

## **2021 Program Update**

2021 continues to be a very challenging year for the poor people in India and Africa as COVID -19 is ravaging lives in many poor areas bringing numerous deaths and untold miseries. We acknowledged the need of the hour and, in our humble way, tried to alleviate the suffering with the limited resources that we could muster. We have several monthly contributors and annual donors who make this happen. Hope for Youth is a 501 c (3) tax exempt organization registered in the state of Kansas, USA (Tax ID: 45-4463125). 100% of the dollars you give goes to the charity with no administrative expense. During the first half of 2021 we initiated or funded programs in India and Africa.

We sincerely thank all our donors for their kindness and generosity through their support of our mission. Please visit our website [www.hopeforyouthinternational.org](http://www.hopeforyouthinternational.org) for more information. These are the highlights of our activities:

### **Pandemic Relief Efforts at Christeen Center (Kottayam, Kerala State, India) - our major service collaboration partner**

Hope for youth supports many programs for youth through Christeen (Teenagers for Christ), at Kottayam, India. From the inception of the pandemic Christeen was a refuge for quarantining public and inbound expatriates and migrant workers referred by government authorities. At the facilities built with the help of Hope for Youth for boarding services for youth attending programs and orphanage boot camps were converted into lodging people who were returning from Gulf countries who had to be quarantined for 14 days. Those who do not have facilities at their home or have no financial means to support during quarantine are also taken in by Christeen center to be cared for with food and lodging.

In early 2021 when the gatherings of less than 100 people were permitted, Christeen convened limited youth programs to deal with the COVID related issues for youth during the lockdown period providing spiritual uplift. These programs were conducted under a carefully adopted protocol. This resulted in zero occurrence of COVID.

During the summer of 2021, when Covid was ravaging Kerala, Christeen center started a new wing to accommodate patients who have covid and those with mild complications who could not go to hospitals as they were beyond capacity. As of June 2021, there were over 100 Covid patients and 70 quarantined people living in Christeen facility. They are provided with food and care with the funds from benefactors including **Hope for Youth**. These programs were designed to meet the needs of the humanity at a time when local institutions and government were unable to handle the workload and service delivery. So far Christeen served thousands of COVID patients and quarantined public with no incidence of COVID transmission. Local authorities and people who were cared for were extremely appreciative of Christeen's humanitarian intervention in the time of crisis.

Christeen continued its regular retreats and counseling programs over zoom as in-person programs will not begin until the pandemic is over. Here are some pictures of the Christeen activities:



### **Covid -19 Relief efforts in Adilabad**



Adilabad in Telangana State in India is one of the poorest areas of the state and the Bishop of Adilabad, in collaboration with local people, organized one of the finest efforts to mitigate sufferings of the local people who did not have a place to go for food or treatment. They did this by creating a network to distribute food supplies to the hard-to-reach areas. For those who contracted, Covid they opened a center for treatment. Services are provided to mostly tribals and poor villagers of all casts and creed. Here are some pictures they shared:

**Distribution of food packets where government assistance does not reach:**



**Treating and/or quarantining sick Covid patients at temporary medical center**





## **Gimbi Mission Ethiopia**

Hope for Youth is collaborating with Bethany Sisters, a Catholic congregation, who just established a mission post in Gimbi area of Ethiopia. They just started to run a school and a basic clinic. They have an acute need to help local youth to find jobs also. Gimbi, a town in the western region of Ethiopia, is a poor and underdeveloped area with low literacy rate. Hope for Youth has agreed to find sponsors for scholarships for vocational education. In 2020-21 we have funded three candidates for 2 years certification and Commercial Vehicle licensing program.

## **Scholarship Program**

**Scholarship Recipients are continuing their studies, and all will graduate by end of 2021.**



## **Kindergarten school**

Hope for Youth funded the rehabilitation of a rundown building and prepared for safe learning center for children. As the facility they had was unsafe, often children were taught in the open ground. The picture below shows the renovated classroom that is safe and secure for children.



### **Mobile Clinic**

Bethany mission runs a small clinic primarily to serve villagers who are poor. The clinic, among other routine medical assistance, also supports treating people with Podoconiosis which is a type of topical lymphoedema very common in the Gimbi areas of Ethiopia due to walking in the irritant soil without shoes or sandals. Podoconiosis patients face significant stigma from their communities Podoconiosis is a poorly understood disease and this has led to widespread misconceptions. People with podoconiosis were also found to have higher mental distress and prone to depression. Apart from prevention through awareness of wearing sandals, the treatment includes daily foot-washing with soap, water and antiseptic, use of a simple emollient, bandaging in selected patients, elevation of the leg, controlled exercises, and use of socks and shoes. As these people are stranded at home due to lack of mobility or social stigma as it is considered as a curse.

Bethany Mission is trying to buy a clinic-equipped van so that they can go to the homes of these patients to give treatment and support. Hope for Youth was able to support in buying this van so that they can reach distant areas for in-home treatments of patients.







### *A thank you letter from Bethany Mission*

**ETHIOPIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, BETHANY SISTERS**  
 NEKEMTE VIKARIAT, DENDI WOREDA, OROMIA REGION  
 METCHA, POST BOX- 105, GINCHI, ETHIOPIA, E.AFRICA  
 Email ID: [surabhilasic@gmail.com](mailto:surabhilasic@gmail.com)

Date: 21/06/2021  
 Ref: BSM/27/21

To,  
 Mr. Joseph Melookaran CPA  
 President  
 Hope for Youth Funding International  
 9727 West 145 Terrace  
 Overland park, KS 66221

Sub: Report of the Project of a new Vehicle for Bethany Sisters

Dear and Respected Mr. Joseph .

