DAP (Disaster Assistance Partnerships)  
An IFHE Collaboration with Home Economics Partners and Supporters Worldwide  
Projects:  
Sierre Leone, Honduras Initiative and Caribbean Hurricane Disaster Assistance

2018 AAFCS CONVENTION-ATLANTA

Presenters: Juanita Mendenhall, DAP Coordinator  
Mary Warnock, IHES President and Nancy Granovsky
Madina Village, Sierre Leone, West Africa  Update 2018

• The Disaster Assistance Partnerships (DAP) and IHES began working with the first ever village school project in 2013 and have also been working with the village women to develop a women's program.

• During the past six years we have sent over 50 boxes of school supplies, 15 boxes of sewing and craft supplies and IHES provided the women with five new treadle sewing machines.

• In January, 2018, Mendenhall's hosted the Mustupha's for a “Meet and Greet Dinner”. The purpose was for Mustupha's to personally thank all those that have supported the project. Their presentation showed how important the work we have been supporting actually is!
Built mostly by hand by the villagers, there are two identical educational buildings and a School/Community pavilion in the school yard. Next to be built is a medical clinic. With the installation of solar panels in 2017, electricity is now available.

Currently, around 350 students are enrolled in six grades with an average of 22 children per class. Tests indicate the children are learning very well.
These buildings have become the hub of village activity and bring an amazing optimism for the future of the Madina community.

- The buildings can be used at night and provide better daytime indoor lighting. The use of electronic equipment of all sorts, especially computers, is possible.

- The women's group uses space at night for their sewing and preservation projects. DAP has sent one electric sewing machine as a demo this year.

- They will need to be taught how to effectively use electric “things.” Power to homes is still not available generally.

- The village Women's Group, working with Bobbie Mustupha, is to put together a plan and a proposal for how DAP and IHES might best assist them. Writing a “proposal” is a completely new concept for them.

- Eventually we hope to help them incorporate home economics into the curriculum as children learn to read and progress to a secondary level.
Carol Weatherford, SCAFCS, spearheaded making 245 dresses for school girls and the sending of underwear for all children in 2017. They plan on making something for the boys this year.
Madina Village School Classroom and Teachers
The HONDURAS INITIATIVE UPDATE, 2018

• Based on work completed between 2015 and 2016, DAP received an IFHE-US Development Fund Grant of $5,000 for the period August 2016 to July 2019.

• Specific information from targeted Hondurans as to their interest and specific needs were assessed by Dr. Mary Keith, Dr. Nancy Granovsky and Leda Hernandez during two working trips to Honduras.

• Over a two year period, several shipments of sewing machines, classroom laboratory and teaching materials were sent to the Jutiapa Career Center. Many contacts were made with other groups and proposals were solicited.

• Recently we were told by Leda Hernandez, our primary Honduran contact, that it is currently too dangerous for our people to go to the area where we were hoping to. Therefore, we expect to be working in El Carrizo, Honduras.
Honduras Initiative Work-2018

• Direct DAP project work this year will be in El Carrizo, Honduras with a group of local women, assisting Diane Ellis, a professor of fashion merchandising at Meredith College in North Carolina. Diane has been working to get this group started.

• DAP will be sending additional requested materials and equipment to assist in the development of a sustainable income generating business.
SEPTEMBER 2017-- HURRICANES IRMA and MARIA HIT the CARIBBEAN and THE DISASTER ASSISTANCE PARTNERSHIPS (DAP) was CONTACTED to ASSIST!

- Hurricanes Irma and Maria hit the Northeastern Caribbean Islands hard, one after the other with amazing devastation!

- DAP reached out to our Caribbean colleagues after their pleas for assistance. Home Economics programs were in desperate need of recovery.

- DAP sent out a request to all Home Economics/FCS groups to come to the aid of our Caribbean HE/FCS colleagues in October.

- Infrastructure on Antigua was still usable so refugees poured in from Barbuda, Dominica and other Islands. Antigua was on overload and needed help accommodating all the displaced students that arrived with nothing but would need to stay in Antigua for the foreseeable future.
Caribbean Disaster Assistance 2017-18

• Caribbean DAP Coordinator, Audrey Drayton-Jones is our Advisor along with the President of the Caribbean Association.

• Supplies and money have been donated to both DAP and IHES from all over the US as well as from Canadian, European and African home economists. SC FCS colleagues and friends donated and many helped pack around 130 boxes of supplies.

• Mostly South Carolinians helped sort, pack and stack boxes of supplies on several different days. Eight SUV loads were brought from Indiana, Texas and Tennessee to the SC warehouse.

• 60 boxes of supplies were delivered to Antigua for distribution to Home Economics students mostly from Barbuda and Dominica.

• Nine new Brother sewing machines were provided by IHES donations. Several reconditioned machines were also sent.
PACKING DAYS AT Three LAKE WATEREE STORAGE UNITS: RECEIVING, SORTING, CAREFULLY PACKING, LABELING, STACKING.

