

AS YOU OPEN YOUR EYES

The experience in Mauritius has lessons for communities, young and old, around the world. The story of the boys deserves to be told and, moreover, it is important that it is told so that

- › other communities can feel encouraged and equipped to take ownership of their challenges
- › leaders and decisions makers around the world start to recognise that solutions are in fact emerging from the communities and that they deserve support
- › participating communities will become more conscious of the depth of their experience

Help us bring this story to everyone!

We need your financial support for translation of the subtitles in many languages.

Your support will also help teams in the Constellation to show the movie in many places the world over.

Our bigger dream is to capture each year three stories with lessons from communities.

You can support us via
pif.one/openyoureyes

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about football team Poste Lafayette, contact:
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To learn more about SALT and CLCP and for support in applying the approach go to:
www.communitylifecompetence.org

The Match of Our Lives is the second episode in the Constellations film serie on community change, « As You Open Your Eyes »:
www.asyouopenyoureyes.com



THE MATCH OF OUR LIVES

A STORY ABOUT A SHARED DREAM
POSTE LAFAYETTE, MAURITIUS

THE FILM & THE STORY

WHAT I WANT TO SAY IS THAT THOSE WHO HAVE A DREAM, EVEN IF IT IS A CHILD, THEY MUST NOT GIVE UP. PERSEVERE AND YOU WILL SUCCEED.

The boys of Poste Lafayette are about to play a football match. They find it difficult to contain their enthusiasm. « It is going to be a big match », says Jinino. « I will kick it like this and then score », imagines Ezegele. Their friend Andriano is convinced: « I want to win that match. When I score I will shout ».

‘The Match of our Lives’ is the second episode in the Open Your Eyes series portraying stories of community change. The film is set on the holiday island of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. The scenery in the film is stunning, but profoundly deceptive.

Life is not easy for the people in Poste Lafayette and often full of poverty and desperation. Alcoholism, drug abuse and violence are omnipresent. Boys and girls are often not safe. « Children in Poste Lafayette should stay away from adults. They should stay away. Because most adults here, they drink », says Melvin who helps to train the team. This film explores a path away from these dangers.



A group of adults in Poste Lafayette has a dream for the youths in their village:

They want them to have a better future.

When they get discouraged because their plans don't seem to be going anywhere, there is Guylène. She is able to bring together a group of young boys, a trainer and a ball. Her dream is that the boys « don't go astray as they grow up ».

The 40 minute film explores the story of Poste Lafayette's young football team. We see how things start to change for the boys when Guylène starts to guide them: « If you walk on a path with a friend, you must walk hand in hand to progress as a team ».

The villagers start seeing how training together is a matter of sharing through sport. Whereas the boys were alone in the streets before, their teammates have now become their friends. Trust, inclusion and discipline keep them away from substances and make them come back

together even after fights.

The boys have a shared dream of winning their match. As individuals, they see themselves as Super Heros who can contribute to peace and safety in their house and neighbourhood. Football helps them to feel what it is like to be such superhero. « When I play football I feel the same as the superhero I drew. I feel strong. I would not fly. I would play football. The whole team has to be the same. If I am flying, then we should all be flying, because we are a team », says Cris. The positive spirit of the team is hard to break. Even when they lose the big match 6-0, with the help of Guylène they talk about what went wrong and then resolve, “Even if I lose, I will continue to play until I win”.

One year later, we receive the good news that the team has won an important match 2-1. There is now also a girls' team in Poste Lafayette. This is just the start.



THE PROCESS & THE COOPERATION

ON THE WAY WE LEARN FROM THINGS THAT DON'T GO AS WE HOPED FOR UNTIL WE WIN OUR MATCH. AND WE DO IT TOGETHER.

Guylène Frederic, social worker, is a part of a group adults in Poste Lafayette who applied the SALT and Community Life Competence Approach (CLCP). The approach has been developed by the Constellation, an association active since 2005 in facilitating local responses.

SALT stands for Support, Appreciate, Learn and Transfer as mindset.

CLCP is used by groups of people all over the world. It puts ownership of issues and of solutions in the hands of people who will benefit most from addressing the issue.

The Community Life Competence Process brings people together around a shared dream and encourages them to take small do-able actions towards the dream.