



Aid to Infrastructure

Faith and Action Making a Difference in Haiti
Lafwa ak Aksyon Fè yon Diferans an Ayiti

Life in a small
nonprofit &
daily life in Haiti

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Created for class discussion

Michael Snarr / Wilmington College

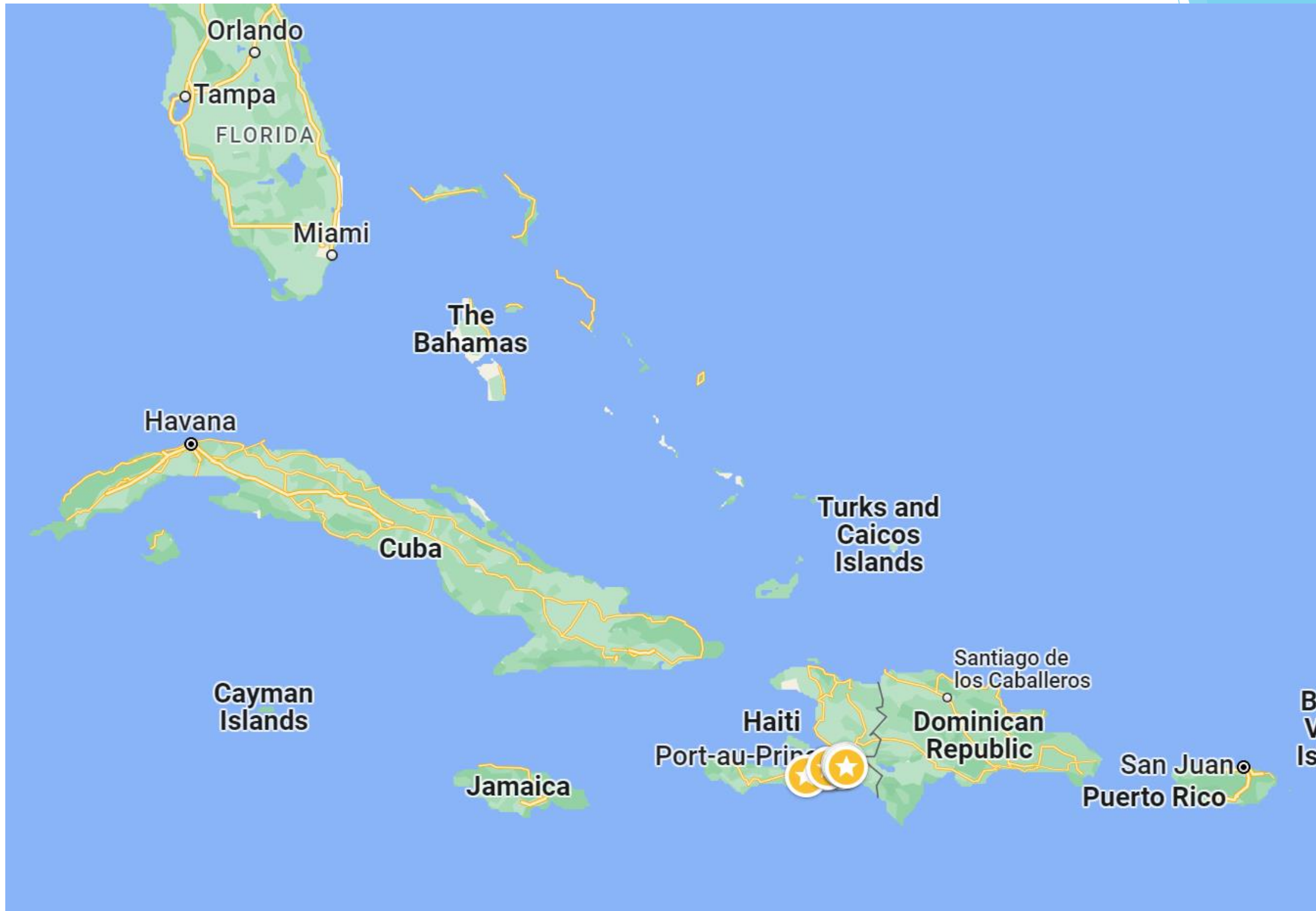
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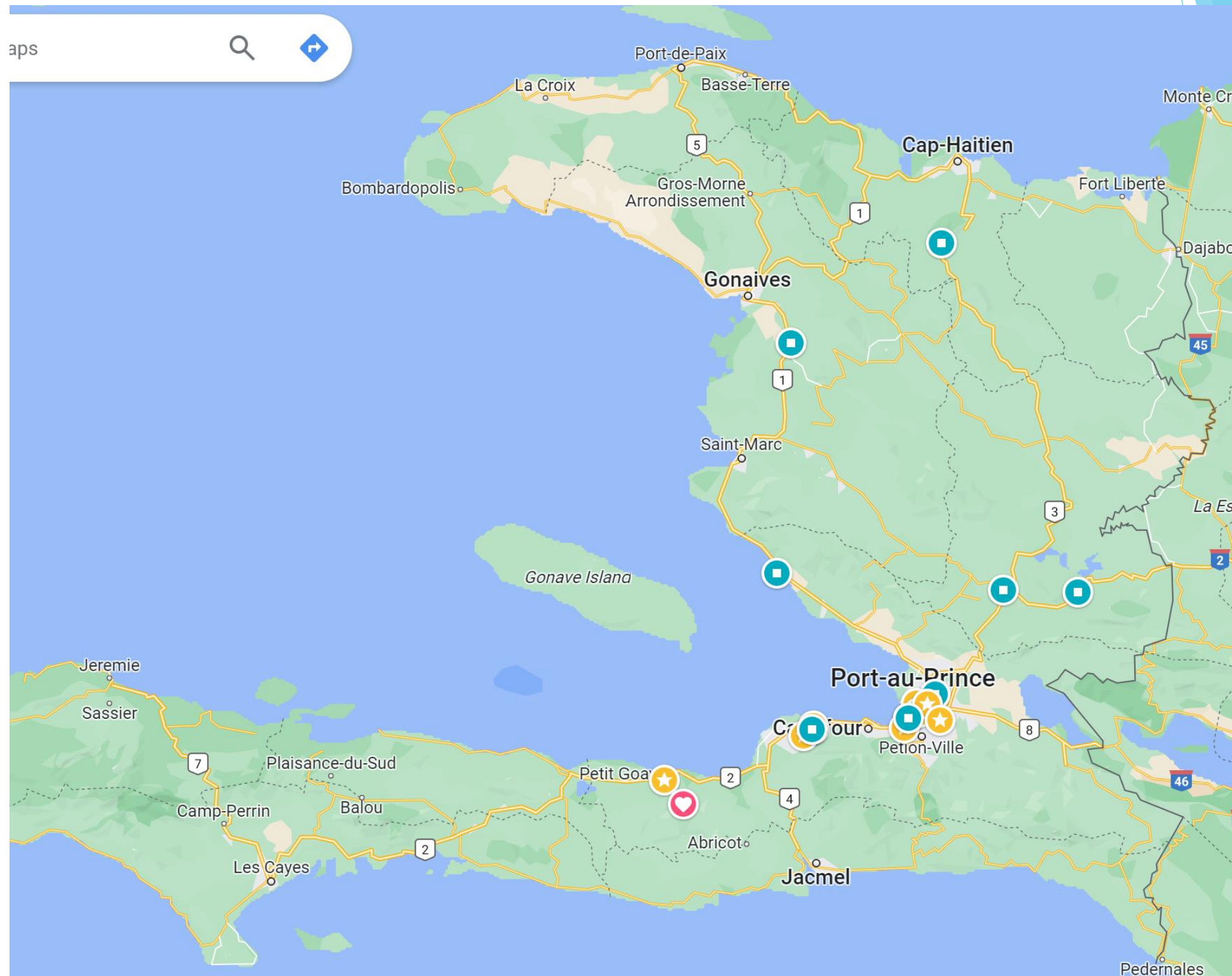
Aid to Infrastructure: A Brief History