LOT'S OF WORK DONE BY LOT'S OF PEOPLE WHO CARE!
SHIPMENT of SIXTY DAP BOXES PICKED UP IN SOUTH CAROLINA DECEMBER 7, 2017

SHIPMENT DELIVERED TO ANTIGUA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION on DECEMBER 28, 2017
ANTIGUA HOME ECONOMICS MINISTER, IRIS MAE GUMBS WAS in CHARGE of UNPACKING AND DISTRIBUTING HOME ECONOMICS SUPPLIES FOR DISPLACED STUDENTS NOW LIVING ON ANTIGUA. THE ANTIGUA ASSOCIATION OF HOME ECONOMISTS ALSO HELPED.
DAP RESOURCES SENT TO ANTIGUA ARE ASSISTING DISPLACED STUDENTS ALL OVER THE ISLAND

• Twelve Home Economics Programs received a variety of supplies which is nearly all schools.

• More than 200 students were displaced from Dominica (that had 95 % destruction) and over 700 students in total arrived from various islands.

• The majority displaced are from Barbuda which was made uninhabitable. Most will stay in Antigua.

• “These supplies are most welcome because students benefitted directly from the resources that were received.”
DAP WORK CONTINUED!!OTHER ISLANDS HARD HIT REQUESTED ASSISTANCE AND WERE PRIORITIZED

• Our Caribbean colleagues, led by Audrey Drayton-Jones, helped evaluate new requests for assistance and made recommendations.

• Consideration was given to where infrastructure was repaired enough that assistance could be given. Many schools needed to be rebuilt. We decided on two islands that were receiving very little help so far.

• Tortola and the BVI area and Anguilla in the BWI are both members of the Caribbean Association of Home Economists and were determined to be where we could be of the most assistance.

• Collecting and packing started in March and each island was sent thirty-four boxes of supplies, including six new sewing machines each.
From Dr. Marcia Porter, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education and Culture, Tortola, BVI

“First, let me thank you and your organization on behalf of the Minister and all of us here at the Ministry for your kind assistance in sending donations for the recovery of our Home Economics Programs. As you would have probably heard, we lost everything in our schools.”

From Mrs. Rhonda Connor, Chief Education Officer, Anguilla, BW

“The Department of Education of Anguilla wishes to thank you and your organization for your support of our Home Economics Program through the provision of equipment and supplies. Your generosity to The Albena Lake Lodge Comprehensive school, the only one left standing, is greatly appreciated.”
ANOTHER ISLAND ALSO DEVASTATED BY THE SEPTEMBER 2018 HURRICANES.....PUERTO RICO and “WE” NEED TO RESPOND!

The destruction and suffering in Puerto Rico has been horrendous since Hurricanes Irma and Maria and much suffering continues!

Schools and classrooms have had major damage and recovery has been unbearably slow in many regions of the island. Poorer areas still lack safe water and electricity.

Under these circumstances, the Disaster Assistance Partnerships and the International Home Economics Services propose that we lift our restriction of serving only countries designated as “DEVELOPING” and assist our fcs/home economics colleagues in their program recovery process in Puerto Rico.
“Thank you for thinking of the people of Puerto Rico. The devastation from hurricanes Irma and Maria are enormous......Nevertheless, we are standing and working together to get things back in place. Many towns especially in the mountain area, where I live, don't have electricity. We have been without electrical power for 6 months!! It has been an incredible lesson of perseverance, faith, strength and creativity in using what we have available. Lot's of homes are still with blue plastic from FEMA, water filtering through. It's going to take many months before we can have any feeling of normalacy.”

Mothers Day weekend, 2 months later, Wanda finally had her electricity restored!
NEXT STEPS: MAKING PLANS FOR ASSISTING PUERTO FCS/HOME ECONOMICS COLLEAGUES. THE “PARTNERSHIPS” APPROACH

HOW MUCH WE CAN HELP DEPENDS ON HOW MUCH HELP DAP CAN GET!!

THE Puerto Rico FCS/HOME ECONOMICS PROGRAM NEEDS ARE GREAT BUT WE HAVE GREAT FCS/HOME ECONOMISTS

We will be working directly with Aurea Domenech, Director of the Family and Consumer Science Program for the Puerto Rico Department of Education. A meeting is scheduled with her in Atlanta on Wednesday, June, 27.

Input from participants will be gathered at the AAFCS DAP Educational Session from 2-3:00 p.m. on Tuesday. Please attend!
DAP SALES TABLES AT CONVENTIONS PRIMARILY FUND SHIPPING TO PROJECTS

• In 2010, the Disaste Assistance Partnerships held it’s first Product Sales Table at AAFCS in Cleveland. Since that time we have held 17 Sales Tables, raising over $17,000. IFHE-US holds DAP Funds as a Partner, making ALL donations tax deductible.

• Many volunteers have helped at the Sales Tables, some faithfully for years and many others have contributed items to be sold. A great number of persons have shopped the tables. Come and shop. Great items.

• Especially in South Carolina, home economists and generous friends have joined in supplying and packing the many, many boxes that have been shipped around the world, totalling over 350 boxes and in some cases, suitcases full of supplies carried since 2010.
THE DISASTER ASSISTANCE PARTNERSHIPS (DAP) WOULDN'T EXIST WITHOUT YOU!! THANKS.....

Send Monetary donations to
Luann Boyer,
IFHE-US Treasurer,
22500 County Rd. 21
Ft. Morgan, Colorado
80701-9337, USA

Send Donations of supplies to
Juanita Mendenhall,
122 Point Lane, Ridgeway,
South Carolina 29130, USA.
juanitam@usit.net
For supporting the work of the Disaster Assistance Partnerships for Home Economics in Developing Countries.