Editorial

In this 7th edition of Together We Can, the LP4Y newsletter, we will give you an overview of the 2012 activities of the association launched almost 4 years ago in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, the USA and the Philippines. We would like to share with you the amazing achievements of the 104 Young Adults working daily in teams, in the first 5 pilot LPCs, as well as the 38 graduates who successfully integrated at the end of December 2012!

2012 was a year of consolidation. 2013 will be rich with the opening of Life Project Centers and the development of new activities in the Philippines, Vietnam and Indonesia.

Together, let us continue to work with the Young Adults of LP4Y!

Jean-Marc and Laure Delaporte, Co-founders
SOCIAL REPORT

MORAL REPORT BY THE PRESIDENTS – Year 2012

2012 marks the third complete year of activity since the creation of LP4Y in France and Belgium on July 4, 2009. From the start our goal of inserting Young Adult victims of exclusion and extreme poverty was a daring one. The whole process had to be invented from scratch, and prove itself...

Over this period, many projects have been launched, each one falling into one of three categories: field actions, development of the plea against exclusion, and training.

FIELD ACTIONS

Our mission is to accompany Young victims of extreme poverty and exclusion as they work towards professional and social integration. These Young Adults have been excluded by society, and no one expects them to make any kind of contribution to the growth of their community. And yet, in spite of (or perhaps because of) what they have suffered in the past, they display exceptional resilience. We created a simple pedagogical program called Professional Training for Entrepreneurs (PTE) within the Life Project Centers (LPCs) that are "incubators" of their "life project". Each LPC houses one or two programs, each program giving 15 Young Adults the opportunity to work as a team, developing an economic activity.

> By December 31, 2012, 5 Life Project Centers in the Philippines were supervising 104 Young Adults in 7 different programs, and 38 Young Entrepreneurs off-site engaged in the 4th and final stage of PTE.

> 90% of Young Adults in LP4Y programs manage to overcome poverty, joining a company, furthering their education or setting up their own business.

> By March 31, 2013 there were 101 Young Adults in the LPCs and 66 Young Entrepreneurs. 29 Young Adults found employment during the first trimester of 2013.

In 2012, the Paranaque center opened a second program: the Green Garden (growing organic herbs and vegetables). The center in Tondo also opened a new program with 3S (Solar Service Station). Each program is led by an LP4Y volunteer on a mission of at least a year.

In 2013, the remaining centers in the Philippines will all open second programs thus allowing more Young Adults to join LP4Y: In Cebu, a new program devoted to making craft jewelry; in Mindanao, a pilot program within the Iligan City Jail; and in Quezon, a program for the restyling and distribution of used clothing.

Pictures at work:

Arjay, Gin, RR, Sadam, Adonis, Danilo, Angelie, Norman, Arejey, Alde

Group picture:

The "LP4Y Star Club". The "Stars" are the graduates of the PTE. They are committed to becoming mentors for the Young Adults following the programs and becoming in turn, actors of development.

www.lp4y.org & www.lp4y.tv
2012

The BIG (Business Increase Generators) team was created to help make the most of the opportunities available for the development of economic activities. The team intervenes in all the centers and its goal is to accompany the teams during the product creation stage, then with marketing as well as seizing commercial potential. With barely a year of activity it has already put forward a whole range of products and dealer referencing in one of the main distribution chains for handicraft and design. Young Adults from all the centers take part in fairs or special sales events. It is easy to imagine this becoming a fully-fledged program in 2014.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLEA AGAINST EXCLUSION

“In the world today, there are 550 million young people between the ages of 15 and 24, victims of malnutrition, ill health and violence. It is forecast that in 2025, 1 billion young people will be living below the poverty line of $2/day."

Our mission is also to tirelessly inform, communicate and join forces with all those who wish to tackle this emergency, identifying winning solutions for insertion and developing them wherever possible. In addition to 2 big annual meetings in each country (below: picture of the meeting in France), the LP4Y Alliance initiated the international association YOUTH 4 CHANGE in 2012 (c.f. page 14). In the Philippines, the LP4Y Young Adults spent over 6 months working on the creation of PORTRAITS, When Young Entrepreneurs Step out from Extreme Poverty!: a book, a photography show and a web TV channel! (c.f. page 15). These will be presented to the public in 2013.

