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Breaking News from Florida's International Volunteer Agency



FEBRUARY 2007

VISION FOR FUTURE OF HAITIAN TOURISM EXPLORED

FAVACA'S FLORIDA-HAITI INITIATIVE EXPLORES PARTNERSHIPS

ANNUAL MEETING RESULTS IN NEW MEMBER

VISION FOR FUTURE OF HAITIAN TOURISM EXPLORED



Haiti's [Ministry of Tourism](#) requested assistance from FAVACA in finding a qualified volunteer to assist them in developing a regional plan to exploit popular tourist destinations, and to describe ways of identifying international partners. On January 13-19, 2007, return volunteer Alan Woolwich, of Brevard County and a former Senior Planner for the State of Florida Dept. of Community Affairs, traveled to Port-au-Prince to assist in devising this plan. He consulted with several members of key areas in tourism development. Aim of meetings was to identify their needs and vision for tourism in their region.

FAVACA'S FLORIDA-HAITI INITIATIVE EXPLORES PARTNERSHIPS

The Florida-Haiti Initiative (FHI) will focus on development programs in Haiti that promote economic growth, security and disaster preparedness. Carolyn Rose-Avila, President, traveled to Washington, D.C. January 19, 2007, to determine if collaboration was possible with development organizations interested in Haiti. While there she met with Eric Miller and Mutale Chilangwa, both of [Nathan Associates Inc.](#), regarding an upcoming Request for Proposal from the [USAID](#). She also met with Dr. Bob Maguire of [Trinity College](#) and Georges Fauriol of the International Republican Institute ([IRI](#)). This mission gathered information about Haiti-related trade policies and provided information regarding the launching of the FHI.

ANNUAL MEETING RESULTS IN NEW MEMBER

FAVACA held its Annual General Meeting of FAVACA members on January 26, 2007 in Tallahassee, FL. Among the many highlights of the congregation was the unanimous election of Guillermo Palomo, President of Magna Group, Inc., as the newest member of the Board of Directors. He is a founding member of the [Salvadoran Chamber of Commerce in Florida](#), and he personally supports various aid programs for orphans in El Salvador and Guatemala. It is this philanthropic spirit, coupled with his professional experience, which will make him an asset to the board and our organization.

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**Promoting social and economic development in the Caribbean
and the Americas through volunteer service.**

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The Florida Association for Volunteer Action in the Caribbean and the Americas (FAVACA) is a non-profit organization established in 1982. FAVACA was founded in the belief that Florida's future is interwoven with that of our Caribbean neighbors. The organization's mission is the improvement of social and economic conditions in the Caribbean and Central America through volunteer service. FAVACA provides technical assistance and training through a diverse combination of federal, private and State of Florida funding sources. To date, more than 1,200 volunteer missions to 29 nations and territories of the region have been completed. A wide variety of training is offered in health and social issues, agriculture, education, environment, disaster mitigation, women's leadership, capacity building and more.

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