



World **Youth** Alliance



# 2019

ANNUAL REPORT



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## VIKTOR FRANKL AWARDEE



**Angel de la Flor**  
Asia Pacific

*“WYA brims with opportunities for many young people and it always has a big room for members who are willing to step out and serve!”*

Angel became a regional intern with the Asia Pacific office in 2013. She was a youth delegate for the 58th session of the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations and represented the Asia Pacific region as a delegate of the 11th International Solidarity Forum at the WYA Headquarters in New York. Over the years, she participated in local and international conferences to represent WYA. The most memorable was the WYA and CIAM Youth Synod Colloquium in Rome, Italy in 2017.

# 1

## Letter from the Founder



**Anna Halpine**

World Youth Alliance  
**Founder**

Dear Friends,

In March 2019, we celebrated 20 years of WYA with our founding staff in New York City. That evening remains a highpoint in capturing the joy and emotion of this milestone for us. As we continue forward in our work, we share the remarks of that evening with you as a summary of these years and a tribute to the friendships that have been the cause and foundation of all that we continue to do.

*Over the past 20 years, WYA was born, it grew into six global regions, welcomed hundreds of thousands of members, changed international policy, and developed global program responses to protect the dignity of each human person and to fight and oppose everything that violates the human person. The Human Dignity Curriculum has been launched for grades K-8. FEMM is a woman's health program that advances research and education to provide better diagnosis and treatment.*

*Tonight I am thrilled to announce that in addition to our growing number of partners, WYA has finalized a partnership with the Tanzanian Episcopal Conference to bring WYA, FEMM and HDC to its 9 universities, its network of over 500 secondary schools, and 500 clinics, 57 hospitals, 8 nursing schools, and 1 medical school. These institutions currently serve almost 20 million people in Tanzania. With this partnership, WYA's programs will expand and cascade to all of these young people and families, and, further, build a training hub for program expansion across Africa.*

*But tonight is mostly a celebration of friendship.*

*Cicero says "Life is nothing without friendship" and also "the sifts of fortune test the reliability of friends."*

*As an aside, since I don't know how long I'll last before the tears come, Job, in the book of Job, speaks of the witness of friends "as my eyes pour their tears out". I'll certainly be doing that as well.*

*Kathryn Hoomkwap, whom we remember with our award tonight, was an early and great friend to WYA. A member of Government, a civic leader, one of the founders of the Catholic Women's League of Nigeria, and an entrepreneur, she was one of the first Board members for WYA. This award honors her friendship to us, and recognizes among our members and alumni, these same qualities of friendship, commitment to our mission, and action in the face of need that she demonstrated so well.*

# Letter from the Founder

*And now to our honorees. It is our special joy to honor our founding regional staff and to have so many of them with us here this evening for the first time in over a decade. It is not possible to look back on these last 20 years without thinking of each of them, and the contributions they made to building the organization we have today.*

*Proverbs tells us that “An honest answer is the sign of true friendship.” In the early days, a donor took me clothes shopping in her closet, and Mark de Young, always so encouraging, exclaimed “the homely Anna is gone!”. But why invest in clothes when a ride to the airport in Mark’s car, supposedly to save costs on a taxi, involved standing up out of the sunroof and serving as human windshield wipers when a sudden downpour came upon us and the wipers didn’t work? Melinda informed me who really did the work around here the week she sprayed down the termites in our office and answered FBI questions about an internship applicant of ours that had fallen into the wrong hands (we did not accept him).*

*On a visit to Africa, Caroline Shisubili commented, very matter of factly, “you’re looking great, Annie, and I think you’ve gained 2.5 kilos”. At Caroline’s wedding, in Nairobi, I first met Esther. I was to stay some days to work with her and train her in WYA as she joined our staff. She shared later that she was overawed with the idea of spending five days alone with the Founder of the World Youth Alliance, until she saw me on the dance floor. To add color to this remark, I can say that Caroline had a beautiful African dress made for me to wear to her reception, while all the great African dancers showed up in their western garb for the party.*

*During early staff meetings, usually on day 5, when I had already lost my voice from discussing day and night, Jesus would invariably say “I love everything we’re talking about here, but I just have one small question: what do we actually do?” Gustavo would then break out the guitar to calm us with Mexican songs, while leading discussions about ‘NY skyscrapers’.*

*Erika drafted all our early policies and manuals, and would then meticulously follow them. She was – and is – very competitive, and always wanted to know the metrics of other regions before setting her own. “We want to win” she said, stating the obvious. Tam worked out our partnership with Gawad Kalinga, and later worked for their important housing and development work, but reprimanded us, saying she “wanted to be called beautiful, not cute.”*

