



ICHC

International Christian Host Coalition

Presents

YOUTH VOICE!

ICHC is responding to a cultural change. *We feel called anew through a collaborative effort with other organizations of like mind and spirit, to connect with, reach and walk with the Now-Generation of youth in such a way that they can come into an awareness and experience of their Sovereign purpose in God through Jesus Christ, and to have a relevant Kingdom impact on the world in their generation.* God's plan is always to raise up a new generation of world changers that lifts up their voice to represent Him. A cultural shift has occurred. The youth and the church are in two different places. Our focus is to bridge the gap. ***We have not passed this way before...*** Joshua 3:4

Vision:

Vulnerable communities are positively impacted through Youth and Adult Partnerships

Mission:

Empower youth to know how to effectively apply their faith to daily life and to affect positive change in the World through their voice.

Goal:

Create environments for:

- Youth to better understand and grow in faith
- Youth to genuinely encounter God
- Youth to learn how to develop, relate and apply their faith to daily life and to the world
- Youth to practice using their voice to affect positive change
- Adults to nurture, support and partner with youth in the growth of their faith
- Adults to nurture, support and partner with youth in the application of their faith to positive change
- Adults to practice facilitating the following needs. Youth need advocates, guides, experiences and challenges

Strategy

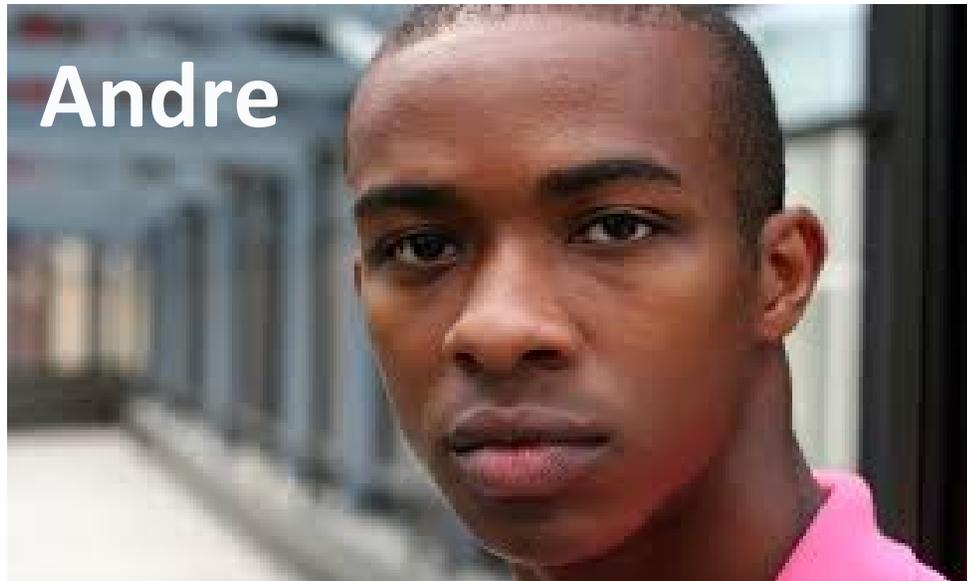
Develop and implement a Pilot: (Pilot Focus) *Youth growing in their understanding of faith; how to apply it to daily life, life destiny and affecting positive change among the vulnerable in communities The purpose of this pilot is for youth to: (1) freely practice expressing their voice (2) for adult leaders to listen and reflect on what they are saying (3) for youth and adult leaders to practice conferring together and deciding on a few steps regarding the way forward*

1. **Pilot Name:** *Youth Voice the Movement*
2. **Pilot Objective** Create a context where youth practice using their voice by posting on a social media platform (Facebook), expressions of how they feel about church, how church can be better for them personally and for their friends; express their feelings about being a Christian, challenges of being a Christian among their peers in school, community and today's youth culture in general. Other questions would pertain to how the church could be more effective in community and what could it be doing better to affect positive change in communities and especially among young people. **How?** Youth will respond to survey questions and express their responses by posting on a specially designed Facebook page. Youth can post via video or writing. We recommend that this exercise be facilitated with the youth by trusted youth leaders who attended the World Vision DC Area, Youth Empowerment Institute, 2015. **Process:** We will invite 4-6 prospective organizations that attended the World Vision YEI to participate in the pilot; for example Deliverance Church of Christ (MD) The Collaborative (MD), Glory Center International (MD) Good Hope Church of God (DC), The House DC (DC), Hope Charitable Services (VA)

The Challenge: Faith, Life & Destiny



Andre



Andre

Femi

Joy

Mary

Sabrina

Jose

Fumni

Video: Youth Speak Out!

Questions

1. In your opinion, what is a Christian? If someone asked you, how would you define “being a Christian?”
2. How do you feel about church? How can church be better for you personally? What would church need to be like in order for you to be excited about inviting your friends?
3. How do your friends feel about church and Christianity? What are they saying about it?
4. How is it for you trying to live like a Christian everyday life? Among your closest friends? In school? In community?
5. What would help you do that better? How does the church need to change to better help it’s own young people to grow spiritually?
6. **Community** “Are churches really doing something to make the world better for people in need? Give 1-3 examples of Yes! Where is it falling short and what else should it be doing? Give 1-3 examples. What could it be doing to better help young people in your community? How does it need to change it’s approach so that community youth see it as more than just a building? What are three critical youth issues that need to be addressed in your community?”



Final Steps

1. Senior Pastors and Adult Leaders review the youth responses to the survey on Facebook individually.
2. Make notes of what stood out positively and negatively.
3. Answer this question. As an adult leader, in light of what I have learned, how can I better partner with youth as an advocate of their concerns needs and desires, as a guide in the growth of their faith, as a facilitator of experiences that help them grow in their faith and better encounter God, as a facilitator of challenges that help them to engage and make positive contributions to their community?
4. Leaders come together in person or by conference call to share their reflections with each other: work on a youth adult partnership action plan with timeline that they will implement at their church or organization to better help youth grow in faith and in positive community impact.
5. They will share action plan and timeline with youth and modify after youth give input and develop a level of ownership. The purpose of this process is to practice nurturing intergenerational partnership.