

World Youth Alliance

2013

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### Letter from the Founder



Anna Halpine is the founder of the World Youth Alliance and was the WYA president from 1999 to the spring of 2007. She also founded and is currently CEO of FEMM Foundation. She holds a Master's Degree in Philosophy of Religion from Yale University (2009) and a Bachelor of Music, Cum Laude, from Mt. Allison University in Canada (1999). She has studied piano at the Taubman Institute and voice at the Juilliard School. As founder and past president of WYA, Anna has traveled and lectured extensively.

Dear Friends,

2013 was another wonderful year for WYA.

In February, we opened our newest regional office in the Middle East. Europe continued to develop a strong network of national committees throughout the region. In Asia, we lost the Reproductive Health Bill we had been fighting for the past 14 years, but the Philippine Supreme Court immediately granted a stay of implementation thanks to a challenge on the bill's legality. We continue to watch that closely as we work with our friends and allies in the Philippines. North America increased their work with high school and college chapters and saw a rise in membership, conference participation, and success in their activities and plans. Africa hosted our first Advocacy Academy in Nairobi. Our Latin American office addressed the President of the Organization of American States at their General Assembly and recruited thousands of new members at World Youth Day in Rio.

Continued advocacy successes took place at the European Union and the United Nations. Outreach and support are also increasingly being provided at the national level as policy proposals influenced by international debates, foreign funds, and foreign NGOs pressure countries to change their laws and customs.

Our curriculum on the human person continues to be tested in New York and is being prepared for use in schools in September 2014. Our sister organization, FEMM, launched its first women's health clinic in Columbus, Ohio. We are proud to be developing concrete ways to support and protect the dignity of the person in education and healthcare.

In the midst of all this activity, our focus remains on the investment and development of our members, young people who are the leaders and heroes in protecting the dignity of the person in their classrooms, communities, and world. They embrace this challenge with dedication! Our alumni continue the work they began with us. They are mothers and fathers, teachers, Congresswomen, State Department officials, writers, priests and religious, lawyers, and university professors. We introduce some of them to you in the pages that follow and look forward to highlighting their careers and accomplishments in the coming years.

We celebrated 15 years on March 25, 2014, and look to the past with gratitude. As we look to the future, we are strengthened by the friendships, commitment, and strong foundation we have established over the years. We are grateful to be able to continue this work together.

Yours,

Anna Halpine

Founder

### **Geographic Expansion**



#### **North America**

WYA North America welcomed over 3,233 new members through activities and WYA chapters in schools across Washington State, Indianapolis, Connecticut, and New York City. The office set the foundations for new chapters at Hillsdale College, the University of Toronto, and the University of Georgia, and new high school chapters in Pasco, Seattle, and New York City. WYA North America also led weekly training programs with Cathedral High School, St. Vincent Ferrer High School, and the Elevate Program in the Bronx. The program addressed principles of dignity, solidarity, and freedom both in a cultural context and in international issues, such as population and development.

#### Middle East

WYA Middle East officially opened the doors to WYA's newest office in Beirut, Lebanon. The official launch event gathered 120 politicians, diplomats, civil society organizations, and students. The Middle East office also created a **National Committee** in Lebanon with 17 certified members who are receiving advocacy training. Additional National Committees are in development in Tunisia, Morocco, Egypt, and Algeria, and the region's Facebook page has gained 12,000 new "likes."

#### **Europe**

WYA Europe launched the **WYA National**Committee in Croatia in March with

3 new chapters and held a conference,

Find the Dignity, Change the Future, in

Split and Zagreb, Croatia. The conference
included a visit to the Croatian Parliament
and roundtable discussions on topics such
as the family and the dignity of human
sexuality. The WYA National Committee
in Romania was launched in September in
Bucharest. Additionally, the Europe office
has started the process of formalizing
existing WYA chapters and committees
in Spain, Austria, the United Kingdom,
Ukraine, and Poland.

