

# THE PARTNERSHIP

## The Partnership

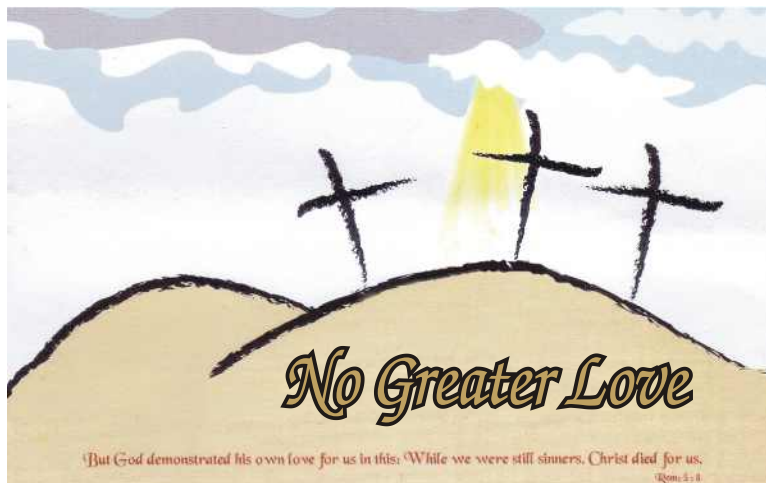
## "Nothing is more important than owning a vision"

Bill Hybels

**Martin Luther King Jr.** was one of the pivotal leaders of the American Civil Rights Movement. He was a Baptist minister, one of the few leadership roles available to black men at the time. He became a civil rights activist early in his career. During this time, he led a march to Washington in 1963, where he delivered his most famous speech, "I HAVE A DREAM". Here he raised public consciousness of the civil rights movement and established himself as one of the greatest orators in U.S. history. At the age of thirty-five, he became the youngest man to have received the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to end segregation and racial discrimination through non-violent means. When notified of his selection, he announced that he would turn over the prize money of \$54, 123 to the furtherance of the civil rights movement.

Because of his activism, on the evening of April 4, 1968, while standing on the balcony of his hotel room in Memphis Tennessee, where he was to lead a protest march in sympathy with striking garbage workers of that city, he was assassinated. Martin Luther King Jr. owned a vision, knew the risks and was willing to die for it.

**Hector Peterson** was among some 30 000 students who took to the streets of Soweto protesting a government edict for an end to a discriminatory education system and specifically to be allowed to be taught in the language of their choice. The Soweto uprising got the world's attention, a frozen moment in time where images were shown of the 13 year old Hector Peterson being carried in the arms of a young man as his sister runs screaming alongside. The events of 16 June 1976, marked a turning point in South African's



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political history, and is now remembered with a public holiday called Youth Day.

Hector Peterson, together with many children and youth in Soweto became martyrs that changed the course of history in South Africa. They owned a vision, knowing the risks and gave their lives for the cause of the vision.

**Tennyson Shange** was a Youth for Christ staff person working with children living on the streets of Pietermaritzburg. During the early 90's there was huge political violence and upheaval for youth in KZN. The impact of the violence on children was seen as numbers of children on the streets increased drastically. At this time YFC was searching for a relevant way to serve and minister to youth in crisis. Although

warned that limited change would take place with older youth, especially those involved in crime, the Youth for Christ team demonstrated through determination and commitment that they had the necessary passion and skill to work with youth on the street.

This resulted in the Pietermaritzburg Street Children's Forum headed by Yvonne Spain and Neil McKerrow handing over 3 shelters to Youth for Christ. The night shelter became a target for crime and chaos. YFC made a decision to close down this shelter and open a 24 hour care centre for those who were committed to leaving the streets and return home. The reaction from the older boys was very aggressive and they were angry, they did not want to go back home. One Sunday night, Ngobe a young resident at the night shelter stabbed Tennyson Shange on the steps of the Shelter. Tennyson Shange aged

25, died on the steps of the shelter in the arms of a fellow colleague. Tennyson Shange put his life at risk, having a passion to see young lives changed, his legacy lives on in Youth for Christ. Tennyson House, a shelter for girls that live on the streets of Durban was dedicated to the memory of Tennyson Shange.

As we approach the celebration of Easter we remember another significant death, the death of **Jesus Christ**. Almost 2000 years ago, a Jewish carpenter was condemned as a dangerous religious and political rebel. He was executed in one of the most painful and shameful punishments then available: flogging and crucifixion, yet He was perfect in all His ways. Christ knew from the beginning that He came to the world for a specific purpose. Christ's life and death was like none other, He turned the concept of leadership upside down by loving people unconditionally that He was willing to lay down His life for them.

