



IMPACT REPORT

2020

 **younglife**
Africa/Middle East



Join the movement.
Change lives.
Impact eternity.

3
MISSION & VISION

5
A CLOSER LOOK

9
FROM THE FIELD

15
ANNUAL IMPACT

17
STEWARDSHIP

21
MEET THE TEAM

Dear Friends,

Our first year as vice presidents is coming to a close, and it is with humble and grateful hearts that we reflect on all God's work across Africa and the Middle East. In October 2019, we took on these new roles as the first African vice presidents in Young Life's history. While we are divided geographically as Africa East, Africa West, Africa South and North Africa/Middle East, we are united in our mission: to transform Africa and the Middle East through Jesus-centered, disciple-making leaders. Together, we are pioneering new ministries, growing up leadership trees and building relationships near and far—all in hopes of making the gospel known to kids. Together, we bring different kinds of gifts, but we know it is the same Spirit who leads all of us. Together, we are stepping out in faith, moving forward to reach our goals and clinging to the hope we have in God's promises. Together, we believe the greatest leaders are the ones who give generously and serve wholeheartedly. We seek to model our leadership after Jesus, serving our staff and leaders so that in return they can love and care for kids.

This past year, our communities experienced violence, religious persecution, fundraising challenges, strikes, joblessness, poverty and the lasting effects of a global pandemic. Yet we have seen the body of Christ grow. We are humbled to witness how our indigenous leadership has inspired staff and leaders in the field. These leaders are the heart behind our mission and they invest powerfully in their communities. We are amazed by the stories we hear from leaders bringing hope to some of the most challenging places in the world. This year, Young Life leaders risked

their lives by traveling to bring the gospel to new places. Others sought out orphans, refugees, teen-moms, teens with disabilities, those in prison and those most impacted by COVID-19. As a mission, we continue to raise up women leaders despite continuous social and political obstacles. Kids without hope are meeting Jesus through Young Life and in return bringing hope home to their families and communities. The Spirit of God is at work, uniting us as we further the kingdom, go the extra mile and reach more kids.

We never expected to lead in these roles—our heart has always been simply to share the gospel. Steve Larmey (Group Senior Vice President) left big shoes for us to fill, yet we are grateful that he and others continue to walk alongside us. God has not left us as orphans in our new positions. Praise Him who is aligning us together so that we lead as one. **Together, we thank God for you, an integral part of this body. Because of your support—your generosity, your prayer, your friendship—we continue to reach kids, develop leaders and transform communities. We all bring different kinds of gifts, but from the same Spirit. We all bring different kinds of service, but for the same Lord. Just as a body with its many parts, we together serve Christ.** Thank you for partnering with us.

Pamoja, Pamoja,



Martin Wamalwa
Vice President
Africa East



James Davis
Vice President
Africa West



Alexis Kwamy
Vice President
Africa South



There are different kinds of gifts but the same spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work... Just as a body, though one, has many parts, so it is with Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6, 12



Our mission is to introduce young people to Jesus Christ and help them grow in their faith. *Our vision* is simple: we make disciples, one kid at a time. Divided geographically but united in our faith, we will not stop until every kid across Africa and the Middle East has heard the gospel.

Explore our Impact Report and see how you can partner with us.

FIVE YEAR FORWARD GOALS 2017-2022

1 **20,000**
VOLUNTEER LEADERS BY 2022
Current Status: 11,207 volunteer leaders

2 **RAISE \$1M**
IN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST
Current Status: \$263,509 raised indigenously thru 6/20/2020.

3 **RECRUIT 300+**
REGIONAL TEAM MEMBERS
Current Status: 190 regional team members

4 **FULLY IMPLEMENT OUR THREE-LEGGED STOOL OPERATIONAL MODEL ACROSS THE DIVISION AND DO ON-THE-GROUND ASSESSMENTS IN EVERY COUNTRY TO PROVIDE INCREASINGLY MORE ROBUST FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS**
Current Status: We continue to implement this model in every country where we have full legal status — 13 countries and growing.