#### Latin America

WYA Latin America welcomed 4,000 new members at World Youth Day in Brazil and attracted members from around the globe through the *I Celebrate Life Campaign*. WYA strengthened its Mexico chapters in Queretaro, Puebla, and Guadalajara, and is developing a new chapter in Costa Rica. The first Latin America General Assembly gathered members from local chapters to strengthen existing chapters, gather participation for WYA's projects, and plan new chapters.

#### **Africa**

WYA Africa presented WYA's mission and programs to over 12 academic institutions during membership drives in Uganda in June and September. WYA scheduled a public lecture with the Makerere University on sustainable development. They gave presentations to schools and youth groups in Nairobi, Kenya.

#### **Asia Pacific**

WYA Asia Pacific added 4,280 new members in 2013, and led 5 membership tours, which presented WYA's programs to over 40 academic institutions. In August, the Regional Director conducted the first WYA membership tour in Bangkok, Thailand. The region organized a WYA Summer Camp where it trained 20 new members in Track A as well as workshops on human dignity for abandoned and orphaned children. In July, the office hosted a film screening to present WYA at the Filipino World Youth Day in Makati City.





#### **North America**

On October 25-27, WYA held its North America Emerging Leaders Conference *Wo(men)* and *Health: Dismantling A Culture* of *Commodification* in New York. Field experts and over 40 students from high schools and universities across the U.S. attended the conference, followed by a 5K Run for Dignity on Roosevelt Island on Sunday.



#### **Europe**

The Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda: Priorities for Europe's Youth took place in October at the European Parliament and the WYA Europe office in Brussels. The conference drew 50 participants from Spain, Croatia, Romania, Ireland, Belgium, Poland, Austria, France, Cameroon, Rwanda, and China.



#### **Latin America**

Health: The Next Global Challenge welcomed over 100 participants at Anahuac Mexico Norte University on October 18. Latin American leaders, students, civil society representatives, and members discussed key issues in bioethics and healthcare policy focused on the dignity of the person. A panel introducing the 20th anniversary of the International Year of the Family concluded the conference.



#### Middle East

On December 7, WYA's youngest office held Linking Health to Sustainable Development in Lebanon at American University of Beirut (AUB). The conference united high-level policy experts and students over a policy discussion on the links between public health and sustainable development.



#### **Africa**

In August, WYA held *Priorities for Africa's Youth* at Strathmore University from August 21- 23. 60 participants attended from Nigeria, Liberia, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Kenya to discuss authentic sustainable development that is centered on the dignity of the human person.



#### **Asia Pacific**

On September 19-21, *The Development Paradigm: A World Beyond 2015* gathered over 120 youth delegates and 30 volunteers at the Bayleaf Hotel. The event featured 4 plenary sessions on health, education, sustainability and person-centered development. The keynote speech was given by Davao Congressman Karlos Alexei Nograles from the Philippines.

# 03 Membership

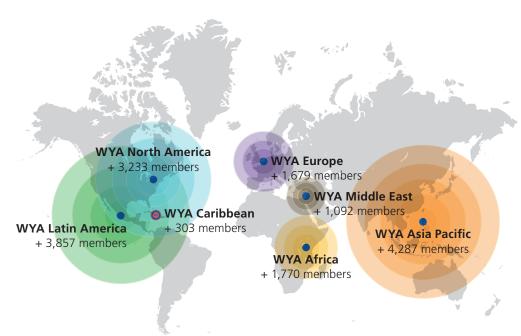
#### **Member Report**

All WYA regional offices saw significant growth in membership in 2013, thanks to rigorous school tours, membership month drives, online campaigns, and WYA's presence at youth events around the world. A few membership highlights include:

**WYA Europe** launched the WYA National Committee in Croatia in March with 500 new members and 3 chapters within Croatia.

**WYA Asia Pacific** added 4,280 new members in 2013, and **WYA Latin America** added 4,000 members at World Youth Day Brazil.

WYA North America gained over 800 new members at the Washington, DC March for Life in January. WYA presented its mission at several conferences surrounding the March, including the National Youth Rally, the Cardinal O'Connor Conference at Georgetown University, and the National Review Institute Summit.



In 2013, WYA increased its membership by over 16,221 members.