For millions of people, Easter is a time to remember that the death of Christ provides salvation to all mankind. What a sacrifice . . . What a vision!

by Kanthie Raidoo

# Staff excellence awards

As the year drew to a close, the staff of YFC celebrated the many achievements and accomplishments of the year. On the 30th of November we had our annual staff excellence awards ceremony. The dress code for the day was 'ethnic' and as you can see people really got into it.



It was a day of appreciation of all of our staff, interns and volunteers. There was dancing and songs, music and slideshows. We rejoiced in our successes of the year, chatted about the new things which took place last year and reflected on the challenges. We looked forward to the New Year and grew excited by the visions and plans that was shared.

It was a great day of fun and food and especially exciting for our awards recipients. The awards were based on the organisations five core values: Christian, Team, Integrity, Excellence and People and staff were nominated by their fellow staff members. The recipients were recognized

for continuing to raise our standard of service excellence as a youth organisation. They were people to honor and celebrate because of their commitment to improving the lives of other staff and the children and youth we serve.

The recipients this year were Phili Chamane, Nkululeko 'Capella' Malapane, Stembiso C. Luthuli and Martine van Houten. This year also saw the addition of a new 'Regional Director's Choice Award', which was awarded to Jeff 'the Great' Segone.

As the day ended, staff and volunteers went home with renewed vision, motivated hearts and great expectancy for the year ahead.



## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

### Martine van Houten

Hello, my name is Martine van Houten and I came to South Africa first in 2003 to do my internship. After I finished my studies I came back as a volunteer with Khayaletu Project for 10 months in 2004. Then I thought it would be an interesting gap year before starting a job at home...And yes, I was at home in 2005, but with being here again for most of 2006 and 2007, I find my friends and family asking if I'm planning to still come back for more than just a visit. Now in 2008 I started with Monitoring & Evaluation, which is new and different and I'm looking forward to learn, and yes...I know for sure I'll miss being at Khayaletu.



### Tineyi Chigunduru

The future of our country depends on the quality of our youth, young men and women who will one day rise to take up leadership positions in church, business, politics, science/engineering, economy and the academic world. These young people need to be taken care of, trained and empowered to be effective leaders of integrity and citizens in their communities and our nation. For this reason I find myself loving working with youth. YFC has given me the opportunity to fulfil my passion for working with the youth. Im just loving it.



### Happy Zikalala

My name is Happy Zikalala. I live at Umlazi C section and I have a 17 year old son. He is doing grade 11 this year. I joined YFC in 2000 as a volunteer at Tennyson house. In 2001 I was an intern in YFC's internship program. From 2002 to 2005 I was employed at the Khayaletu boys shelter. In November 2005 I was employed at Tennyson house as the Outreach co-ordinator. All these years being surrounded by YFC have been a blessing to me. I have learned a lot from different people within the organisation. I thank God about everything that I have been through in life because I know that God is preparing me for the future.



### Sipho Khomo

"POSITIVITY IS NOT ACTION, IT IS A CHOICE" I started at YFC in 2004 as a Volunteer in the Change Agents and I served there for two years. I underwent a lot of self development and I examined my life and my value system. In 2006 I was appointed as a school facilitator in the Yazini project in Pietermaritzburg. Currently I'm serving as a GoLD Peer Education Facilitator. This is an exciting programme which I am confident will lift up the flag of YFC. Obstacles do not exist to be surrendered but only to be broken. I'm determined to overcome these obstacles. I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community, and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. Let us all Praise the Lord Amen!!



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**Internship**  
LOCAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

**CHANGE AGENTS**  
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**Khayaletu**  
PROJECT FOR YOUTH AT RISK

**L'Abri**  
OUTDOOR CENTRE

**Tennyson House**  
SERVING HOMELESS GIRLS

**YAZINI**  
LIFE SKILLS AND PEER EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

**YOUTH**  
DEVELOPMENT CENTRE  
INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME

## Please note . . .

YFC/KZN has been advised by YFC South Africa that the Section 18A tax status enjoyed by YFC South Africa with the South African Revenue Services has been put on hold until further notice. The implication of this for our donors is that receipts issued by YFC/KZN after 1 March 2008 will no longer qualify the donor for a tax deduction. YFC/KZN apologises for any inconvenience caused in this regard. Any changes to our tax status will be communicated in due course.