# Letter from the Founder

*Guadrin spoke "honest answers" to me at almost all times, wondering, often, almost always out loud, how someone with a music degree could know anything. At a lecture she gave in Austria once, she suggested it must be "infused knowledge". I have always enjoyed hearing that when her father in law asked her about her favorite music, she panicked and tried to think of a Classical reference. "Shubert", she said. "Good", said her father in law. "He was a great son of Vienna. Which Symphony do you love best?" "The 10th", said Guadrin, showing her hand. This music student and her father in law both know that Shubert died before finishing his 9th, which is why it is called "the unfinished". Guadrin was never one to shy away from big claims, and big challenges. Olly tried to hold WYA together with cups of tea in those early years, though by night she would confess to a stash of the finest Portuguese Port, which we enjoyed more than once. Leila taught us to separate the wheat from the chaff, so to speak, as we hunted for donors in those early cocktail years: those wondering how to fix the roof of their country home were friends but not donors. Zrinka exhibited that wonderful Eastern Europe sensibility I love; it was fine that we could not pay her, she said, since payment would ruin the purity of her great experience of working with us.*

*We gave everything we had and more; and were rewarded with the finest friendships imaginable, and an organization still growing and strong. We wandered sometimes, not always sure of every element, but never lost; we challenged, and argued, and spent days and nights and months figuring out the big ideas that infuse the heart of WYA and its strategy. We wanted, then and now, to win.*

*Today we celebrate these years of work and friendship, as well as the growth and advances now emerging. It is more than we deserve, and more than we imagined. As we head into this third decade, our growth and partnerships now exceed the promise of those early years. There is the tantalizing thought that we could win; that we are on track to change hearts and minds, as well as culture and policy. Tonight, this merry band who began together are reunited once again.*



Anna Halpine

**WYA Founder**

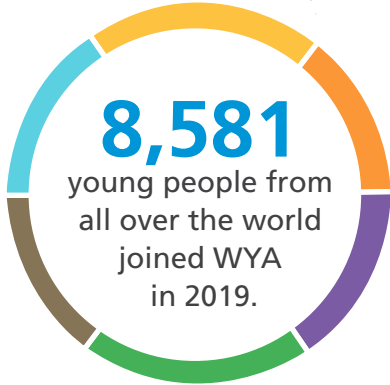
# 2

## Global Expansion | Membership Growth



### Number of new members per region

<b>Africa</b>	<b>2,274</b>	<b>Latin America</b>	<b>1,129</b>
<b>Asia Pacific</b>	<b>2,995</b>	<b>Middle East</b>	<b>614</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>1,285</b>	<b>North America</b>	<b>284</b>



### VIKTOR FRANKL AWARDEE



**Joseph Atulo**  
Africa

*"I believe that every WYA member has what it takes to contribute to the growth of WYA. This should include getting involved in the programs and understanding what you can bring to the table and not only what WYA can give you or your community."*

Joseph first met WYA in a conference organized at his school. This prompted him to apply for the regional internship. Even though his first application in 2017 did not go through, he didn't let that stop him. He then applied in 2018 after which he was accepted. After his internship, Joseph remains involved in the chapters and club programs where he helps high school students with the Certified Training Program.



WYA Headquarters Batch 3 Interns, 2019



### Certified Training Program (CTP)

**Certified Training Program (CTP):** The CTP is the foundation for our leadership training. The 400-page collection provides the philosophical underpinnings for the mission of WYA which presents a summary of philosophical, historical, and modern-day texts that focus on the dignity of the person and human rights. Certified members usually take their membership to the next step by becoming interns, Chapter or Committee leaders, CTP trainers, advocacy volunteers, and more. This year, 265 members completed the CTP. Following the official launch of the Training of Trainers in early 2019, a pioneer group of 46 trainers were also certified in all regional offices.



### Chapter and National Committee Expansion

**Chapter and National Committee Expansion:** In 2019, WYA welcomed 27 new Chapters and Committees – enjoying 68% growth from last year. This includes new Chapters in the high school, university, province/state, and country level. The leap from 16 to 27 new Chapters and Committees in 2019 has shown our members' excitement in bringing WYA to their communities. Chapters and National Committees are formed by committed WYA Members who successfully complete WYA's Certified Training Program, equipping members to articulate and defend the principles of the dignity of the person within the public square.



### Internship Program

**Internship Program:** 69 active members completed the internship program under the regional offices around the world. After its initial launch last year, over 14 members successfully underwent the online internship. The WYA internship is an opportunity for members to gain training and hands-on experiences for building a culture of life in a professional setting. The online internship offers the same opportunity for members who, although unable to travel to the physical regional office, are able to lead projects that uniquely cater to their skills.