TRAINING

Finally our mission is to develop our pedagogy and train as many professionals as possible to further the rapid development of Life Project Centers in Asia (c.f. pages 12 and 13). Between 2010 and 2012, 30 volunteers worked with us for periods of a few months or a few years (picture on the right, early 2013). In 2013 more than 35 volunteers will be participating in Asia. A training center, The Green Village, is under construction in the south of Manila (pages 11 and 12).

It will offer training in enabling the insertion of Young Adults victims of extreme poverty and exclusion, and training in entrepreneurship. This center will be open to all parties and will be financed by its hospitality center.

The results are encouraging: A big thank you to all for your support and commitment to the LP4Y Young Adults. We have already achieved a lot in 3 years... but much remains to be done.

NOW IS THE TIME: LET’S WORK TOGETHER
FOR THE INSERTION OF THESE PROMISING YOUNG ADULTS!

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In 2012 the Green Program, which arranges home deliveries of fresh fruit and vegetables, created, at the request of its clients, the Green Garden: cultivation and delivery of fresh herbs.

1 - Home of the Young Adults and LP4Y volunteers.
2 - Training at the Life Project Center.
3 - For Christmas the team successfully took on the challenge of delivering 80 Christmas baskets, a special offer of round fruits in a basket, a Filipino tradition.
4 - The Young Adults launch a new offer: fruit juices. The project began at the European school and is now also present in a partner company, Anxa.
5 - Thanks to the monthly the training given by the Bureau of Plant Industry, the Young Adults have learnt to master professional cultivation techniques. The team has also launched new products such as dried herbs, pots made of coconut fiber, special packages for events... The team now also has a weekly stand at the Legaspi market in Makati, where they sell their organic herbs.
Hear Us! is the data inputting activity developed by the Young Adults of the LPC in Iligan on the island of Mindanao. It is also the name of the house where the team and their coaches work.

The logo is a stylized hand that means “friendship”, a sign recognized by deaf people the world over.

1 – The Hear Us! team attending an electronics class during their annual training at the Iligan University of Technology.

2 – The main room on the ground floor of the Hear Us! house is where the team works, trains, exchanges and does the inputting. When a data inputting order arrives, the concentration is intense. The computers linked to the server allow for fast reactivity to fluctuations in the work load.

3 – November 2012: Julie-Anne and Richie’s first training day at Jollibee, the biggest Filipino fast-food chain. Norman and Angelie joined the Jollibee team in February 2013. The challenge was to transform the training period into a real employment contract; an amazing achievement when we remember that 3 years ago no one in Iligan believed hearing impaired Young Adults could work in the professional world… for a decent salary.

4 – December 2012: Christmas is a wonderfully festive occasion for the Young of the Hear Us! house. Family and friends were invited to share the moment. In just a few months the Hear Us! house has become a place for exchanges and friendship for the deaf community of Iligan. Soon a number of Young Adults will begin their last stage in the LP4Y program, allowing new Young to join.

5 – We started visiting the prison of Iligan a few months ago. Due to lack of funds the Young are often imprisoned with the adults, sometimes for sentences of less than 3 years, sometimes awaiting trial… The penitentiary administration has given us the green light to provide training sessions a few mornings a week. Participation is voluntary but faced with the enthusiastic response we have had to limit numbers. Our ambition is to open a Life Project Center in the prison and show that it too can be a place to plan one’s Life Project.
In October 2011 this center opened its doors to very young mothers and their babies living in one of the most awful dumpsites in Manila. There are nearly 10,000 families in Happyland, Aroma and Sitio Damayan, living in the toughest imaginable conditions.

1 – The name of the professional activity developed by the Young Mothers is “Aurora”: hand making exquisite cloth dolls. Here the team proudly presents its creations, each of which is unique.

2 & 3 – When we first rented the center it was one big workroom and 2 bedrooms... not very convenient for the needs of the LPC. In 2 months, with the help of the Mothers and 2 troops from the Scouts, the center was entirely transformed.

4 & 5 – Half the week is devoted to the development of the economic activity: creation, marketing, production, sales, management, etc. By experiencing different aspects of the process, the Young Women discover new skills.