#### **Member Profiles**



#### Maja Šubaric Mahmuljin, Europe

As a journalist I have the privilege of meeting inspirational people, including Anna Halpine, who was my first contact with WYA. I interviewed her for my newspaper in March 2013, when she was in Zagreb for the opening day of the WYA Croatia Committee. After hearing Anna speak about human dignity, I knew I wanted to be a part of WYA. Meeting young, enthusiastic Croatian members who finished Track A Training only affirmed my decision.

I was on my way to becoming an active member of this global organization with a noble mission: to promote the dignity of every person and build solidarity among youth from developed and developing nations. After completing Track A Training I got involved in many activities of WYA's Zagreb chapter as part of the media team. In just a couple of months WYA Croatia (chapters in Zagreb, Split, and Osijek) achieved a lot - we had more than 20 accredited Track A members and 500 supporting members who had signed WYA's charter. We also worked to organize WYA Week in Zagreb, Split, and Osijek in March 2014 with Croatian and foreign experts in philosophy, politics, economy, law, media, and culture.

For me the best part about being a WYA member is connecting with people, solving youth-related problems creatively, and actively improving society. I use my professional skills as a journalist to promote a culture of life, the importance of family, and values such as human dignity and solidarity.



#### **Carlos Garcia, North America**

The World Youth Alliance was one of the most formative experiences I had during college. I found that I fit well into the WYA family. I was born and raised in Colombia until I was 6 years old, after which my family moved to different countries due to my father's job. After Colombia we moved to Switzerland, Singapore, Great Britain, and finally the United States. Because of this, WYA's international mission and community created an environment in which I could flourish, one in which I felt truly at home.

I am currently finishing my senior year at Columbia University, completing a major in Economics and a minor in Computer Science. I have been challenged in my beliefs and, most importantly, in how I communicate my perspectives. WYA gave me the tools to speak about important issues concerning human dignity through a universal language, one that engages a person regardless of different religious or political beliefs. The philosophical underpinnings of Track A Training have been incredibly enlightening. The White Papers have provided crucial information that is often not shared in the world of international policy. Perhaps most important, the rich knowledge and insights that come from the friendships formed within the WYA community have been lifechanging. At present I am Co-President of the Catholic Ministry at Columbia. At times it has been difficult, especially in promoting a culture of life within a culture of death—a culture focused on hedonism and success, even at the cost of human dignity. I have seen fellow classmates simultaneously disheartened by the false promises of such a culture but also inspired by the hope they find in messages that speak to their authentic dignity.

If one thing could sum up how WYA has changed me, I would say it has given me a very real and palpable sense of hope. To see other young people, not only from the United States but also from all over the world, fight for the dignity of all human beings is extremely heartening. I feel part of a movement that is growing, into which youth from all walks of life are coming after the disillusionment of the culture of death. As Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." Indeed, WYA's youth are a mighty force to be reckoned with in the noble battle to defend the irreplaceable value of every single human life.



#### **Rokaia Mohamed, Middle East**

My country, Egypt, has been going through many upheavals and I believe that an organization like WYA that promotes the fundamental, crucial concepts of dignity is what my country really needs to recover.

I was first introduced to WYA when I joined the 2013 International Summer Camp. It was an extraordinary experience that taught me about dignity and how this basic concept stands at the center of everything we do. I was introduced to campers from diverse cultures and we communicated what dignity means and experienced solidarity in the activities and workshops we had. I have experienced this deep solidarity also in my contact with WYA's regional offices around the world.

When I returned from camp I immediately started Track A Training. Camp had made a huge impact on me and I felt the urge to get more involved with WYA's mission. The amount of support I received from WYA's North America and Middle East offices motivated me to become a certified member. I am now undergoing training to start workshops in my country and introduce WYA and its mission, so it can impact others as profoundly as it has impacted me.

Concepts based in dignity and oriented towards improving sustainability and development are interwoven in simple ways for every camper to understand. WYA understands the dynamic role that all cultures play in our globalization. These concepts and ideas might sound advanced for a 17-year-old, but since signing the charter, I have experienced how the World Youth Alliance helps youth ponder the fundamental elements that shape our world.