## Number of new Chapters and National Committees

AFRICA

4

ASIA PACIFIC

2

EUROPE

7

LATIN AMERICA

6

MIDDLE EAST

5

NORTH AMERICA

3

*Participants of the Youth for Human Dignity and Human Rights project organized by WYA Austria*

At WYA, we believe the growth of our chapters and committees is measurable by the value of the members we have. Every year, WYA leaders inspire us with how they live out the CTP by their enthusiasm in sharing it with their locality.

A sure proof of this was how WYA leaders quickly picked up the Training of Trainers (TOT) program in all regions. After its initial launch in 2018, the creation of the online TOT became a driving force in 2019.

This was complemented with the vibrant regional activity that was already in place. The opening of the new Office for Southeast Europe (WYA SEE) in Zagreb, Croatia in the beginning of the year traces its roots as an active WYA Chapter. The WYA SEE office continues to be a success story that motivate our Chapters and Committees all over the world.

In 2019, WYA Europe, together with the SEE office, delivered the TOT program to 25 new Trainers in 10 European WYA Chapters: Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Kosovo, Slovakia, Romania, Hungary, Spain, the Netherlands, and Poland. The new trainers were excited to teach the CTP in their respective Chapters, helping WYA Europe lead membership certification this year with 132 newly certified members.

Meanwhile, the TOT became a transformative way to engage the Latin America region. The result? The Latin America region also led chapter growth in 2019 with 4 new National Chapters in Colombia, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Paraguay. A National Committee and high school club were also launched in Mexico City. This would not have been possible without the active LA members-turned-trainers that supplement the high demand for WYA's programs.



2019 was a busy WYA year for Latin America: Three new members were welcomed in the Mexico National Committee, WYA Guatemala conducted CTP sessions with about 20 trainees in Guatemala City, while WYA Colombia and WYA Paraguay certified new members (with some pursuing the Headquarters Internship in New York). Meanwhile, WYA Dominican Republic helped acquire new members and promoted the CTP through school visitations.

The same energy could be found in the Middle East region. An online TOT with WYA Leaders from Tunisia, Lebanon, and Morocco also took place. This was to support the ongoing CTP sessions led by WYA Morocco and the Lebanon National Committee in partner institutions like the Lebanese American University and American University of Beirut.

**The message is loud and clear: WYA's training equips our members and they are ready to lead. In maintaining a strong network of trainers, it also assures quality, continuity, and growth.**

The reopening of the United States National Committee in 2019 follows this strategy. Composed of intern alumni and CTP Trainers, we look forward to seeing how the US National Committee can aid in promoting WYA programs in their country.

Capping off 2019 was the official NGO registration of the WYA Ethiopia Chapter. Founded by a certified WYA member who finished his training in Prague, he was compelled to bring the CTP home. After coordinating with the Africa office, the Ethiopia Chapter is set to hold their first round of CTP sessions in 2020.

## VIKTOR FRANKL AWARDEE



**María Renée Estrada**  
Latin America

*“For me, WYA means everything that my heart has always longed for myself, the world and the people around me. It means hope, that through education, arts and advocacy, we can transform the world into a better place for everyone.”*

Maria Renee completed the Certified Training Program (CTP) and the regional internship in Mexico in 2014. She calls the CTP her second big crush and the third, WYA's Human Dignity Curriculum. The latter she had the chance to execute during a pilot run in Mexico during her internship. In 2015, Maria Renee participated in the International Solidarity Forum where she deepened her understanding and application of HDC and FEMM. This led her to take the FEMM Teacher Training Course. Today, she leads the WYA Guatemala Chapter and teaches CTP sessions to her peers.



WYA Europe delegates at the 2019 ELC

# 3

## Echoes of Solidarity: Emerging Leaders Conferences

The Emerging Leaders Conference (ELC) aims at educating WYA members on the concept of human dignity as it relates to a given theme. The regional ELCs are derived from the International Solidarity Forum (ISF) which is held at the United Nations and World Youth Alliance headquarters in New York City. Every year, certified members from different countries gather at the ISF to examine an issue of topical importance. At the end of each Forum, members negotiate a final declaration.

The discussion in every regional ELC is formed by the ISF Declaration for that year. The theme for 2019 was Good Governance and Human Flourishing. The Latin America and Middle East region were not able to hold their own conferences due to staff transitions. Meanwhile, the WYA Africa ELC was also cancelled to focus their efforts on participating at the 2019 Nairobi Summit.

