



The Alliance for Youth Achievement Annual Report 2009

Spring 2010

AYA's Mission

The Alliance for Youth Achievement provides resources to African-based efforts that care for and give hope to children in their communities. AYA's support helps our partners increase their capacity to improve the quality of life for the poorest and most vulnerable children in Africa.

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Ten Years and Counting...

The purpose of this Annual Report is to provide you, as AYA supporters, with an overall picture of AYA's work in 2009. As we begin our tenth year of serving children in need, we are eager to share successes with you and look with anticipation towards the future of both AYA and the children we support.

It is in the spirit of celebration that we offer you updates from the field and our partners. We celebrate the opening of two new orphanages in Kenya. We celebrate being awarded a grant from USAID to construct water projects throughout AYA's partner communities in Uganda. We celebrate the first crops produced by AYA's farm and

the children you were able to feed. We celebrate Alison Johnston Mistak's 9 years with AYA and the legacy she leaves, as well as welcome Mandy Stinnett Adkins as AYA's new Executive Director. And finally, we celebrate AYA's newest Board Members and the creativity they are pouring into the organization. The report closes with a snapshot of AYA's financial landscape during 2009.

In this face of such extreme need we sometimes forget to appreciate the many accomplishments of our organization and AYA's partners, who work tirelessly on behalf of children in their communities. Please join AYA as we celebrate 10 years and counting!



Children playing during recess at Christian Upliftment Primary School in Kampala, Uganda

New home for Immaculate Home of Peace orphanage

Just 3 years ago IHOP was a struggling orphanage in the rural region of Kibwezi, Kenya. When AYA's Board President Tina Bailes first visited IHOP during AYA's 2007 assessment trip, she was overwhelmed at the poverty and extreme need. The children were malnourished and sick, the caregivers

and teachers were overwhelmed, and a regional draught was devastating the local environment.

Bailes returned home and made fundraising on behalf of IHOP one of her primary missions. Along with the support of her local church, Sycamore Tree United Meth-

odist Church, Bailes raised \$31,000 for construction of a new facility, clean water project, and food for the orphans. IHOP's new facility was officially opened during AYA's 2009 assessment trip to Kenya under the new name "Sycamore House" children's home.



Girl singing at the opening celebration of Gospel Believers Children's Centre in Kitale, Kenya

Gospel Believers Children's Centre officially opened

AYA first began working with Gospel Believers in 2000, when the Centre cared for orphans in the Kibera slum of Nairobi, Kenya. In 2007, AYA funded the purchase of 3.5 acres of land and the construction of buildings in the fertile region of Kitale, Kenya, where Gospel Believers relocated their home and the orphans in their care.

In their new location, Gos-

pel Believers is able to be more self-sustaining by planting crops and keeping livestock as sources of food. Gospel Believers Director Patrick Kimawachi explains the significance of their new home in Kitale "This [move] has improved the life of the children compared to the slum of Kibera."

During the 2009 assessment trip to Kenya, AYA staff were invited to attend the

official opening of Gospel Believers' completed complex in Kitale. Local government officials and leaders were in attendance, the children performed traditional songs and dancing, and a huge feast was served as the community celebrated a new home and future for the children of Gospel Believers. Thanks to our supporters, Gospel Believers is one of AYA's success stories.



Men installing the finishing touches on a well at Rapha School in Jinja, Uganda

AYA awarded \$147,000 for water projects in Uganda

USAID is the humanitarian arm of the U.S. government, and in 2008 AYA applied for a grant to USAID to fund clean water projects in the communities in which we work in Uganda. In 2009, AYA's grant for \$147,000 was approved, and our Ugandan staff began the planning process to construct water projects and provide hygiene education

in 29 communities throughout central, northern, and western Uganda.

As our supporters receive this Annual Report, AYA's staff are attending the post-award meeting with USAID. In 2010 AYA anticipates breaking ground on its first clean water projects and beginning hygiene trainings in our partner communities

in Uganda. It is estimated that *15,000 people will benefit from the clean water and education provided through this program.* We look forward to sending updates on the progress of this three-year project.



AYA's farmland in Kitale, Kenya.