However, to better accompany the professional integration of these Young Adults, two new requirements have been flagged:

- A place where they can live as a community while preparing themselves for their future professions. A small apartment was rented at the end of 2012 for those mothers who wished to leave the dumpsite: 3 mothers have already moved in.

- A nursery that will take care of the babies and toddlers while the mothers work. This project is at the developmental stage. The inauguration is planned before the end of the year.
LIFE PROJECT CENTER Tondo

3S (Solar Service Station) is a pilot social program developed and implemented by three partners, SunPower Corporation, Tulay ng Kabataan Foundation and LP4Y. Every day 300 solar lanterns are rented to Tondo inhabitants who have no electricity. The 5 peso charge is very reasonable compared to the cost of lighting with kerosene or candles. The 3S station was donated to LP4Y.

1 – The Tondo LPC 3S team: 9 Young Mothers, 365 days per year, take care of the upkeep of the station with its solar panels and the commercialization of the 300 lanterns.

2 – June 2012: Launch of the 2nd LPC Tondo “3S” attended by the partners.


4 & 5 – The team works independently and very professionally. There is constant communication with the SunPower engineers who oversee the high-tech installation.

6 & 7 – Even in difficult conditions due to pollution from the nearby coal-fired boilers, the team develops and serves its client base. Not once has the station been closed!

The surveys carried out by the TNK Foundation on 3S clients to assess the social impact of the program have shown a marked positive impact on quality of life. On April 2 2013, a second station was installed in a nearby dumpsite. The center was abuzz with the launch of this new station. The team needs once again to recruit new members.

With close to 30 Young Mothers and between 15 and 25 babies every day, the challenges are many. Soon many mothers will be able to integrate a company and follow in the steps of Ginalyn, the first star of the Tondo LPC, whose contract has just been signed!
Natural H Care – Healthy, Herbal, Handmade – the activity created in November 2010 at the Quezon LPC in Old Balara, Quezon City. The Young Adults from LP4Y develop, market and distribute products made using medicinal herbs.

1 - The Natural H Care range.

2 – Production has doubled at the laboratory, thanks to the arrival of new equipment. The team can now produce 300 bars of soap in 4 hours, and the quality is better too! But there is a new challenge ahead: gaining the accreditation which would allow them to sell their products in pharmacies and in chain stores. In order to meet the norms and qualify, the laboratory must be completely renovated. Work is already in progress.

3 - Caritas, the centre’s partner, has helped the team to improve their packaging and develop sales. In the run-up to Christmas Caritas ordered 1,000 bars of soap!

4 – As active members of the community, the Young Adults began a renovation program to stabilize and improve the homes of team members. They work for free during their own time, especially at weekends. LP4Y provides the necessary materials.

5 – Time to share, time to learn, time to prepare their life projects – these training sessions are valuable moments for the team.
The Cebu LPC, situated high on the hills of the Capitol in Cebu, was founded in October 2010. The first Young people to join the LPC were then living in Careta Cemetery, scraping a living by selling candles made using wax recovered from the graves. They decided to set up the “My Craft” workshop, making and selling quality candles, integrating bamboo into the design.

1 & 4 – The range keeps growing as new candles are created incorporating new designs and perfumes. In June 2012 Kultura became My Craft’s biggest client, ordering no fewer than 400 candles!

Visiting company offices provides wonderful learning opportunities, most notably in the field of professional communication:

2 – The team presents LP4Y to 2 IT companies, Clicking Labs and Arcanys.

3 – Visit to Kor Landa, artisanal jewelry designer employing 400 people in Cebu. Here the Young Adults were able to observe how modern production techniques have their place in a creative field.

The Young Adults in Cebu dedicate 2 mornings a week to ALS (Alternative Learning System). This allows them to take school exams without having followed the entire curriculum. In 2012, 13 Young Adults qualified, and 5 received their High School Diploma; the key to gaining employment in any company. Participation in the ALS program is now obligatory in all LPCs.
Green Village  LPC Calauan

For some years now migration tendency has been towards the cities. The majority of the planet’s inhabitants are now urban dwellers. But unfortunately dreams of an Eldorado often turn to nightmare, in one of the city’s many slums. Nearly 40% of the inhabitants of Manila live in slum areas … and while it’s easy to get in, it’s often impossible to get out. So how can the circle of poverty be broken? What solutions can be found to these ever-growing exclusion zones generated by the move towards mega-cities? Is there an alternative to the slum?