### 2019 Global Theme: Good Governance and Human Flourishing

#### Regional Themes:

##### Asia Pacific:

Inner Heights, A Youth Dialogue & Forum on Good Governance

##### Europe:

Meet the New European Parliament

##### North America:

The Greater Call, A Forum on Good Governance and Human Flourishing



WYA Asia Pacific delegates at the 2019 ELC

#### Asia Pacific

With over 20 participants from the Philippines and Singapore and a roster of speakers from different industries, the WYA Asia Pacific ELC was a fulfilling three days of talks, workshops and breakout sessions that encouraged young leaders to look at good governance through the realm of the self. Unique in approach, this was the first WYAAP ELC held outside the city of Manila. The delegates were chosen based on their dedication towards honing their leadership potential and their passion to better serve their communities. This was exercised each day through focused talks and workshops that promoted a heightened sense of shared responsibility in each person—the core of good governance.



## Europe

From July 8 - 10, 2019, WYA Europe hosted the main activity of their Erasmus Plus sponsored Project "Meet the new EU Parliament" in Brussels, the heart of Europe. As the 8th annual Emerging Leader Conference (ELC), this conference was organised by WYA Austria and WYA Europe in collaboration with partner organisations from 10 other European countries. This year's theme introduced the newly elected EU Parliament and covered three main topics: health, education and active youth citizenship in the EU. Young participants from 12 countries and more than 20 nationalities gathered together to interact with policy makers, experts and leaders on current European and global issues.

Participants got the chance to have an open dialogue with several MEPs at the 2019 ELC in Brussels



## North America

WYA North America closed the year with an ELC at the WYA New York office. Keynote speaker Dr. Mark Shiffman of Villanova University gave a presentation on the theoretical side of governance and the need for a comprehensive understanding of human dignity to be the foundation for just politics. His talk was followed by Mene Ukueberuwa of The Wall Street Journal, who presented opposing approaches to development by mentioning examples from 19th and 20th century United States. After the conference, WYA held a special screening of Year Zero, the winner of the 2019 Manhattan International Film Festival. Film director David Siev was in attendance along with his father Chun Siev.

WYA North America hosts 2019 ELC in New York

## VIKTOR FRANKL AWARDEE



**Dominic Mangino**  
North America

*"I've learned that communicating WYA's vision of the human person is not always easy and is sometimes met with great resistance. But it is always worthwhile."*

Dominic first learned about WYA when he heard WYA Founder Anna Halpine speak while he was spending a semester studying in Rome. This opened the door to many opportunities. Not only did he get to attend an Emerging Leaders Conference (ELC) in New York, he also presented in the Philadelphia edition of the ELC. Dominic shares that the highlight of these opportunities was the trip to Taiwan to represent WYA North America at the Global Youth Forum in 2018.



*The 2019 Kathryn Hoomkwap Awardees with the WYA Founder, Anna Halpine*

**It's not glamorous. It was never about the money. It wasn't even about New York.... It became very real that the work that we do, with or without heating (or) air conditioning, is gonna happen. With or without a stipend, you're gonna find young people who'll want to do this because it's what we have to do. And, honestly it was a lot of fun.** Tamara Tan-Azaña, First WYA Asia Pacific Regional Director of Operations

March 2019 was a festive time for the WYA community. It was spent reconnecting with WYA members and alumni who flew in from all over the world. A highlight of the March events was the official film screening of the Not for Profit Documentary. It traced the experiences of the individuals who established the first five WYA regional offices. The documentary showcased how WYA's story was and continues to be a story of hope. 20 years after Anna Halpine chose to stand up for the dignity of the person, this commitment in WYA members remains ablaze.

Our members continue to turn to the place where they first fell in love with learning about the dignity of the person: the Certified Training Program (CTP). Their excitement to launch the Training of Trainers (TOT) Program, a module that equips our best certified members to teach the CTP, gained great speed. It resulted to an online version of the TOT program, which was quickly piloted by active Chapter leaders who already had a group of peers waiting to dive into the material.

As 2019 progressed, so did the TOT's expansion. Active members continued to ask how they can continue to contribute to WYA's mission. An outcome of this was the eventual release of the TOT Trainer Levels where CTP Trainers are assessed according to what kind of trainer they can be. Level 3 Trainers, the highest tier, are given the chance to be trained on how to check submissions.

It has been the solution to our good problem of keeping up with the increasing number of young people who want to learn about the dignity of the human person. But on their end, trainers would express that the chance to re-encounter the CTP provides nourishment and helps them navigate how they live and lead today.

The CTP, now complimented by the TOT, revitalized the WYA Chapter and Committee landscape in 2019. A prime example of this was the great growth in chapters and trainees led by the newly opened WYA Southeast Europe (a chapter turned office located in Croatia). Members in both old and newly opened Chapters and Committees now aspire to be trainers after the CTP. The fire lit and kept on in learning that their WYA journey is just beginning. This gave way to an abundant 2019, with our target number of new Chapters and Committees surpassed.