This is the time when we pause to count our blessings. Here at the Bethany Sisters Missionary, you are the top of the list. Thank you very much for your financial support. We are very much happy to inform you that the VEHICLE is arrived in our mission center. And it is a great support and help for us in our mission work in this remote area. Your sacrifice allowed our dreams to fulfill. Really I have no words to express our gratitude. **Thank you for your generosity and care for our mission. We strive to work side by side with our neighbor to bring them healthcare, education and spiritual guidance and help them learn, grow, and thrive regardless of age, income and background.** I am attaching the Photos and receipts. Thank you for your great help even during this unprecedented time of COVID-19. We have nothing to give back other than our sincere and humble prayers. Keeping you and your loved ones in our thoughts. Thank you very much.

*S. Surabhila*  
 Yours Sincerely  
 Sr. Surabhila S.I.C



## **Support for Snehibhavan (Adivasi - Dalit Boarding Home) and Adivasi Dalit Women Empowerment Center**

In March 2021 we accepted a grant request from Snehibhavan/ Adivasi Women Empowerment Center, in the tribal area near Idukki-Kottayam boarder in Kerala, India. Snehibhavan houses young girls (ages 7 to 19) who are abused or unsafe at home or has no economic means to study or going (walking) to school is extremely hard and unsafe due to animals and other predators. The founder had this idea while serving under the Center for Tribal and Dalit Studies of UNICEF, a UN initiative. The founder Sajini Mathews who herself is a Dalit, is the first one to get high school diploma in that Adivasi district. She has received many awards and recognitions for her service such as *Arali Award*, *Good Samaritan Awaard*, *Rosemary Award* among others.



Sajini requested financial assistance as Covid epidemic dried up limited sources of funding she had. The needs were the following:

1. Continuing support for children at the boarding facility and their education expenses
2. Supporting students who finish high school to go to nursing or other vocation schools
3. As they operate in one tenth of an acre land, their dream is to have a half-acre land to be self-sufficient in growing organic vegetables and engaging children to learn valuable lessons of sustainability.

Hope for Youth has funded education expenses for two of the nineteen students and support for fees and expenses for one nursing student. Next year there are couple of students interested in nursing career. A benefactor from Houston has already committed to support one.

## **Delhi Youth United 4 Christ program Support**

*Youth United 4 Christ* is another Hope for Youth partner who conducts impactful programs for youth at the national level. They had several programs over zoom periodically. The following is a sample of the spiritual program scheduled in June this year. On going funding from Hope for Youth helps partially support these programs.



**YOUTH UNITED FOR CHRIST, INDIA**  
PRESENTS

**YU4C**

3rd Batch  
(in English)

Last date  
to register  
4th January  
2021


**YU4C VIRTUAL**


# NATIONAL SCHOOL OF DISCIPLESHIP


January second week to June last week


6 months  
**Online**  
Discipleship  
Training  
exclusively  
for the  
youth aged  
between 15  
- 35 years


**"Go therefore and make Disciples of all nations" Mathew 28:19**


  
**BISHOP FRANCIS KALIST**  
Episcopal Advisor to CCR in India


  
**FR. JOSEPH ESPAILLAT II**  
Former Youth Director New York Archdiocese, USA


  
**JIM MURPHY**  
Former ICCRS President, USA


  
**CYRIL JOHN**  
Member, CHARIS ISC & Elder, YU4C India


  
**FR. TONY ALEX**  
Canberra, Australia


  
**FR. VINAY KAMATH**  
Mumbai Archdiocese

  
**SR. PAULINA MELITE MSMI**  
Secretary, CCR in India


  
**AJIN JOSEPH**  
National Youth Coordinator YU4C

  
**SAVIO MASCARENHAS**  
Former Vice-Chairman CCR in India

  
**DR. JOSEPH DOMINIC**  
Former Chairman CCR in Chennai

  
**LENNY SOARES**  
Youth Speaker, Mumbai

@yu4cindia



- ✓ Praise & Worship's by YU4C Bands & International Artists
- ✓ Monthly Zoom discussions with the Group Animators
- ✓ Planting of Youth prayer groups in your Parish/Diocese
- ✓ 3 Additional months accompaniment with the Group Animators
- ✓ An online certificate will be issued after the completion of the course

**01:30 HOURS WEEKLY PRE-RECORDED  
STREAMING VIA You Tube**

Register on WhatsApp @ YU4C Office +91 8595890166  
Or visit our website: [www.yu4c.in](http://www.yu4c.in)

Participation fees:  
₹600 (Indian Participants)  
US \$60 (Overseas Participants)

Once again thank you for your generous support without which these programs cannot be achieved. You can set up monthly donations by going to our website at [www.hopeforyouthinternational.org](http://www.hopeforyouthinternational.org). You can also mail the check to:

**Hope for Youth International**  
9727 West 145 Terrace  
Overland Park, KS 66221

We will be very happy to discuss with you about various ways you can contribute for a good cause for youth with your tax-deductible donations. At the end of the year, all donors will get a donation acknowledgment for tax purposes. Please contact Joseph Melookaran at 913 706 0759 if you have any questions or charitable project options.

#### **Our Board of Directors:**

**Tessy Antony (New Jersey), Janis Clarke (Maryland – President of Rosary Mission), Jenny and Joseph Melookaran (Kansas)**

**Thank you for your support and God Bless!!**