Faced with all these questions, we visited Southville 7, a relocation site for displaced slum dwellers. 6,000 families are currently living there (52% of the population is under 24), and 50,000 people are expected! For the time being there is no electricity, no water, no secondary school, no work. Added to which, the isolated situation makes travel expensive. Many of the men have abandoned their families to go and look for work.

So we decided to develop GREEN VILLAGE on this spot, a place where the Young people from this community can learn to integrate.

In 2013, 4 programs will open here;
2 new programs and 2 existing programs transferred from other sites:

**Eco-ConSTRUCTION Program:** 20 Young people
Training center for bamboo construction techniques. Building of the Green Village (living and communal space for visitors, working space for various programs).

**Hospitality Program:** 20 Young people
The Young people will be trained for careers in hospitality and restaurant services, managing the services offered by the Green Village: hotel, restaurant, laundry, housekeeping, bakery, managing waste, water and electricity.

**Green Garden:** 20 Young people
Growing organic herbs in a greenhouse, as well as fruit and vegetables.

**Green Program:** 20 Young people
Distribution of organic fruit and vegetables acquired from a cooperative.

A team has been on site since February 2013, and will soon finish renovating 12 houses for the Young Adults and the volunteers to use while work takes place on the Green Village building site, on 2 hectares made available by the Ayala Foundation.

The direct beneficiaries of Green Village are excluded Young Adults between the ages of 17 and 24 living in the resettlement area of Calauan or coming from Manila, Young ex-prisoners, out-of-school youth, street dwellers, male or female.

The project will annually enable 60-80 Young Adults to achieve social and economic integration.

> Half the Parañaque LPC team transferred to Southville 7 during the first term of 2013.
> The Parañaque LPC will close at the end of April, allowing us to save $25,000 per year in rent.
> The 12 units in Southville 7 have been provided free of charge.
GREEN VILLAGE: Eco-village and Life Project Center for the integration of Young Adults at risk.

GREEN VILLAGE: the architectural and environmental project was the subject of a competition at the prestigious School of Design and Arts at De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde in Manila. 100 students took part in the competition and presented 8 projects answering to the specifications provided by LP4Y. We are proud to present the winning project, shown here, to be built over the forthcoming months.
After evaluating 7 Asian countries LP4Y’s management committees decided to open 2 centers in 2 different countries in 2013: Indonesia and Vietnam.

After an initial analysis LP4Y selected Jakarta as the site for its next centers. Although Jakarta appears more developed than Manila, it is home to comparable slum areas all along the railway tracks and beside the polluted rivers, on industrial wasteland or in unhealthy buildings. We ventured into various slum areas, accompanied by an Indonesian friend who has known the area for many years. The welcome was extraordinary. Aude Couturier, who has just signed up for a 3rd year as a volunteer with LP4Y, has now moved there. She is tasked with creating the necessary partnerships, initiating the legal structure and opening the first center before the summer of 2013.
Life Project Center Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

At the same time Maeva Moreau, a volunteer in charge of country evaluations, moved to Ho Chi Minh City. There she began the delicate task of developing a network of partners. In Vietnam you can’t just turn up and expect everything to work straight away! While initially the local organizations appeared wary, there has nonetheless been much interest in the project and in LP4Y’s expertise in this area, from various parties involved, including companies with a sense of social responsibility. The structural model of the LPC is evolving; it must permit the rapid creation of multiple LPCs in order to integrate as many Young Adults as possible. Certain principles have been made clear: the importance of professional and NGO partnerships; the creation of a legal structure, book-keeping as well as relations with the local administration need to be outsourced to recognized specialists; the willingness to work directly with partners without the use of an interpreter; finding a site near poverty zones where volunteers can live simply; creation of a first group of Young Adults following meetings in the community. Opening of the first center: 1st semester 2013.
YOUTH 4 CHANGE OBSERVATORY – MISSION. There are currently 550 Young Adults living below the poverty threshold, that is, on less than $1.50 a day. By 2025 that number will have risen to 1 billion. 90% of Young Adults affected by such poverty live in developing countries.