Farm's first crop feeds 700 Kenyan children

One of AYA's major accomplishments in 2009 was purchasing 5 acres of farmland in Kitale, Kenya (the same fertile region where Gospel Believers relocated their Children's Centre). Last year AYA's East African Director Fred Afwai oversaw the first planting season at the farm. In the fall, the farm yielded its first crops, which were distributed to AYA's partners throughout

Kenya and fed 700 children.

Since AYA's inception we have focused on sustainability for our partners, and now, thanks to the farm, we as an organization are also becoming more self-sufficient. The crops from our farm free up funding that would have gone to food but can instead support special building projects, fund income-

generating activities, pay teachers' salaries, and purchase scholastic materials for students in AYA partner schools. Our goal is to expand the acreage so that more of our partners' food needs are supplemented by the AYA farm.

AYA bids farewell to Alison Johnston Mistak, welcomes new Executive Director Mandy Stinnett Adkins

Alison Johnston Mistak began volunteering with AYA in 2001 raising funds for AYA's partners. Her first trip to Africa was in 2002, where she held workshops on counseling skills for people who work with children. This was the first time all of AYA's Kenyan partners had come together in one setting to collaborate and would be the birthplace of such alliance-wide efforts as the Teacher Training College and AYA farm.

Alison continued in her fund-raising efforts and later became the Kenya Group Home Coordinator. Her passion for AYA and its work grew, and in 2004 she became the Director of Partner Development, overseeing all partner issues throughout the organization.

During this year Alison also traveled to India to visit AYA's partners. She traveled to Africa 3 more times during

2004-2005, most notably making a documentary on the effects of the HIV/AIDS pandemic on children living in rural Uganda and the slums of Nairobi, Kenya. In 2005 Alison took over as the Executive Director of AYA. During the same year she also traveled to Southeast Asia, visiting AYA's then partners in Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam.

During Alison's 5-year tenure as Executive Director, AYA raised \$1.78 million for partner programs in Africa and Asia. For several of those years Alison sacrificed by working without a salary so that all of the funds raised could go directly to AYA's partners and the children they serve.

AYA is fortunate to have had Alison's dedication, passion, and service over the past 9 years, and we wish her well as she leaves us in October to build her private counsel-

ing practice and welcome her second child. In Alison's own words, "I will always be involved in AYA's work—supporting our partners and raising funds—but am stepping out of the daily operations of the organization to focus on raising my children." Thank you, Alison, for your commitment to children in need.

AYA welcomes Mandy Stinnett Adkins as the new Executive Director. Mandy has a Masters of Social Work, a background in non-profit management and community education, and has provided pro bono services to AYA for the past 2 years. She most notably collaborated with Alison in writing the USAID grant for water projects in Uganda. We are pleased to welcome Mandy to the helm and wish her well as she continues AYA's legacy of improving the quality of life of vulnerable children in Africa.



Alison pictured with children at Rehema Children's Centre in the Korogochu slum of Nairobi, Kenya

During Alison's 5-year tenure as Executive Director, AYA raised \$1.78 million for partner programs in Africa and Asia.

AYA's newest Board of Directors members

In 2009 AYA welcomed five new members to our Board of Directors. We are pleased to introduce:

Brad Klerna is the VP of Engineering at Bertelkamp Automation, which specializes in factory automations systems and robotics. He is responsible for the engineers, programmers, and technicians that build the equipment. Brad is also a pilot and in real estate investment.

Katie Logan has 7 years' experience planning special events

and organized the "Building Blocks for Africa" 5K, a first-year fundraiser to increase community awareness of AYA's work. She serves as Director of Children and Youth Ministries at a United Methodist Church, where she works with families to encourage the spiritual maturity of children and youth.

Melissa Romans has an AD in Nursing and a background in CVICU and community public health. For the past 13 years

she has worked as the Family Life Curriculum Coordinator in a public school system, where she teaches sex education and STD prevention.

Randy Trusley has 30 years of experience in financial management, accounting, business planning, and internal controls. He currently serves as the Chief Financial Officer for a \$25 million global construction services provider. Randy retired after 25 years with a \$10 billion electric utility company.

Barry Vaughn is a Senior Technical Consultant with HP Services, where he works with large corporations to help them design and develop technical solutions for their enterprise. He has 24 years experience in enterprise computing software development, design, and architecture.