- ▶ Myself & my husband, Dr. Tom Tigar
- ▶ Katherine lived in Haiti 2010-13; Tom traveled multiple times per year to another mission
- ▶ Founded ATI in 2014; 501(c)(3) status in 2015
- ▶ Serve two small mountaintop villages on Haiti's southern peninsula
- ▶ On-the-ground management is handled by a local Haitian
- ▶ Extremely small by most standards—but we have accomplished a **lot**

Where is Haiti in the world?



Where is Piton & Piton West in Haiti?



Programs

1. Medical

- Tigar is an MD and worked as primary care physician for many years
- Village is remote and traveling to the nearest town takes >1 hour
- 2 nurses

2. School

- Piton Community School has 100-150 students
- Classes go up to middle school
- 8 teachers & 1 custodian

3. School lunch

- Separate from school support
- Partner with another nonprofit that focuses on providing meals
- Most important program
- Costs around \$8,000/year

4. Agriculture

- Mountaintop agrarian society
- Raise what they eat, including animals
- Most difficult to fundraise!

5. Solar array / Water purification

- Acquired a solar array/generator/water pumping & filtration system
- Collects rainwater and stores in large cisterns
- Water is used for drinking, irrigation, cooking

Our Values

- Not interested in trying to “fix” Haiti (but we have opinions)
- Not interested in creating a small version of the U.S. in Piton
- Our goal is to empower them to a higher quality of life thru our programs & funding
- Avoid being white saviors:
 - Work **with** the community through its leader
 - Leading from behind
 - Allow Haitians to manage Haitians
 - Put the focus on them, not us

**Running a
nonprofit**

Moving Forward - administration

- ❑ Succession planning.
- ❑ Diversified, creative revenue sources.
- ❑ Lack of donors' urgency to provide financial aid to Haiti, who suffers from self-inflicted crises.
- ❑ Major administrative changes after a decade of existence.

**Running a
nonprofit**

What nonprofit work means to me

“The place God calls you to is the place
where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet.”
~ Frederick Buechner

- It “checks all the boxes”
- I’m part of something bigger than me (outside of my family).
- Something that will last longer than my lifetime.

★ Provided a “raison d’etre” (Fr., literally “reason for being”) through 5 years of chronic illness.

Personal
Story

It's Hard

- ❑ Nonprofit work can be frustrating, difficult.
- ❑ Nonprofit orgs are not immune to human problems.
- ❑ The world's problems are varied and BIG.
- ❑ Discouragement is inevitable!
 - Remember the story of the starfish. What you do is important to the person/living creature right in front of you.
 - Jay Shetty: True self-worth isn't built on what people declare about you, but on what you demonstrate to yourself.

Personal
Story



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Thank You!