The Youth 4 Change Observatory, launched by LP4Y and in collaboration with students from Sciences Po (a prestigious French university), decided to use this observation as a starting point for creating an international forum to share their insertion solutions for Young people in danger. It has been joined and supported by numerous partners with the mission of bringing together all organizations and individuals actively involved in the struggle for insertion, and to accelerate the pooling of innovative solutions and winning practices.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2012

1 – Organization of a first symposium to discuss “What winning solutions are available, in France and abroad, for the insertion of Young Adults in danger?”

Our aim was to develop synergies for insertion solutions for Young Adults in difficulty: training, studying, entrepreneurial initiatives, starting or re-launching a professional activity. This symposium brought together members of NGOs and associations, as well as politicians, journalists and business people.

2 – Publishing of a report entitled “Entrepreneurship, a Winning Solution to Youth Exclusion?”


4 – Signing of the manifesto “In Favor of the Insertion of Excluded Young People”.

In 2012 Youth 4 Change received the support of UNESCO for the symposium on May 31, 2012.
As we daily accompany dozens of Young Adults in the various Life Project Centers we are constantly reminded that acquiring self-knowledge is the first step in the path towards rebuilding oneself.

It fast became apparent that the Young Adults needed to achieve this by themselves, helping each other to recognize character traits. For example, one of the first games we play when welcoming a new group consists of getting to know team mates and then creating a “portrait” on a large board, sticking on pictures, words and drawings found in old newspapers and magazines.

This turns out to be an excellent way of getting to know everyone amidst all the preoccupations involved in joining the group.

Faced with such a wealth of talent demonstrated in the creation of these portraits, we decided to take the idea a little further …

The “Portraits” project was born!

The exhibition, “PORTRAITS! When Young Victims of Exclusion become Entrepreneurs!” is available at no charge to all those concerned by the issue of excluded Young victims of poverty.

PORTRAITS book
and exhibition 2013, on Europe
Web tv : www.lp4y.tv

LETS WORK TOGETHER with the Young Adults of LP4Y!
Together, We Can !

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7 # Together, We Can ! - April 2013

Thank you to our investment partners in 2012!


Thank you to our professional partners in 2012!

Anxa, a Manila-based company which has developed mobile applications for well-being coaching: supports Green Program in the creation and management of a fresh fruit juice stand. Sunpower, international company: supplier of solar energy equipment, key partner in the creation and running of the 3S program. Kultura, chain of shops of a Filipino group SM: regular client for the My Craft candles and Natural H Care soaps. BP, Bureau of Plant Industry: supporting the Green Garden since the beginning with advice and training, donations of plants and seedlings. Arcanis, IT service company in Cebu: provider of references for the Young people of the LPC, clients of the My Craft bamboo candles. Clicking Labs, website design company in Cebu: opened their doors to the Young people of the LPC, provider of references, client for products. Kor Landa, jewelry workshop in Cebu: allowing visits to the company and providing references for the Young people. Spareka, online seller of spare parts: first client of the data inputting team from Hear Us.

Thank you to our “gifts in kind” partners in 2012!

Cap Gemini: donation of 45 laptop computers

Thank you to our partners in professional integration in 2012!

CGI-Logica, international IT services company, whose human resources technical support is based in Manila: took on 3 Young people as trainees, and subsequently as permanent employees, offering them valuable training. Jollibee, a chain of fast food restaurants in the Philippines: took on 4 Young people from the Hear Us program to work in data inputting and IT services. L’Oreal: took on a trainee. "Nokia Siemens Network: traineeship for one of the Young people, and a client of the Green Program, ordering fruit and vegetables for employees. Macaron Tango, French restaurant in Cebu: employed one of LP4Y’s Young women in the kitchens.

Thank you to our teaching partners in 2012!

Aiesec: organization sending international students on teaching missions (English / IT lessons). British School Manila: English language conversation groups with students from BSM and the Young people from the Green Program. Promoting the LPC’s activities within BSM. MSU ITT, University of Iligan, technology college: welcoming the Hear Us team to the university for IT training. Euro campus Manila: class visits to the Tondo LPC. Talks given to students by Young people from the Green Program. Sales opportunities on the campus at school events and functions.

Thank you to our skills partners in 2012!


Thank you to our community partners in 2012!


Don’t hold back! Join LP4Y today!

Email us at: info@lp4y.org