The shift to an online platform has also been applied to the WYA internship program. The internship, a key program that allows us to train our members in a professional setting, has been essential in forming leaders all over the world. Our stellar roster of founding directors has proven this and points to the value of making the internship accessible more than ever. Fortunately, the launch of the WYA online in ternship in 2018 continued its trajectory with our target numbers exceeded for 2019.

Ever onward into the next 20 years, the words of Olivia Raw (WYA Europe's first Director of Operations) ring in our ears:

**When you begin to see people's lives change or the penny drops and they understand that ideas can change your own life and it can change the lives of the people around you, that it can change a culture; then why wouldn't you do it? Of course you would.**



## 5

## Defending Human Dignity: The WYA Advocacy Response

WYA's theory of change is rooted in an understanding of the policy wheel, which recognizes the relationship between policy, funding, and programs (implementation). WYA recognized that policy advocacy cannot be successful without the ability to offer programs which concretely implement and respect human dignity.

The Human Dignity Curriculum (HDC) and Fertility Education and Medical Management (FEMM) are WYA's answers to the challenges facing the definition of the human person today. Believing that societies are only as strong as their ability to protect the most vulnerable, these two programs invest in the development and personal education of our children and provide a new paradigm of health care for adolescents and women.



TeenFEMM Program, New York

### VIKTOR FRANKL AWARDEE



**Nourhan Mokahal**

Middle East

*"World Youth Alliance is just like a spring for human flourishing....it represents a whole journey toward the purpose of humanity and the meaning of human dignity."*

Nourhan first got acquainted with WYA in 2016 when a Facebook post caught her eye. It made her think about the concept of human dignity and how she applies it in her own life. In that moment, she decided to check out the organization by reading the blogs written by WYA members. This urged her to join the community. Since then, she has represented WYA in multiple instances, the most memorable being the 'Be Enterprising, Be Bold' Erasmus + Project where WYA Middle East was a partner. Nourhan is also an active member of the Lebanon National Committee.

## 5

## Defending Human Dignity: The WYA Advocacy Response



*WYA Africa Staff, trainers, and teachers with the WYA President, Lord Pomperada in Kenya*

Alongside its programs, WYA continued to be a strong presence in the ongoing conversations for the International Conference on Population & Development (ICPD). In late 2019, WYA representatives attended the ICPD25 Nairobi Summit in Kenya. WYA's attendees found that the Summit focused heavily on the promotion of abortion, comprehensive sexuality education, and increasing the contraceptive prevalence rate. WYA shared daily news on the Summit with our members and allies (including highlights from these meetings), provided key support in drafting statements for partners, and developed a post event analysis. The WYA team also participated in a counter-conference in Nairobi designed to offer alternatives.



A new White Paper on Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia was also launched in 2019. The paper examines critical legal, ethical, and medical aspects of assisted suicide and euthanasia, practices which are the subject of growing advocacy movements around the world.

# 5

## Defending Human Dignity: Notable HDC Developments for 2019



*Human Dignity Curriculum in Manila, Philippines*

### Africa

The HDC partnership with the Mercy Education Office in Kenya kicked off this year with a Teacher Training. Twenty new HDC teachers led pilots in two schools in Kenya for over 134 students. WYA was also able to introduce the HDC at the Nairobi Summit Conference held at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa in Kenya.

### Europe

The HDC remains a favorite for many Chapter-led activities in Europe. In 2019, WYA Romania implemented the HDC for 100 new students in Iasi. Meanwhile, WYA Croatia taught the HDC to two primary schools in Zagreb. A partner organization also translated the HDC into Hungarian.

### Asia Pacific

WYAAP successfully implemented the HDC in three unique settings in 2019. The first was at a barangay (village) level in Malate, Manila. Thirty three graduates from financially challenged backgrounds underwent the HDC as a character formation program hosted by the local government. The next two HDC implementations were in Surigao City and Del Carmen, Siargao. The implementations in both Surigao and Siargao were endorsed by the Philippine Department of Education. The intensive HDC in Siargao trained 34 Supreme Student Government Officers from different high schools. Meanwhile, the Surigao intensive HDC was also in partnership with the Surigao Youth Convergence.





HDC sessions in Iași City conducted by WYA Romania

## Middle East

2019 marked the start of the HDC in all the regions. The curriculum made its debut in the Middle East through an HDC partnership penned with Houssam El Dine Hariri High School (HHHS) in South of Lebanon in early March 2019. An introductory session was led for over 120 students by the WYA Middle East office. The HDC was then implemented as part of the 7th grade IB Social Studies subject and the 7th grade (learning support) brain activities program of the school.