#### Where Are Former Members Now?



#### Aboyeji E. Iyinoluwa, Nigeria

Former Research Fellow

Now Working as CEO & Founder of Fora

#### **Aliah Dimaporo Cimafranca, Philippines**

Former International Director of Operations

**Executive Director of WYA** 

Now 1st District Lanao del Norte Congresswoman,

Philippine House of Representatives (2010-2013)

Masters Candidate, Strategic Studies at Australian National University (present)

Blair E. Miller, USA

Former North America Director of Operations

Now Working as Vice President of MDG Health Alliance

**Erika Tatad, Philippines** 

Former Asia Pacific Regional Director

Working as Managing Director of Hapinoy, Inc. Philippines

**Gudrun Lang, Vienna** 

Former Europe Regional Director

Now Working as Founder of Kairos Consulting

**Gustavo Lorenzo, Mexico** 

Former Latin America Director of Operations

Now Working as Business Consultant for Deloitte

Juan Ignacio Fernandez Torres, Spain

Now

Former European Director of Advocacy

Now LL.M. Candidate, International Corporate

Law at Fordham University

Marystella Ramirez Guerra, El Salvador

Former Research Fellow

Now Ph.D. Candidate, History of Science, Medicine,

and Technology at University of Oxford

Olivia Raw, UK

**Former** Europe Director of Operations

Now Working as a counselor with children

experiencing trauma and difficulty, London

Shannon Joseph, Canada

Former North America Director

**UN Advocacy Specialist** 

Now Manager, Research and Development,

Federation of Canadian Municipalities

#### **Alumni Profile**



#### Fernando Alvarez, Latin America

I met the World Youth Alliance in 2007 through a friend and was accepted as an advocacy fellow in New York in 2011. WYA's Track A Training expanded my intellectual knowledge on the dignity of the human person. I had a fantastic experience from the friendships I formed to my experiences at the UN. I became friends with people from places that I never imagined I would encounter. In my current job as government official of Chile's Ministry of Labor and Social Security, these people are still key contacts and friends. WYA was an inspiring lesson for my life.

### **Advocacy in 2013**





**WYA Africa** underwent an intensive advocacy and FEMM training with **WYA Founder** and **CEO**, Anna Halpine, and **Research and Policy Specialist**, Meghan Fischer. The event trained WYA staff, interns, lawyers, and medical practitioners to understand policy issues from a human dignity perspective and manage women's fertility and hormonal health using the FEMM education program. The training provided key information in a time when proposals on abortion and population control policies were sweeping rapidly across Africa.

At the **UN commissions**, WYA successfully influenced the outcomes of negotiation documents, conducted meetings with over 50 delegations, and inserted language that promoted a person-centered approach to policies.

At the **Commission on the Status of Women**, the entirety of WYA's proposed language on the authentic needs of women was incorporated into the negotiated document.

**WYA Africa** participated in two key advocacy meetings on the **UN Post-2015 Agenda**: the *Kenya Youth Post-2015 Synthesis Workshop* organized by the Organization of African Youth (Kenya) in Nairobi and the *Kenya National Forum on the Post-2015 Development Agenda* in Mombasa, providing a strong voice on policies that protect human dignity.

**WYA Europe** opposed the sexual and reproductive rights agenda and liberalization of abortion laws proposed by the Estrela Report in the European Parliament. **WYA Europe** prepared voting recommendations in 7 languages and contacted MEPs throughout the process, emphasizing the need for policy that protects human dignity, Sustainable Development Goals that focus on the true health and education needs of Europeans, and the protection of fundamental conscience rights.

**WYA Europe** participated in two thematic groups in the **European Task Force for Beyond 2015**, *Human Development Based on Social Sectors and Economics, Trade, Aid, Production and Consumption*, successfully influencing the European Parliament's final report on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and removing "sexual and reproductive rights" from the final accepted document.

**WYA Europe** influenced the outcome of negotiations on the *Motion for Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls, Working Groups on Children, Youth, and Adolescents and Maternal Health* to remove language referencing sexual rights. As a result of WYA Europe's strong exposure at the **European Parliament** level, WYA provided support to

MEPs in clarifying the meaning of language used in European Parliament resolutions.

