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YEA UPDATE 19th April 2009.



The key fixtures of the April/May Programme are:

YEA PROGRAMME UPDATE:

24-26 th April	YEA Volunteers 2 nd 2009 Training Weekend
29 Apr	Ian to UK - arrive evening.
3-13 May	Masaka Compassion Discipleship Ray and Team
4-6 May	Dokolo (Lira) district Youth Conference Celestine/Eugene
9-17 May	Hoima Training/Masindi planning Collin +
19 June	YEA Youthworker Training day Collin +

Prayer points from Ian, Collin and the YEA team:

- § Please pray for whole YEA team during first few weeks of May as they cope with extra busy work schedule.
- § Pray for admin team as they try and get office work organised despite ongoing technical problems.
- § Team training weekend. 24/26 April.
- § Collin as he heads up the work while Ian is away.
- § Our various working partners around East Africa.
- § Financial provision for the ever growing work during difficult economic times.
- § That we are guided to the right place and the best timing for the Coffee shop.
- § For the quick and trouble free registration of YEA in Uganda. Currently the documents are being worked on by the Lawyer.

Thank you so much for taking the time to pray for us. We appreciate it greatly - Ian, Collin and the YEA team

Ian's Europe Trip Ian arrives on 29th April 2009 and returns on 30th July 2009. His itinerary can be found on the YEA website. If he has not been in contact with you yet and you would like to see him, he'd love to hear from you. Please email him: youthworx.ea@gmail.com

Finances Praise God that, despite the global financial situation, supporters continue to invest into the Kingdom of God. However, YEA finances are stretched as the cost of living increases, exchange rates suffer and the money we send over to the YEA team goes less far. We train and send mission teams into various regions across East Africa about 15 times a year. These cost approximately £200 per trip. We particularly need help in raising funds for the May missions mentioned in the programme above. The pot is currently empty for these but we are going ahead in faith believing that the Lord has these in His plan for the YEA ministry in Uganda. I recently reread Luke 5:6. The disciples had been fishing all night and caught nothing. Jesus told His disciples to throw their nets out into the deep. The catch was so large that the disciples struggled to haul it in and called to their partners in the other boat to help them to bring in the fish. It was a strong reminder to me that we have partners in this work who we need to make aware of the needs relating to bringing in God's harvest. The 'YEA Team' is actually larger than the front-line workers in the field who we often refer to as the YEA team. It includes the YEA Ugandan Board, the UK Trustees, financial supporters, prayer warriors and interested friends from all over the world. This is the Lord's work and we need each other to turn His visions into reality and to continue to move ahead.

As mentioned last month, fund-raising continues for the coffee shop and to complete the outstanding work on the campsite. Also, as the opportunities and invitations increase and the YEA team grows, so does the need to better support the volunteers who have to support themselves. Please consider blessing those who give up their time to this ministry.

If you would like to financially bless the ministry of YEA in a specific or general way, please contact me: thelma.edwards@youthworx-ea.org.uk or for those wishing to give online, visit: www.justgiving.com/youthworx; www.justgiving.com/thelmaedwards1

Collin has recently visited Burundi and has sent us the following report:

BURUNDI - VISION CASTING FOR THE FUTURE

Our recent trip to Bujumbura-Burundi was to have vision casting meetings with key church leaders and NGO leaders about who we are as YEA and how we would like to respond to issues facing youth work in Burundi.

Critical for the development of this small, war ravaged African country is the development of a new generation; a deliberate investment in the future i.e. the children, teenagers and young adults.

Unfortunately, investing in youth is a very new concept in this country. In the local churches, the older church leaders are scared that youth will hijack their leadership once trained and developed. On the streets, thousands of young people hang about doing nothing.

Coming out of a brutal civil war hasn't helped as the majority of people are more interested in how they will benefit. A prominent international child organization has recently had to pull out of working in Burundi after failing to find credible local partners.

Yet we are convinced that God wants us to work in this country in helping build the future (the teenagers and young adults) through partnering with the local churches there.

We had vision casting meetings with a variety of key church leaders from the Anglican Archbishop to local church pastors and youth leaders as well as heads of key Christian organizations.

From these meetings, viable relationships and partnerships for YEA have started. Credibility as an organization has been created and a wide range of ministry opportunities opened.

"You're welcome to Bujumbura", said the Anglican cleric.

Now that we are welcome, we are ready to avail ourselves for ministry and let God use us in Burundi starting with July-2009.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

Pray:

For Burundian Christians and Church leaders recovering from decades of brutal civil wars, and for our team as we help rebuild the future of this country.

Give:

Visit our Justgiving page to support the Burundi work.

Get involved:

Discover how you, your family, your church etc can help in rebuilding the lives of thousands of young people in Burundi.

Collin, April 2009.

Thank you for your continued support. If you no longer wish to receive this update by email, please contact me: thelma.edwards@youthworx-ea.org.uk