025	2024
Cash	\$191,108	\$137,254
Investments	\$402,813	\$219,779
Sales taxes receivable	\$1,665	\$1,411
	\$595,586	\$358,444
Capital Assets - Net	\$2,094	\$2,992
Endowment Fund	\$12,506	\$12,506
	\$610,186	\$373,942



Fundraising

Investment



	2025	2024
Unrestricted fund balance	\$236,360	\$178,086
Internally designated fund		
balance	\$95,000	\$90,000

Liabilities

Current Liabilities	2025	2024
Accounts payable and accrued		
liabilities	\$2,209	\$3,504
Deferred contributions held for		
designated Programs	\$276,617	\$102,352
	\$278,826	\$105,856

Financial Summary

For fiscal year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Statement of Operations and Fund Balance - continued

Canadian Expenditures	2025	2024
Canadian administration	\$52,074	\$60,641
Public engagement	\$6,681	\$13,651
	<u>\$58,755</u>	\$74,292
Out of Country programs & Programs	ams	
C-New-C programs (Cap	\$121,699	\$135,154
Post secondary scholarship	\$4,743	\$7,810
Consuelo Community		
Development Program	\$201,738	\$180,180
Eyeglass program	\$14,871	\$403
Rayjon Share Care Haiti		
programs (St. Marc)	\$156,625	\$158,637
Program support expense	\$85,605	\$108,739
	\$585,281	\$590,923
Other Expenditures		
Eyeglass/awareness trip		
expenditures	\$17,291	\$17,331
Amoritization	\$898	\$1,283
Fundraising events expense	\$30,696	\$35,746
	\$48,885	<u>\$54,360</u>
Total Expenditures	\$692,921	\$719,575



Rayjon's endowment fund is held by the Sarnia Community Foundation.

For more information about Planned Giving to support Rayjon's sustainability, please visit www.rayjon.org/donate.

For more details on our Finances, please see the complete official audited statements available on our website at rayjon.org/faqs

Looking Forward

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

It is with deep gratitude and hope that I write to you at the close of my first full year as Executive Director of Rayjon. I am so proud of where we've come from and excited about where we're headed, especially as we approach Rayjon's 40th anniversary.

This is a time to reflect on the incredible legacy built by decades of committed volunteers, generous supporters and, most importantly, our partners in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Despite worsening insecurity in Haiti and rising hardship in the Dominican Republic, our partners continue to inspire us with strength, vision, and a deep commitment to community-led change.

In the face of crisis, they adapt and lift each other up. They are the problem solvers. My role from Canada is to ask: how can we best support them? Through learning, advocacy and financial support, we walk hand in hand with our partners – not to lead, but to stand alongside.

While the news can seem bleak, we hear stories that spark hope. Communities are pivoting, innovating, and growing stronger together. As the Haitian proverb says, "Piti piti, zwazo fè nich li" – Little by little, the bird builds its nest. Real change happens slowly, from within. Our partners show us that sustainable development is not about quick fixes, but about resilience and vision.

This is why I show up every day. It's the togetherness that makes us stronger.

Looking ahead, I'm eager to strengthen Rayjon in Canada, building on the work of longtime volunteers while welcoming new voices, energy, and ideas. Together, we will ensure Rayjon continues to grow as a vibrant, inclusive, and impactful organization.

Thank you for being part of this journey alongside us.

In collaboration, an kolaborasyon, en colaboración,

Allison Kingston

Dominican community leaders Jésus, Darío, Junior and Diany with Allison and Piera – united in partnership.







RAYJON SHARE CARE

Thank You

With immense gratitude for your continued support to Rayjon, we are excited to walk forward into the new year with you.

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