WYA Latin America's participation at the Organization of American States built stronger relationships with Latin American civil society and expanded the platform for publicizing WYA's work. Latin America monitored the campaign on the Convention on Sexual and Reproductive Rights at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) events in Uruguay and Mexico and represented WYA at a UN Youth Summit in Brazil during World Youth Day.

WYA Middle East's Regional Director, Cedric Choukeir, was 1 of 7 interviewed in the second Kofi Annan Youth Dialogue on youth unemployment, which was broadcast live online and publicized on the WYA blog. WYA Middle East participated in the Arab Youth Coalition for the ICPD Beyond 2014 Conference in June.

WYA Middle East was designated as the youth representative for the Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and as the civil society regional representative to the Social Development Division of the Economic Council (SDDEC). These positions established WYA Middle East as the voice representing the authentic needs and aspirations of Arab youth.

### **Education in 2013**







Top Left: WYA International Summer Camp Bottom Left: WYA Asia Pacific Summer Camp Right: International Solidarity Forum

#### In the Regions

WYA Europe ran Track A classes in Zagreb, Split, and Osijek in Croatia and Madrid, Barcelona, Pamplona, and La Coruna in Spain. WYA Middle East conducted an online Track A Training Program with 497 registered members and 4 sessions at its office in Lebanon. WYA North **America** launched a new training program based on the Summer Camp curriculum and Youth Leaders Training Program, which examines WYA's core ideas and the practical applications of these principles at the UN. The office also launched a *new* Fall 2013 Online Track A Training Group with 13 students and is running a weekly advanced training discussion group in the office for interns. WYA Africa formed the Track Training group at Strathmore University with 67 participants and a curriculum that articulates WYA's core ideas on human dignity in response to the current sexual and reproductive rights campaigns in the Africa region. WYA Asia Pacific led the WYA Paref Woodrose Chapter Track A **Training** in Alabang, Muntinlupa, Philippines.

#### **WYA Programs**

The 2013 **International Solidarity Forum** (ISF), WYA's annual training event, took place at WYA's Headquarters in New York City and the United Nations in April. The ISF brought together 56 of WYA's members and staff from around the world to participate in discussions, listen to expert speakers, and negotiate WYA's *Declaration on Health and Sustainable Development*. The declaration demonstrates that an authentic understanding of the human person informs the interplay between the **Post-2015 Development Agenda** and global health issues. It will be used in WYA's advocacy work for a development agenda that affirms human dignity.

WYA's **International Summer Camp** provided young people ages 13-18 a 2-week program of education and activities in July at Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh. WYA North America hosted 14 participants and 7 counselors from Egypt, Lebanon, Taiwan, France, Denmark, Belgium, Spain, Mexico, Canada, and the U.S.

In 2013, WYA implemented the **Human Dignity Curriculum** (HDC), a human dignity-centered educational program designed for students, in 5 schools in St. Lucia. An evaluator and teacher support team monitored implementation and provided support to teachers and principals. WYA developed curriculum content for grades 4-6, lesson plans, a website for parents, and a teacher training program. 5 schools and approximately 1,200 students participated in the pilot. The HDC was also pilot-tested in New York City after-school programs.

### **Cultural Projects in 2013**







Left: International Arts Forum participant presenting his work Top Right: WYA Orchestra performing after the North America Emerging Leaders Conference Bottom Right: WYA Screening of "It's a Girl" at the United Nations

#### **Manhattan International Film Festival**

8 film directors traveled to New York from around the world to present at WYA's festival, which consisted of 15 short film screenings, a master class critique by film professor Sal Petrosino, and a keynote address by the London-based Pakistani-French filmmaker Jamil Dehlavi.

Following the festival, WYA presented the winning films at the **United Nations**, where 165 guests attended, including UN delegates. 20 musicians from the WYA Chamber Orchestra performed, and winning directors from the Philippines, Italy, and the United States screened 5 films. Both directors from the United States were present at the event to introduce their films, one of them a 2013 Academy Award nominee.

