



**Office of the Provincial Youth Coordinator
Anglican Youth Southern Africa (AYSA)
Administered by Provincial Youth Council (PYC)**

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TO :

The Anglican Youth Active Citizenship Programme

Warm greetings in Jesus's Name.

“Without something to work for, you will always be hungry in life, and for life, without a mission or calling. By leading the *New Struggle* (*it is the struggle to abolish the inequalities in our societies, and especially the inequality of opportunity.*), you will have the opportunity to be part of something bigger than yourselves. Please join one another in planning and implementing this exciting venture.” Archbishop Thabo Makgoba (message to Provincial Youth Council - January 2015).

How much hope can children and teenagers have in the face of a bleak outlook for equal opportunities to study further and to gain meaningful employment, or, develop the ability to create their own jobs in the distant future?

Why do we struggle to get youth to commit to change and to be the agents of that change in the communities within which they grow up?

Children and young people thrive in environments where they are encouraged to step up and do something for themselves. They exponentially multiply their initiatives when the possibility of recognition and reward is offered.

EVERY child and young person deserves the opportunity to convert their ideas and aspirations into reality – not only the privileged.

Bino Makhalanyane – **President**, Dr. Sithule Siyotula – **Dep President**, Elsie Mahlaela - **Treasurer**, Sheena Pereira – **Secretary**, Abigail Hopley – **Member**, Kgowe Moleme – **Member**, Shane Thomas – **Member**, Revd Calvin Frans – **Provincial Youth Chaplain**, Bishop Dintoe Letloenyane – **Bishop Liaison**, Tony Lawrence – **Youth Coordinator**

This Programme seeks to recognize and reward children, youth and young people across ACSA for initiatives they have developed in the following categories:

1. Education – developing study groups, advocating for safe spaces for study groups to meet, improving academic results, etc.
2. Social Outreach – developing initiatives through the church to make a difference in community, e.g. voluntary work and odd jobs, visiting the elderly or children’s homes and spending quality time with people, feeding schemes, etc.
3. Environmental Action : developing solutions for energy and water saving, nature conservation, environmental advocacy, etc.
4. Entrepreneurial initiative : developing income generating initiatives like veggie and fruit gardens (food security), clothing or jewellery manufacturing, etc.

The programme will run from 1st November and will be open for registration of initiatives up to 31st December 2015. A committee consisting of representatives from the partnering organisations (PYC, ASF, Hope Africa, Green Anglicans) will select the winners in each category and age group. Initiatives which resulted in the highest impact according to a set of criteria, will be entered into a winners’ pool from which the final winners in each category will be selected. All registered participants in the Programme are required to submit a one page report on their initiative which must be signed by their Rector and supported by 3 photographs.

A great incentive is that the winners will be awarded certificates and cash prizes by the Archbishop at an opportune time during Provincial Synod in September 2016. The suggestion is that cash prizes of R1000.00 for the age group 6 to 12 years; R2500.00 for the age group 13 to 18; and, R5000.00 for the age group 19 to 35 be awarded in addition to the certificates. There is also a suggestion that the (12) winners be brought to Provincial Synod to receive their awards in person. What a privilege to give young people – for them to actually meet the Archbishop at a prestigious event.

Therefore, the approximate total budget for the Project is as follows:

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| 1. Prizes = | R34000.00 |
| 2. Travel for 12 winners = | R18000.00 |
| 3. 1 night accommodation for the 12 winners = | <u>R7200.00</u> |

TOTAL :

R59200.00

The Programme is driven by a website (www.ayacp.org.za) through which registrations will take place, and where regular posts containing hints and tips will be provided. The web site will act as a virtual mentoring system allowing participants to ask for advice, etc. The web site is already operative.

The potential reach is over 2 million children and young people in 6 Southern African countries. Each of the participants in the Programme will receive at least the following:

1. Recognition for their initiatives through the provision of a certificate of participation which will be a great addition to their CV's.
2. Access to information and help with their initiatives as well as ongoing mentoring and the development of leadership and other critical skills.
3. A sense of achievement regardless of the size and impact of their initiative and the motivation to dream bigger and tackle larger challenges.
4. An opportunity to network with others with similar interests.

EVERY child and young person deserves an opportunity to do something great. This may be the one opportunity that starts them off on a brighter future.

There are longer term effects of this Programme. E.g. participants living in the same location can be networked according to their initiatives so that they can work together as a team and multiply their impact, etc. We also hope to learn much from the interaction with the youth in order to provide better support and intervention in their endeavours.

So, the Programme will yield immediate results, but also provide longer term information.

And, one key benefit is that we are developing a database of young people in our Church through the MyAnglican application with which we can have on-going conversations about issues that matter.

Our young citizens are ready to be activated.

Let us afford them the opportunity to excel.

We, humbly, request your consideration regarding the following:

1. Please help us by sharing this information and opportunity as far and wide as possible. Share with Clergy and organisations so that every child and young person gets to know about this.
2. Please pray for this initiative - that many children and young people will take advantage of this opportunity.
3. Please prayerfully consider contributing towards the cost of awards, etc. as described, above.

Further information can be obtained by contacting the Provincial Youth office at 021-7631304 or 083-4614949 or email info@aysa.org.za.

Attached, is a brochure as well as a registration form. We would appreciate it if registrations can be done via our web site at www.ayacp.org.za. However, should people not have access to the internet, then, please use the registration form and fax it to us.

God bless you as you consider your involvement in this initiative.

With much appreciation and with passion for our emerging generation.

Provincial Youth Council (PYC)

Supported by Bishop Dintoe Letloenyane (Liaison Bishop for Children and Youth)

In partnership with Hope Africa, ASF and Green Anglicans.