MEET THE VPs



Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant... // Matthew 20:26

JAMES DAVIS AFRICA WEST

James is a passionate and prayerful leader. At the age of 16, James found himself hiding from enemies in the midst of a civil war in his home country of Liberia. Here, James promised God that if He kept James safe, he would commit his life to serving Him. The Lord answered, and James kept his promise. Soon after, James joined a church and began a youth group for kids in his neighborhood. After stumbling upon a Young Life story in a magazine, James asked the Lord to start Young Life in Liberia. At the time, rebel forces controlled most of the country. James was asking for nothing less than a miracle and God

provided. James and his friends gave from their own pockets to begin ministry in a neighborhood, and fund a child soldiers rehabilitation camp. In 2003, the war ended, peace came and Young Life began in Liberia. James and his wife Gloria live in Monrovia, Liberia with their two children.

***"We are in a season where God wants us to be servants... We want to portray and demonstrate good servant leadership. God will duplicate, multiply and grow us, and we'll have a great generation of leaders connected to Jesus and to the glory of the Lord."* – James**

- 2003 Volunteer Leader
Liberia
- 2004 Area Director
Liberia
- 2009 Country Director
Liberia
- 2012 Regional Director
West Africa - Anglophone
- 2016 Senior Regional Dir.
West Africa
- 2019 Vice President
Africa West



Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me...I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. // Philippians 3:12, 14b

MARTIN SIMIYU WAMALWA AFRICA EAST

Martin is a leader and an encourager. He grew up in Nairobi and Kitale, Kenya, with his six full siblings and a mother who was one of seven wives to his father. Martin was raised in church, but it was in his young adulthood that he experienced the transformative power of the Holy Spirit and dedicated his life to serving youth in his community. In 2004, Martin established Young Life in Kenya and has since served in a variety of different

leadership roles. He now lives in Kahawa West, Kenya, where he is married to Alice, a father to four kids and cares for his two nieces whose mother (Martin's sister) passed away in 2004.

***"I want to take hold of what is from you Lord...I haven't reached my goal [in this new position], but want to push on towards what God has for me and the kids in my region."* – Martin**

- 2004 Volunteer Leader
Kenya
- 2007 Country Director
Kenya
- 2012 Division Training Associate and Regional Director
Western Kenya
- 2019 Vice President
Africa East



When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." // Matthew 14:26-27

ALEXIS KWAMY AFRICA SOUTH

Alexis brings a spirit of worship to everything he encounters. Originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Alexis saw his village destroyed in a tribal war fueled by outside countries hungry for gold and diamonds. Separated for months after fleeing from rebels, his family reunited in a refugee camp in Uganda. Alexis is resilient and courageous. He attended university in Kenya. There, he became one of the first leaders

to bring Young Life ministry to Africa. Alexis then moved to Tanzania to begin ministry in one of the most difficult neighborhoods in Arusha. He now lives in Dar es Salaam with his wife Jacqueline and their two daughters. ***"Just like the men in the boat, I've been very scared to go out of my comfort zone...But Lord, I will trust you."* – Alexis**

- 2003 Volunteer Leader
Nairobi, Kenya
- 2004 Area Director
Kenya
- 2006 Area Director
Tanzania
- 2012 Regional Director
Tanzania
- 2016 Senior Regional Dir.
Tanzania
- 2019 Vice President
Africa South

WHERE WE WORK

2020 STATS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Over \$250,000 raised for start-up ministry in new north African countries.
- Three new female leaders.
- Ten potential leaders identified in Marrakech, Morocco, to begin new ministry.

612 KIDS IN CLUB/WEEK
74 KIDS IN DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS/WEEK
14 MINISTRIES
2 STAFF

NORTH AFRICA

- Fundraised \$500 (USD) locally in Nigeria by volunteer leaders to support ministry in their communities.
- Appointed a regional YoungLives coordinator, strengthening our ability to reach teen moms and their children.
- Developed new ministries in Cameroon and Burkina Faso, and strengthened leadership in hard-to-reach areas in southeast Liberia.