#### WYA Screening at the UN

Hosting the screening of "It's a Girl" at the **Commission on the Status of Women** presented an opportunity to highlight both WYA's work at the UN and the problem of coercive reproductive health programs.

#### **International Arts Forum**

In November, WYA hosted the 2nd Annual International Arts Forum for over 55 participants. The theme was *Art and Beauty: What is the role of beauty in art?* 11 applicants were selected out of 50 applicants, representing countries including the Philippines, Canada, United States, Italy, Kenya, and Mexico. James Panero, Executive Editor of *The New Criterion*; Dino Marcantonio, architect and former professor at Yale School of Architecture; and Wayne Adams, contemporary visual artist; all spoke, while IAF participants collaborated on a declaration examining the relationship between art and beauty.

#### **WYA Chamber Orchestra**

The WYA Chamber Orchestra performed at a series of venues during 2013, including at the United Nations, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York, the Manhattan International Film Festival, International Artists Forum, and North America Emerging Leaders Conference. The WYA Orchestra is an ensemble of young musicians aged 10-17 from Manhattan's most prestigious music programs, including the Juilliard School and Manhattan School of Music.

# **O7** Philanthropic Partner

#### Philanthropic Profile



#### Vinnie Santoro

Vincenzina ("Vinnie") Santoro is an international economist and former Vice President and Economist, JPMorgan & Co., Inc. She represents the American Family Association of New York at the United Nations.

#### A Symbiotic Relationship at the United Nations

At some point during the ten years I have been representing the American Family Association of New York at the United Nations, I heard a statement delivered at an annual meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women that stood out and made sense. The statement was delivered by Becky Austen, then Director of Advocacy for WYA.

I intercepted her as she was leaving the conference room and expressed my admiration of her statement's clarity. This was my first formal encounter with WYA, a relationship that has expanded both inside and outside of the UN as we uphold authentic human rights and values. We have established our own unique brand of intergenerational solidarity as we defend family, freedom, and fidelity, and the concept of life from conception to natural death.

WYA is special. It has a universal reach and attracts so many young people from countries around the world who dedicate their time, talent, and energy for a few years at the start of their professional lives to enhance the organization, carry out its tenets, and gain a holistic experience. As they leave the organization they take with them a firm grounding in morality, human dignity, and practical advocacy experience. WYA forms alumni to make significant contributions to the world at large. WYA is an example of globalization at its best.

As a youth organization, WYA has a "mandatory retirement age" of 30! Yes, WYA does lose talent.

Given my economic and banking background, I only can come up with a "personal parable" to describe what WYA does and means.

I compare WYA to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, which hires many young persons fresh out of college as research assistants and gives them valuable training and experience in financial markets only to see them leave after a few years, usually to join a large commercial bank or financial institution (at a much higher salary for sure). But the knowledge, wisdom, and understanding they take with them are so invaluable that it benefits the entire industry. The Fed is proud of its young alumni. The same can be said of WYA.

In founding WYA and abandoning her budding music career, Anna Halpine has gone from studying voice to giving voice to youth on the global stage. A provocative and dissonant message she heard 15 years ago at the UN sparked a response that began with a one-page rebuttal then blossomed over the years into a major organization with a global presence. To its alumni WYA is more than an *alma mater*; it is an all-embracing *alma mundi*!

### **Board Members & Leadership**

#### **Board Member Profile**



#### **Dr. Timothy Flanigan**

Dr. Flanigan is the Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at The Miriam Hospitals and Brown Medical School in Rhode Island, USA. He arrived at Brown in 1991 to help establish a network of primary care for HIV-infected individuals with a particular focus on women, substance abusers, and individuals leaving prison. Dr. Flanigan developed the HIV Core Program at the Rhode Island State Prison to provide care for HIV-infected individuals and link them to community-based resources upon release. Dr. Flanigan has been the principal director of The Miriam/Brown AIDS Clinical Trials Unit to develop more effective therapies for the treatment of HIV. He is also associate director of The Miriam/Brown Fogarty Program, which trains and mentors overseas investigators in HIV & AIDS. Because of his dedicated work focusing on the importance of routine testing for HIV in underserved communities and his development of outstanding primary care for these patients, he was the recipient of a community health leadership award from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. In 2005, he received an honorary doctorate from Salve Regina University in the United States for his support of educational opportunities for children of incarcerated parents. Dr. Flanigan currently serves on the Executive Board of the World Youth Alliance and is an advisor for WYA projects on HIV/AIDS.

