"Dear Friends,

On March 17, we sent you a first “crisis” news bulletin announcing our decision to suspend face-to-face activities within the Life Project Centers. This was a particularly difficult decision since it involved sending the Youth back home at a time when we were renewing our commitment to work alongside them.

The March 17 news bulletin ended with these words: "Today, more than ever, we must take action to implement innovative solutions that will allow us to continue our mission.”

7 weeks later, where do we stand?

A month and a half later, and it will soon be time to implement the post-lockdown strategy that we have been working on for several weeks, and we would like to let you know how things are going.

Dealing with the problems

Obviously, every day has been a test since the crisis began. If this is true throughout the world, it is particularly true for the Youth on the ground and the Catalysts who accompany them. Every morning, we are faced with new problems to which solutions must be found: There were the Youth at the Malwani Center in Mumbai who had nothing to eat; the fire on Saturday April 18 which destroyed “Happy Land” in the Tondo slum in Manila in the Philippines, an area already badly affected by the health and economic consequences of this crisis… How many lost jobs and empty bellies? There have been many shortages and life-threatening emergencies. But each time, the LP4Y Catalysts were there, helping to find solutions and keep a resolutely positive spirit!

Beyond dealing with these emergencies, the challenge has been to continue following up on the Youth, keeping in touch and keeping the drop-out rate to a minimum. Doing everything possible to ensure that the Youth continue rigorously working to secure their future, even against this background of uncertainty.

114

There are 114 Catalysts on the ground right now carrying out their mission despite their own apprehensions and those of their families. And what an incredible job they have done in such a short time!
Once again the enthusiasm that drives our movement has proven that we had to trust in the incorrigible optimism of the Youth who instinctively know that adversity can always be transformed into opportunity, harnessing the energy that has been at the root of the LP4Y movement since its creation and which today makes it possible to stay the course.

1,326

As of May 5th, 2020, 1,326 Youth are being supported by LP4Y.

Every week, the Youth are contacted individually by their coaches who transmit educational content and guide them in their preparation of a “Life Project Plan”.

This is also the time to discuss their allowances; both the value, which depends on the specific needs of each Youth, and the best way to send it to them.

We are supporting almost twice as many Youth today as at the beginning of March! We had to develop emergency aid in order to support them in this crisis. Indeed the figure of 1,326 Youth includes 786 Young LP4Y graduates, known as Entrepreneurs, who completed their training and for the most part had achieved professional integration before the crisis.

We also set out to reconnect with all those who had dropped out of the program at one time or another. Thus 220 Youth has been contacted and motivated!

27

LP4Y has joined 27 initiatives in order to include the Youth in the solidarity actions that exist within their communities. Despite being often hungry themselves, they come to help distribute food. They scramble to obtain passes from the authorities so they can organize themselves to help meet the needs of the residents of their neighborhood.

106

This is the number of e-learning modules that have been created on the Digital Inc. application since the start of the crisis, now being tested by a team of 38 Youth from across Asia. Our partner 360 Learning supports LP4Y by providing a customizable digital space.

Digital Inc. is a collaborative platform that allows the sharing of e-learning content, access to job offers and networking with companies, management of contacts, schedule etc.
There are 81 LP4Y Stories. You have received a sample of these stories over the past few weeks. LP4Y Stories are the testimonies of Catalysts and the Youth. Their daily life, their fears and their joys. The Youth are so proud to see their articles published in this Newsletter!

In reality our mission has not changed. And thanks to the incredible agility shown by the LP4Y teams, we now know that, whatever happens, we will be able to continue to guarantee our commitment to Young Adult victims of exclusion living in extreme poverty. They need support more than ever!

Thierry Delaporte, President, LP4Y Alliance

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