## North America

A new Teacher Training model was developed by the WYA team following an HDC training with Holy Cross Catholic School in the Bronx. The new format focused on exploring key curriculum content and interactive workshops with the teachers that would help roll out their school-wide implementation. Following the training, Holy Cross Elementary School was excited to train even their non-teaching staff in using the language of excellence found in the HDC. They fully integrated the program in their Kindergarten to Grade 8 classes by the end of 2019.

## VIKTOR FRANKL AWARDEE



**Clara Wedel**

Europe

*“Although it might feel like it sometimes, I am not alone in the way I view the world. WYA has shown me that there are people from all over the world who support my view on the dignity of the human person and have a similar opinion on what freedom means.”*

Clara first heard about WYA through her older siblings, Elisabeth and Moritz, who had both done regional internships in Brussels. While in her 2nd semester of studying Chemistry and Biochemistry in Munich, Clara ended up taking the Certified Training Program. Later on, she was able to do a FEMM Training Course in Malta.

## 5

## Defending Human Dignity: The WYA Advocacy Response | Fertility Education and Medical Management

FEMM is a comprehensive women's health program that aims to address the global crisis in women's health. FEMM provides education for women about their body and hormonal health, an app to track their health and fertility, and medical support when required. FEMM collaborates with the Reproductive Health Research Institute (RHRI) in the development of medical research, protocols, and medical training. FEMM's knowledge-based reproductive health education program provides women crucial information to monitor their own health and fertility, empowering them to make informed decisions about the choice and delivery of their medical care and services.



FEMM continued to grow in 2019, with ongoing trainings for medical providers for Europe and the US (over 111 medical providers trained), and FEMM health coaches and teachers (over 149 trained). This continues to expand the global network of health care providers needed to offer FEMM's model of care worldwide.

### MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

Medically inclined WYA members continue to look to FEMM as a manifestation of WYA's mission to defend the dignity of the person in the field of reproductive health. In the Philippines, WYA Asia Pacific partnered with the Universitas Foundation to introduce the FEMM Medical Training to their medical network. The Mercy Medical Centre in Nairobi also partnered with WYA Africa in having 18 medical professionals from their organization undergo the Medical Management Training.

WYA closed out its 20th year with a deep commitment to our mission and an experience of new challenges. In the cybersphere, FEMM took hits online due to misinformation campaigns. After a physical protest and several misleading articles, FEMM still emerged from 2019 with more than 45,000 new app downloads. WYA members, alongside true and satisfied FEMM clients and users, voiced out how FEMM expands women's health choices and information for all women. WYA and FEMM continue to work together to assure that this global and scientific platform can continue to help women better understand their bodies and make informed decisions about their own healthcare.

## 6 Philanthropic and Board Profiles

### Kathryn Hoomkwap Award

Every year, the Kathryn Hoomkwap award recognizes WYA alumni for distinguished service in defense of the dignity of the human person. It was named in memory of Kathryn Hauwa Hoomkwap, a political leader and social scientist who is remembered for her fearlessness and conviction. She served as a member of the WYA International Board from 2005-2008.

To celebrate two decades of pursuing the WYA mission, the Kathryn Hoomkwap Award was presented to the twelve founding directors who established the first regional offices in Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin America, and North America.

### 2019 Awardees



**Caroline Shisubili Maingi** hails from Nairobi, Kenya. She studied Political Science for her undergraduate degree before taking Philosophy and Ethics for her Masters in Strathmore University. She is a Doctoral Fellow in the United States International University – Africa and currently lectures on Philosophy and Ethics at Strathmore University. In 2003, she helped establish WYA Africa as a legal entity and led its expansion, recruitment, and fundraising as its first director. She now sits as its board member and advisor.

Hailing from the Rift Valley in Kenya, **Esther Kanyi Kairu** holds a Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences degree from Catholic University of Eastern Africa University. She is currently pursuing a Masters Degree in Management in Agribusiness at Strathmore Business School. After volunteering for a year, Esther became a WYA intern in New York in 2004. She was soon appointed as the first Regional Director of Operations in 2005 where she served for three years. She now serves as an advisor to the Africa Regional Steering Committee.



## 2019 Awardees



In 2004, WYA's global internship allowed **Erika Tatad** to work with members from all over the world, complete the Certified Training Program, lead the 1st International Solidarity Forum and learn the impact of policy on the global, regional and community levels. Afterwards, she established the Asia Pacific office in Manila, Philippines and served as Regional Director from 2004-2007. Currently, she is a Director at xchange, a philanthropic Philippine impact first incubator that invests in early-stage impact enterprises and provides mentorship to help them achieve scale. Erika completed her International Diploma Programs in Global Business Management and Marketing from UC Berkeley.

