



**Office of the Provincial Youth Co-Ordinator
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TO : The Bishops and Members
Provincial Standing Committee
ACSA

YOUTH REPORT – June 2011

It give us great pleasure that we are able to provide a report on Provincial Youth activities and achievements.

We stand on the brink of our third anniversary as the rebirthed Provincial Youth Council with our tri-annual elections taking place during our imminent Consultation to be held in Cape Town from 20 to 26th June. The PYC Consultation is still the highlight of all our activities and it affords three delegates from each Diocese the opportunity to experience inspiration, motivation, empowerment and sharing of ideas and resources. This event over the last three years have unified the youth in ACSA and has brought objectivity and vision to both the youth leadership and the youth at large.

I would like to take this opportunity to graciously thank the PYC Executive team under the leadership of our President, Ms Nonhlanhla Shezi, and Chaplain, Ven Jack Kudumela, for their dedication and hard work, despite the lack of sufficient resources and the vast distances they had to travel for team meetings. We have learnt much during our tenure and our experience has resulted in a 10 year Business Plan for Youth Ministry in ACSA which will be tabled at these PSC meetings.

Our team has also been actively involved in the following initiatives:

1. The roll out of various programmes, viz. Operation Hope's Banking on our Future, Rooted in Jesus, 2 Fish and 5 Bread Resources for youth ministry, Violence against young women and girls initiative, and soon to be launched, Agents of Change Peer Education.
2. Vision 2020 and the 8 priorities, in particular the priority on the Nurture and Protection of Children and Young people.
3. An initiative to gather information on the International Anglican Youth Network's (IAYN) programme entitled Ending Violence against Young Women and Girls. Our findings will be tabled at the triennial IAYN Conference in Hong Kong in August this year.

Tony Lawrence – **Coordinator**, Nonhlanhla Shezi – **President**, Vukile Mkhize – **Dep President**, Sello - **Treasurer**,
Lebo Matubatuba – **Secretary**, Sandra Hendricks – **Member**, Nasson Paroque – **Member**, Ven Jack Kudumela –
Chaplain, Bishop Steve Diseko – **Bishop Liaison**

4. The launching of a Provincial survey to gather information on the status of the youth ministry in the Province – results to be published at this PSC meetings.

Work in progress includes:

1. The planning of a Youth Indaba which will bring together delegates from each of the Youth related ministries, e.g. Servers Guild, Lads and Girls Brigades, Anglican Youth Fellowship (AYF), Sunday Schools, other Guilds, as well as representation from selected Diocesan Youth Councils. The objective is to foster stronger relationships between youth related ministries within a Diocese and to recommend models that will facilitate growth and efficacy.
2. We are gathering information from Dioceses who have been modelling new approaches to Youth Ministry and an overview of their work will be published in conjunction with the 10 year business plan for youth ministry in ACSA.
3. Work has already begun to look at how young people can be networked electronically through their cell phones so that we are able to reach them with information about events or services and to periodically, encourage them in their faith.

The following imperatives are worth noting and are fully discussed in the 10 year business plan:

1. The ministry to children (Sunday School) has been largely neglected and becomes a very important aspect in laying solid spiritual foundations which will ready kids for their teenage years and Confirmation. More focus in this area will help to make youth ministry easier as youth leaders can build on that foundation instead of starting from a zero base. We are hoping to raise much awareness around the international 4/14 window of opportunity so that more energy and resources can be invested in these critical formative years in the life of a child.
2. Youth Chaplains rank amongst the most underrated and under resourced ministry groups in the Church. Yet, they are responsible for ensuring that there are vibrant youth ministries in every Parish in their Dioceses and that youth leaders are identified and trained for ministry. We want to place a special focus on our Chaplains hoping that our Bishops will appreciate the role that they have to play and to, adequately resource them so that they are able to make the necessary impacts where it matters most.
3. Training and equipping of Youth Leaders at both Parochial and Diocesan level still remains a challenge. The youth ministry at both these levels require a broader support base of helpers, mentors and facilitators. We have mentioned on previous occasions that the youth ministry cannot operate in a vacuum and it requires the support and handholding of the adults of our Church.
4. It is PYC's intention to draw a much larger focus and priority on youth ministry and our forthcoming Consultation will be making proposals on how this can be effectively achieved. We are currently underestimating the role that young people are able to play and we will be suggesting ways of integrating the young

people in ALL aspects of Parish life, especially with regard to decision making on key aspects of ministry.

This gives but a brief overview of the work that PYC has been involved in over the last year.

We wish to thank our Bishops for their prayer and support and for acknowledging the importance of this ministry for the continuance of the Anglican Church as we know it. We also wish to thank all our partner organisations for their support and leadership.

We covet your continued prayers as we move into a new era of leadership and hope that we will exponentially be multiplying the efficacy of the ministry for the sake of the Gospel.

For on-going news and reports on what is happening in the youth ministry, please feel free to visit our web site at www.aysa.org.za and register so that you are able to get our regular email newsletter. The home page of our web site also contains our Facebook link. We would appreciate it if you would pass on our website details to all the young people in your area.

Be blessed as you serve the one who has gained salvation for us while we were still sinners.

The glory goes to God, our Father.

Tony Lawrence
Provincial Youth Coordinator

(Ms) Nonhlanhla Shezi
President of PYC

Ven Jack Kudumela
Provincial Youth Chaplain