George Weigel first introduced me to the World Youth Alliance when I was telling him about my medical work as an Infectious Diseases and Geographic Medicine Physician. Many of my patients have suffered the ravages of the intertwined epidemics of substance abuse, HIV and AIDS, and mental illness. Treating HIV with medications was the easy part. Grappling with the trauma of substance abuse, family disintegration, depression, anxiety, profound loneliness, and alienation was daunting. Tackling the challenges of the HIV/ AIDS epidemic requires a person-centered approach that recognizes the inestimable dignity of each individual. George insisted that I go to New York and meet Anna Halpine. He explained how the World Youth Alliance was the most articulate champion for the dignity of the person in the midst of environments such as New York and Brussels.

So I did what any sensible person does – I listened to George. I went to New York and met with Anna Halpine and Ann Seabright, the chair of WYA's Board of Directors. Anna and Ann discussed international and domestic policies that threatened the dignity of the person and the family. The World Youth Alliance existed to champion an authentic view of human dignity and enlist the commitment of youth to promote policies for the betterment of the human person and human family. I immediately signed up as a supporter and board member.

Working with Anna and WYA helped me better articulate a response to the challenges of today. These challenges are daunting: astronomical rates of HIV extending across the world, from regions in the south of Africa to neighborhoods in New York City, high rates of abortion in the South Bronx, and new norms of single motherhood for the majority of children born. The World Youth Alliance tirelessly examines the question: what is best for the human person? Countless groups of young people in Rwanda, Mexico, Kenya, Lebanon, Belgium, Philippines, Canada, and the United States are confronting these issues under the training and resources offered by the World Youth Alliance.

The World Youth Alliance specifically helped me, an HIV/AIDS doctor, articulate the importance of a person-centered response to the HIV epidemic. Protecting someone from spreading HIV is not enough. Helping an individual escape the slavery of drug addiction and prostitution should not take second place. Teaching youth that our sexuality is not another means for mere sensual pleasure but a gift integral to sacrificial love should be a priority for our confused culture.

How do we deal with the challenges of great human suffering? How do we promote solidarity, charity, and liberation from the incredible exploitation of corruption and totalitarianism?

Solidarity is more than just a word. Solidarity is the creation of friendships to laugh, struggle, and work together to face the hardest challenges of our day. The World Youth Alliance accomplishes this. Thank you, George Weigel, Anna Halpine, and Ann Seabright, for making my life much richer, more challenging, and more glorious.

#### **Board Members**

#### **Board of Directors**

- Ann Seabright Chair
- Anna Halpine
   Founder and Chief Executive Officer
   WYA Foundation
- Obadias Ndaba President, Ex-officio
- His Excellency Archbishop
   Charles Chaput
   And bishop of Philadeleleis

Archbishop of Philadelphia

- Dr. Timothy Flanigan
   Professor of Infectious Diseases
   Brown University School of Medicine
- Jean-Baptiste Douville de Franssu CEO, Incipit
- Mary Moorman, Ph.D.
- Mario Paredes
   Presidential Liaison

   American Bible Society
- Rev. Richard Ryscavage, S.J.
   Director, Center for Faith & Public Life Fairfield University

#### Andreas Widmer

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Oscar Beauttah

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- Senator Francisco Tatad
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   Former Senator, Philippine Senate
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- The Dowager Marchioness of Salisbury

WYA Europe

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- Habib Malik
   WYA Middle East
   Professor of History
   Lebanese American University, Byblos

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Paolo Carozza
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Mary Ann Glendon
Fenny Tatad
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Their Royal Highnesses Prince Nikolaus and Princess Margaretta of Liechtenstein The Lord Daniel Brennan H.E. Renato Cardinal Martino H.E. Christoph Cardinal Schönborn