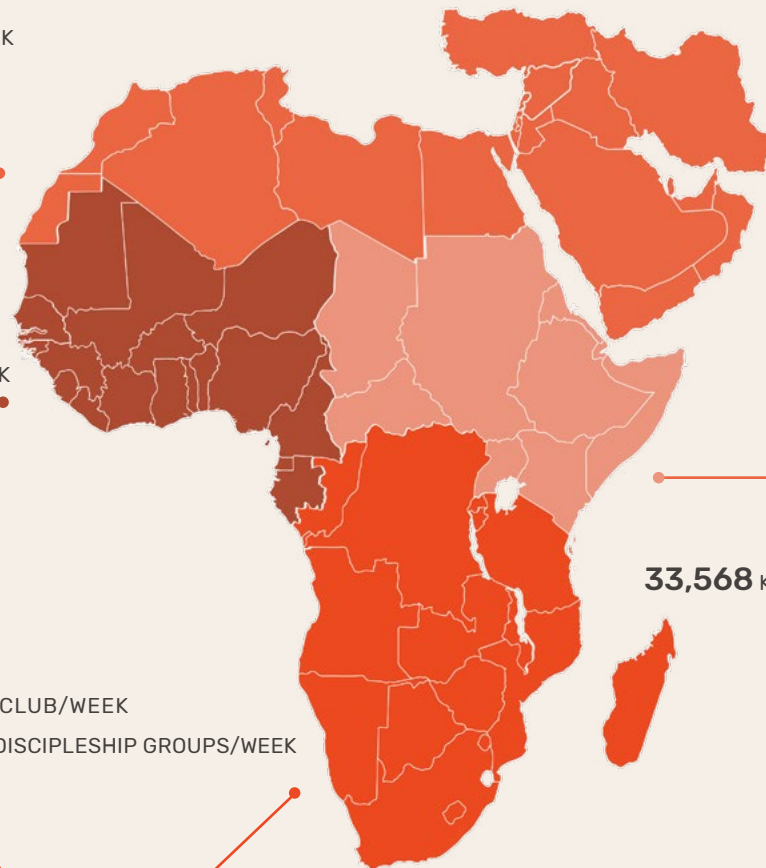
61,466 KIDS IN CLUB/WEEK
16,879 KIDS IN DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS/WEEK
1,234 MINISTRIES
70 STAFF

AFRICA WEST

- Cultivated an effective and cohesive ministry plan within a team of leaders who speak three different languages - English, French and Kinyarwanda/Kirundi.
- Established new ministry and leadership in Brazzaville, the capital of the Republic of Congo.
- Hired two female regional directors who are leading ministry in Zimbabwe.
- Recruited more than 1,700 local prayer partners who mentor and support leaders in Tanzania, Zanzibar and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

68,974 KIDS IN CLUB/WEEK
27,555 KIDS IN DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS/WEEK
887 MINISTRIES
111 STAFF

AFRICA SOUTH



MIDDLE EAST

632 KIDS IN CLUB/WEEK
221 KIDS IN DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS/WEEK
17 MINISTRIES
10 STAFF

- New Arab Christian leaders in Palestine.
- Two new Capernaum clubs in Israel.
- Continued work with Syrian, Iraqi and Iranian refugee teens in Greece.
- New work with nomadic clans in southern Israel.

AFRICA EAST

71,576 KIDS IN CLUB/WEEK
33,568 KIDS IN DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS/WEEK
766 MINISTRIES
102 STAFF

- Established East Africa Senior Team (EAST).
- Hired four new regional directors, one of whom is female.
- Collaborated across the division to implement a training cohort for new regional directors.

Responding to COVID-19

When COVID-19 hit the globe, many resorted to virtual communication. But in countries where data plans are limited and internet connection is often unstable, Young Life leaders in Africa and the Middle East needed to be a little more innovative. This began with inviting our entire community across the globe to join us in praying Psalm 91 for 91 days, just as we did during the 2014 Ebola crisis. We prayed for protection, healing, courage and vision to keep reaching and teaching kids. We also prayed that God would open doors and serve through our team on the ground, and that kids would experience the power of Jesus when they least expected it. God answered

our prayers! On our 91st day, we watched almost 28,000 people engage in prayer and worship. From March 11th to June 10th, leaders reached 32,046 kids by phone and 4,135 said yes to Jesus!

Knowing that this pandemic continues to impact many of the most vulnerable communities, we continue to pray and serve in these innovative ways. While God is still on the move, we have decided to postpone all camps until 2021. We are carefully monitoring the effects of COVID-19 globally, and ask that you continue to pray with us as we navigate ministry in this new context.

Staff in Kenya are ministering to teenagers and leaders over the phone. They have gathered friends and local community members to give meals to families from local slums, sanitary products to girls and face masks, all in hopes of sharing Jesus in their community.

