



2017 SCHWEITZER AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Christine A. Curry Class of '95 *The Grenada Goat Dairy Project*



Christine Curry graduated from Chapman University in 1995 with a B.A. in Sociology. In 1999 she and partner Raymond J. Tarpley established **MARVET** (Marine Veterinary Medicine), a volunteer educational program designed to introduce veterinary students and veterinarians to the field of marine veterinary medicine with an emphasis on marine conservation and team-based ecological health problem-solving. Traveling to St. Kitts, Christine also established Turtlejanes Green Café on the veterinary school campus to address disposable waste issues. She first came to the island of Grenada to bring MARVET workshops to veterinary students there, also setting up field experiences for students with local farmers.

www.marvet.org

In 2004 when the island was utterly devastated by Hurricane Ivan, Christine responded, working with people she had come to know and respect to start anew. She established **THE GRENADA GOAT DAIRY PROJECT**, also known as The Goat Dairy, now a U.S. 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, dedicated to sustainable agriculture production, education and hands-on training to empower lower income farmers and their families to achieve economic independence, food security and fulfilling lives. The project provides training to all farmers, with particular focus on women and youth, in effective animal husbandry, improvements in livestock genetics, development of local foodstuffs and healthful milk and cheese production.



At their education and demonstration facility located at Belmont Estate, Hermitage, St. Patrick, the project constructed a goat dairy and a facility meeting international health standards to produce gourmet goat cheeses and yoghurt, immediately in high demand across the island. Workers are locals, and since 2009 more than 100 baby goats have been given to farmers who supplement their diets and their income by selling surplus milk back to the dairy as independent suppliers. This project is a major contribution to the island's self-sufficiency in food production through this new industry making high value food products consumed on the island and to the creation of a sustainable source of income for farmers and workers alike! In 2016, the production was completely turned over to Grenadian hands.

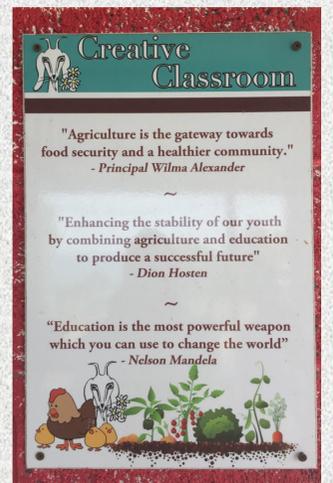
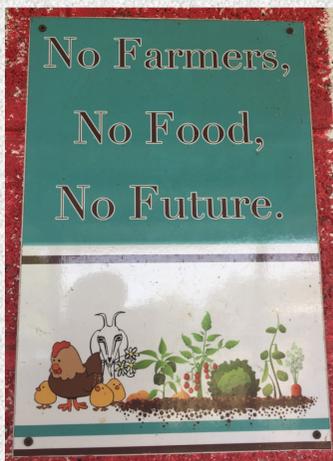


The Goat Dairy Project continues to offer an expanding array of training programs and has introduced a model program for schools, with gardens tended by the students, and of course goats that they care for, producing healthy food students prepare and consume. Future plans include the introduction of medicinal plants into the gardens, the expansion of nutritional education, and the replication of this type of program across the island.

Christine's dedication and innovation in working with the people of Grenada to create a bright and sustainable future for all is truly extraordinary and a model for other communities around the globe. Those who work with her speak of her "amazing creative and artistic abilities," her "unwavering generosity, selflessness and dynamic energy," and her "management style predicated on the dignity of the individual," treating everyone with equal respect and earning their great respect in return.

Follow the very latest developments of continuing and emerging new projects of The Goat Dairy on Facebook!

www.thegoatdairy.org



In recognition of her extraordinary work, Christine A. Curry is being awarded the **Schweitzer Award of Excellence**, given since 1982 by Chapman University to an individual and/or organization that exemplifies Schweitzer's ethics of reverence for life and his dedication to a life of service.