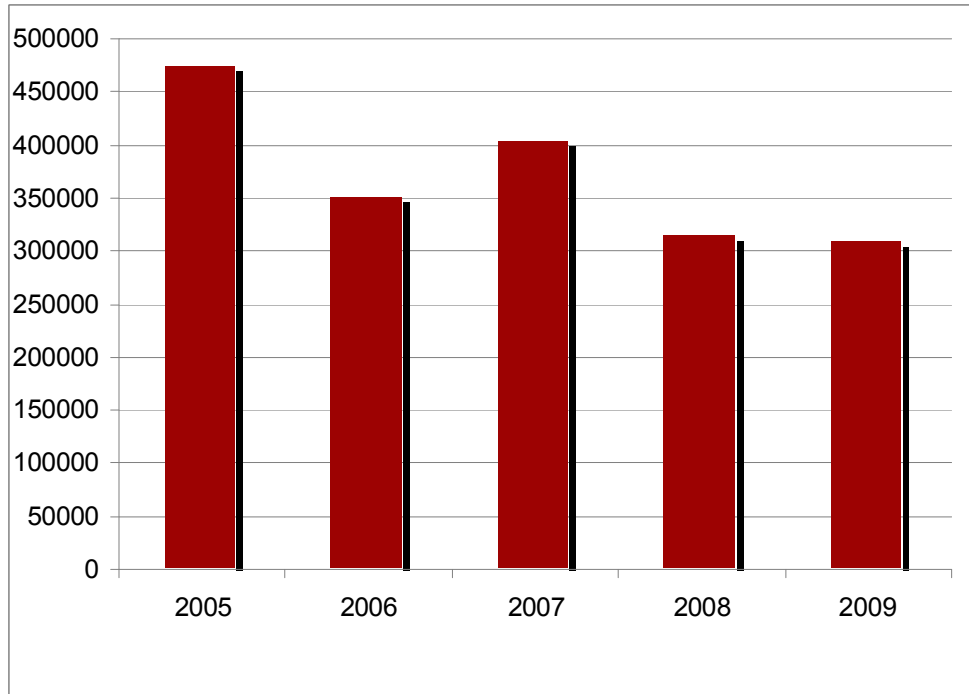
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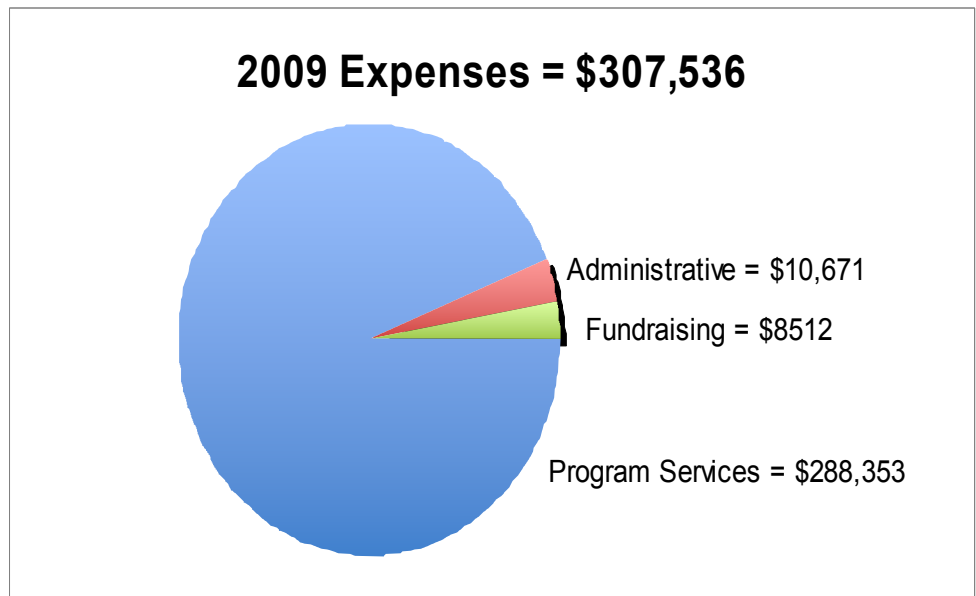
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AYA's 2009 Financial Report

2009 Revenue = \$307,344



2009 Expenses = \$307,536



AYA's net assets at the end of 2009 were \$99,464. For a detailed breakdown of income and expenses, please see our IRS 990 form at www.allforyouth.org/financial.html. Audited financial statements are available upon request.