**Tamara Tan-Azaña** graduated with a degree in AB Social Sciences, with a minor in Cultural Heritage from Ateneo de Manila. She joined Erika Tatad's first group of externs in 2005 and did the New York internship in the same year. She eventually served as the first WYA Asia Pacific Regional Director of Operations from 2006-2008. Tamara has worked at the Philippine Senate, and with Gawad Kalinga Community Development Foundation, continuing to defend the dignity of the person in national legislation, and on the ground with urban and rural poor communities in the Philippines. She and her husband, Tom, also established a social enterprise, Spiral Sun Travel and Tours.



MMag. Dr. **Gudrun Kugler**, Mts majored in Law and Theological Studies on Marriage and the Family. She holds a PhD in International Law and serves as a member of the Austrian parliament (ÖVP), and is the human rights spokesperson of her party. From 2001 to 2004, she worked as a director of WYA Europe. Gudrun was a member of Vienna's Regional Parliament from October 2015 where she covered human rights, European affairs, and integration of refugees. She also founded the Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe.

**Olivia Raw** is a registered child and adolescent psychotherapist with the British Association of Counsellors and Psychotherapists. Olivia has worked in schools as a therapist for 11 years, both in the state and private sector. She is also a Catholic Chaplain at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University. She trained in psychodynamic counselling and works creatively, using art therapy and CBT techniques, depending on her clients' needs. Olivia was the Europe Director of Operations for 3 years, helping set up the first Brussels office. Olivia serves on WYA's International Board of Directors.



## 2019 Awardees



**Zrinka Cornij** was a summer intern with the first WYA team in the New York Headquarters. Serving as Programs Officer with the founding European directors, establishing a presence in the EU capital, and networking with young and dedicated friends from around Europe, she saw even more clearly the great relevance of WYA's work. Her work for a Croatian MEP at the European parliament in Brussels often brings her in contact with WYA today and they continue to have good mutual cooperation.

**Leila d'Ansembourg** works in the southern Netherlands on a family estate. Before this, she worked for Europe4Christ, a platform that deepens the knowledge of Christians on issues that seem "difficult" to address in public and creates a network to preserve Europe's Christian roots. In her four years as Europe's Director of Advocacy, she helped start the Brussels office, worked on key issues like euthanasia, stem cell research, and the project Europe4Family. Through her membership of the Order of Malta and of the Zonnebloem, she is now involved in taking care of handicapped, sick, lonely elderly people, and advocating against euthanasia.



**Jesús Rivera Alaniz** is from Mexico City. He studied Industrial Engineering, holds a Master's Degree in Administration, and did an Executive Program of Management Development at IPADE Business School. He works as Director of Development at IPADE Business School in Mexico and has professional experience in the private and public sectors. After a year of volunteering, he worked full time to develop WYA in the Latin America region. He served as a WYA staff member for 6 years, from 2001-2007.

## 2019 Awardees

**Gustavo Lorenzo** served as the first Director of Operations for WYA Latin America. He holds an Industrial Engineering degree and has over eighteen years of experience in IT and Management Consulting, Strategic Planning and Operations Management across countries and industries, including Financial Services, Public Sector, Retail, and Telecommunications. Currently, he works for Deloitte Consulting. He was appointed as University Dean and Director of Operations for an educational institution that plays an important role in being the liaison with non-governmental organizations with the UN, OAS, and Mexican government.



**Mark DeYoung** is currently completing a degree in moral theology at The Catholic University of America. After serving as the first WYA North American Director, Mark was the director of communications for a business association committed to forming ethical leaders, followed by a short stint as a marketing manager for a new web technology company. A former seminarian of the Archdiocese of New York, he is currently a trustee of the Catholic Finance Association, a membership organization that seeks to explore issues in Catholic social teaching. He is also part owner of Ave Maria Singles, a Catholic online dating website.

**Melinda Mounsey - O'Brien** began volunteering with WYA in 1999. She became the first NA Director of Operations in 2001. In this role, she joined Anna in emptying and painting the broom closet that became WYA's first headquarters. She helped develop WYA as an international organization, applied for and received ECOSOC status for WYA at the United Nations, and helped develop the earliest versions of the internship and training programs. After WYA, Melinda devoted her time to building a culture of life in a more domestic setting. She helped found and is the president of a homeschooling cooperative in Westchester County, where she also teaches World History.



## The Mary R. Smith Award

The Mary R. Smith Award was established to recognize individuals who have rendered distinguished service to the mission of the WYA. The award honors the legacy of Mary R. Smith, who provided critical support and encouragement to WYA's mission during its founding years. Elisabeth is the sixth recipient of the Mary R. Smith Award. As one of Mary's grandchildren, the award is a fitting tribute to their family's long-standing commitment to WYA.