Kenya



Leaders in Côte d'Ivoire were invited to join a local radio station to lead Discovery Bible Study and prayer. It went so well that the local station invited them back to do a weekly club over the radio. Leaders sing songs and worship music, read a Bible story, pray and then local kids can call in and share their testimony on the radio. The radio station also decided to be a local partner to Young Life because they have seen the great impact it has on kids.

Côte d'Ivoire



Leaders in the Middle East hosted socially-distant Bible studies, in addition to delivering care packages to kids and young adults with disabilities.

Palestine



Amidst fear and uncertainty, we remain committed to reaching kids for Jesus. As each country begins to re-open, staff is carefully implementing a "Crawl, Walk, Run" stair-stepped plan to resume face-to-face ministry. As we enter into this plan, we remain rooted in prayer for a renewed calling, refreshed training for leaders and for a deeper investment into our ministry model.



Generational Impact in Tanzania

Although the pandemic has restricted many normal Young Life activities, the Lord is faithful and sovereign as He continues to not only reach kids, but entire families with the gospel. Irene, a Young Life leader in Tanzania, connected with Zahra who had to use her mom's phone due to not having her own. Zahra's mom became curious about who her daughter was contacting and wanted to speak with Irene. Zahra's mom, the only Christian in her family, was overjoyed to hear Irene had shared the gospel with Zahra and led her to Christ. Zahra's mom asked Irene if she would share the gospel with her entire family. The next day Irene shared the gospel over speakerphone with Zahra's whole family. After many questions, Zahra's father and brother accepted Christ. **Now the whole family has come to know Jesus as their Savior!** Irene and Zahra's family have a weekly virtual Bible study, during which Irene continues to share about Christ and disciple the family.

Irene's story exemplifies the countless ways that leaders are bravely continuing ministry despite the challenges of COVID. Irene faithfully embodies Young Life's **Map-Tree-List** model, as Zahra was on a prayer list, part of a ministry map and became a new disciple on a branch of Irene's leadership tree. We hope that Zahra's family will continue this Map-Tree-List model and grow in their faith with others.

Irene reflects, "I want to thank God and praise His name, because He has been so faithful to us during this pandemic. It has been difficult, but it has also been good—we believe that the Lord will make miracles happen. I am so grateful for the chance the Lord has provided for me to lead Zahra's family to Christ. Even though it is hard, we will always continue to do ministry as Christ leads us."

**Names have been changed for privacy and protection*



Community Funds New Training Center

"Go further, see the effect you expect." These were the words the Lord gave to Côte d'Ivoire Regional Director Pascal Boidy (pictured bottom left). As he sat with his peers at Young Life Africa's main training center in Tanzania, Pascal realized the need for a similar center in West Africa. "It was then I decided to build a training center in honor of the Lord, without knowing myself how I was going to do it." Upon his return home, Pascal shared his ideas with a few close friends and Young Life leaders, and they quickly got to work. He fundraised locally and asked others to join with him in prayer. These leaders contributed some of their very own funds, and also received contributions from a church in their community.

After months of sacrifice and hard work, this team of local leaders finished building Young Life Africa's newest training center—the only one built entirely from local contributions.

In December 2019, the training center was officially dedicated to Young Life Africa. The center's first event hosted 16 senior leaders from across West Africa for the 2019 West Africa Leadership Team gathering. Since then, it has become a homestead for local leadership development, Bible studies and Young Life clubs. Africa West Vice President James Davis and Mali Regional Director Tiowa Diarra also host retreats and operate trainings from this base.

Pascal reflects, "I give glory to God, for I was able to fulfill the word that He spoke...I bless the name of God who made me able to do this with His help and with the help of Young Life volunteers and community in Côte d'Ivoire."





When Heaven Invades a Jail Cell

Confused and afraid, Emmanuel, a Young Life area director, found himself in a jail cell with five other men. On his left sat Peter, one of his home country's most hated men, known as the head of a violent rebel group. On his right sat four other men in jail for extreme crimes. Emmanuel felt God tell him to start praying fervently. He prayed for a long time and then began to worship aloud. Emmanuel felt prompted to invite his cellmates to worship with him—and to his surprise they did, singing at the top of their lungs. The police came to the cell to see what was going on and, miraculously, they too began worshipping.