#### Leadership

#### **WYA Foundation**

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 Founder and Chief Executive Officer

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- Maria Grizzetti
  Director of Development
- Alexis Kende
   Director of Cultural Programs
- Emily Dy

Director of Marketing

- Gabrielle Jastrebski
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   Education Program Coordinator
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   Director of Education
- Meghan Fischer, J.D.
   Research and Policy Specialist
- Lourdes Villanueva
   Social Media Consultant

• Kaye Tan

Multimedia Manager

- Leah Bromberg
   International Director of Operations
- Desiree Venturanza
   Operations & HR Administrator
- Weronika Janczuk
  Editorial Assistant

#### **WYA Headquarters**

 Obadias Ndaba President

#### **WYA Africa**

- Hannah Ondiek Director
- Roderick Obeja
   Director of Operations

#### **WYA Asia Pacific**

- Christine Violago
  Director
- Lilia Cornelio
  Director of Operations

#### **WYA Europe**

- Daniel Wisniewski
   Director
- Agnes King
   Director of Operations
- Juan Ignacio Fernandez Torres
  Director of Advocacy

#### **WYA Latin America**

- Jessica Baptista
   Director
- Kateri Salas
   Director of Operations

#### **WYA Middle East**

- Cedric Choukeir
   Director
- Bruna Kesserwani
   Director of Operations

#### **WYA North America**

- Clare Halpine
  - Director
- Marie Murray
   Director of Operations

### **Upcoming Events**

May		September	
11-15	Summer Camp, WYA Asia Pacific	10	Manhattan International Film Festival
15	International Day of the Family		Screening, WYA Europe
26-29	School Tour in Costa Rica, WYA Latin America	18-19	Emerging Leaders Conference, WYA Africa
28	Costa Rica Emerging Leaders	25-27	Emerging Leaders Conference, WYA Asia Pacific
	Conference, WYA Latin America		
		October	
June		10	Emerging Leaders Conference, WYA Europe
3-5	OAS General Assembly, WYA Latin America	17	Emerging Leaders Conference,
9-13	School Tour in Paraguay, WYA Latin America		WYA Latin America
18	Manhattan International Film Festival	17-19	Emerging Leaders Conference,
	Manila Screening, WYA Asia Pacific		WYA North America
23-27	Regional Tour in Jakarta,	24-25	Emerging Leaders Conference, WYA Middle East
	Indonesia, WYA Asia Pacific	26-29	Regional Gathering of Certified
			Members, WYA Middle East
July			
14-18	Regional Tour in Central Visayas,	November	
	Philippines, WYA Asia Pacific	7-9	International Arts Forum
27-Aug 10	International Summer Camp, New York	15	iFaith Lecture Series, WYA Asia Pacific
August		December	
4-8	Regional Tour in Bangkok,	5	Charity Event, WYA Latin America
4-0	Thailand, WYA Asia Pacific	6	Christmas Outreach, WYA Asia Pacific
	manana, W IA Asia Facilic	0	Chilistinas Outreach, WTA Asia Facilic

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### **Budget**

Thailand, WYA Asia Pacific

11-14 Regional School Tour in Chile,

15 Chile Emerging Leaders Conference,

WYA Latin America

WYA Latin America

#### **Expenses**

Grants 392,394.00 Travel 54,509.00 Scholarship Program 5,092.00 Stipends-Interns 4,025.00 Staff Salaries and Tax 492,228.00 Insurance 3,255.00 **Professional Fees** 200,325.00 Office Supplies, Equipment, Software 43,341.00 Printing, Publications, Postage 10,694.00 Rent and Utilities 133,601.00 40,050.00 Meetings and Events Other Fees 3,285.00

**Total Expenses** \$1,382,799.00

#### **Income**

Individual Gifts Unrestricted 832,336.00 Institutional Gifts Unrestricted 240,000.00 Templeton Grant 315,078.00 Other Income 12,586.00 **Total Income** \$1,400,000.00 **Total Income** 1,400,000.00 **Total Expenses** 1,382,799.00 **Net Income** \$17,201.00

12 Christmas Party, WYA North America

### World **Youth** Alliance

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