Elisabeth (Bissy) Budnik was an early WYA member having interned at the New York Headquarters in 2007. She soon became a generous and devoted friend, contributing to the early growth and development of WYA, the establishment of its regional offices, and its sister organization, Fertility Education and Medical Management (FEMM). She met her sweetheart, John Budnik, through WYA events and they are now happily married with a growing family of five children. Currently, she is training to become a teacher for both the Human Dignity Curriculum (HDC) and FEMM.



### Elisabeth Budnik

#### Remarks at the World Youth Alliance Dinner

Acceptance of the Mary R. Smith Award for  
Extraordinary Service in the Defense of Human Dignity

*The Union Club, New York*

*October 3, 2019*

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I'm so honored to be here tonight. Anything I've done or given to World Youth Alliance pales in what they've given to me.

When I met Anna, and the World Youth Alliance, I was a young college student floundering for meaning and cause. Dissatisfied with the world and unsure of what to do, everyone around me told me how terrible everything was and how the institutions should be demolished. Only the World Youth Alliance proposed a constructive solution of how to actually make the world better.

And that was the vision that I saw. That there was something I could actually do that would improve the world for the long run, for myself, for my children, for their children... And it has only grown through the years.

FEMM has been life changing for me. I've visited their clinic in Columbus, multiple times, including and perhaps, to me, most importantly, after the birth of my second child and my second cesarean. FEMM helped me to reach good enough health that I've been able to have two vaginal births after two caesareans, which some doctors consider a daring feat, but FEMM merely considers my right. I'm allowed to choose. With truly informed consent. It's hard to get that from doctors and finding ones who support you makes all the difference.

## **Only the World Youth Alliance proposed a constructive solution of how to actually make the world better.**

And now, there's an App which I have used, since it became available, and share it as often as I can with young mothers and other women struggling with fertility, who want alternatives to: "something's wrong, well we'll put you on the pill." Band-aid on a gunshot.

The FEMM Teacher training program will allow me to share this knowledge with all of the people I know who need it. So, you've given me so much more than I could ever give to you. Thank you.





## WYA Staff

### WYA Foundation

**Founder:** Anna Halpine

**Director of Advocacy:** Nadja Wolfe

**Director of Partnerships for Europe:** Hrvoje Vargic

**Multimedia Manager:** Pauline Superable

### WYA Headquarters

**President:** Lord Pomperada

**International Director of Operations:**

Anne Mimille Guzman

### WYA Africa

**Outgoing Regional Director:** Patricia Gwambo

**Incoming Regional Director:** Cynthia Maingi

**Regional Director of Operations:** Kevin Alando

**Regional Program Assistant:** Karen Kilwake

### WYA Asia Pacific

**Outgoing Regional Director:** Mary Imbong

**Incoming Regional Director:** Miko Superable

**Regional Director of Operations:** Joyce Cedeño

### WYA Europe

**Regional Director:** Elisabeth Gudenus

**Regional Director of Operations:** Magdalena Basić

**Europe Director for Advocacy:** Mislav Barišić

**Southeast Europe Director:** Valentino Findrik

**Regional Fundraising Manager:** Ana Antunović

### WYA Latin America

**Regional Director:** *In Transition*

**Regional Director of Operations:** *In Transition*

### WYA Middle East

**Regional Director:** Mary Joe Alavalas

**Regional Director of Operations:** Dima Khalifeh

### WYA North America

**Outgoing Regional Director:** Julia Kenney

**Regional Director of Operations:** Ethan Mack

**Patrons**

Their Royal Highnesses Prince Nikolaus and  
Princess Margareta of Liechtenstein  
The Lord Daniel Brennan  
H.E. Renato Cardinal Martino  
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Jesús Rivera  
Vincenzina Santoro  
Ann Seabright, Chair

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# Audited 2019 Financials

(in US dollars)

Income	2019	2018
Contributions	887,694	1,344,433
Program Revenue	25,389	51,977
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<b>Total Income</b>	913,083	1,396,410

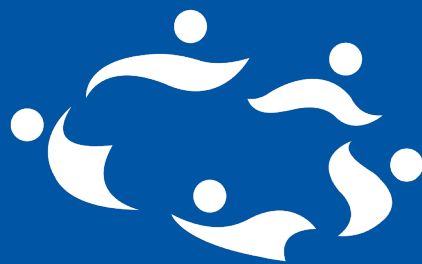
Expenses	2019	2018
Program services	806,515	1,300,637
Management and General	66,897	60,241
Fundraising	9,425	7,229
<hr/>		
<b>Total Expenses</b>	882,837	1,368,107

<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	30,246
<b>Net Assets (Start of Year)</b>	34,679
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<b>Net Assets (End of Year)</b>	64,925

WYA is tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.





World **Youth** Alliance

[www.wya.net](http://www.wya.net)