In East Africa, more than 800,000 refugees from two war-torn countries reside in a camp fraught with tension and hostility. In 2018, Young Life leaders started praying about this refugee camp, where 80 percent of the population is under 25 years old. Emmanuel was one of two leaders sent to start ministry within the camp. Access to the camp is extremely difficult to obtain, but Emmanuel partnered with a humanitarian group and entered the camp in December 2018. For a week, Emmanuel and his co-leader did contact work, put on clubs, and identified five leaders to continue ministry there, including one who gave his life to Christ at a Young Life camp in his home country. All of this was done in a deep spirit of prayer. However, Emmanuel needed to return home to resume his area director duties.

For many months, he longed to reconnect with these leaders in person and so, in November 2019, he traveled six hours to the refugee camp, unsure if he'd be allowed to enter. Emmanuel met with the head officer of the camp to explain his desire to visit the young refugees, but the officer did not believe him. Instead, he was convinced that Emmanuel was coming to do illegal things. The officer arrested Emmanuel and sent him to jail before a court proceeding. Emmanuel found himself behind bars in an unimaginable situation. **Yet God did not leave him alone there and brought heaven into the jail cell.** Four cellmates, including Peter, gave their life to Jesus, along with multiple prison guards. After this occurred, these new friends of Emmanuel asked why he was in jail and he replied,

"I now know that I am here to preach the gospel."

Emmanuel spent two nights in jail and was released with all charges dropped. Young Life now has freedom to minister to the refugees there—so we continue to go, bringing hope to the marginalized and forgotten, to the rebel and the refugee.

**Names have been changed for privacy and protection*

ANNUAL IMPACT

KIDS IN DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS



In homes and fields, under mango trees and in the streets, indigenous Young Life leaders across the division meet with kids in their community to walk page-by-page through the Bible. This year, more than 78,000 kids were involved in discipleship groups each week, learning together about the life they are created for.

KIDS IN CLUB



In addition to building friendships at school and throughout the community, 203,260 kids attended Young Life clubs each week, where they experienced the love of Jesus and heard the gospel.

 176,503

 71,199

 1,791

 203,260

 78,297

 2,188

 147,540

 61,818

 1,510

 121,078

 46,988

 1,223

 92,179

 31,475

 889

 69,133

 20,891

 765

 61,166

 17,632

 614

 42,968

 11,466

 457

 28,753

 7,064


 345

 18,932

 4,580

 241

 13,900

 3,346

 186

NUMBER OF MINISTRIES



We are committed to reaching all kids across Africa and the Middle East. As leaders dive deeper into their communities, we recognize the need for different types of ministry. **WyldLife** and **Young Life** clubs serve middle and high school students, and **Young Life University** serves young adults. We minister to kids with special needs through **Capernaum**, and to teen moms through **YoungLives**. Most recently, we have developed ministry opportunities with **internally displaced people** and in **prisons**. This year, we watched our number of ministries grow to 2,188.



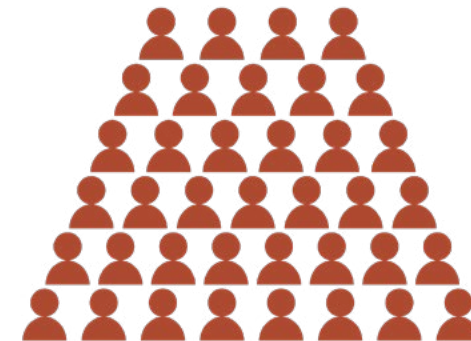
Our model of raising up disciple-making volunteer leaders allows us to multiply our impact while minimizing costs. The exponential impact of this model that starts with **one staff** is eternal.

STAFF



1 staff supervises **38** leaders

LEADERS

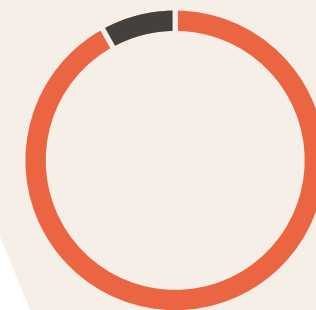


Each leader brings **18** kids to club each week to hear the gospel.

KIDS



EXPENSES



■ 8% Management and Fundraising
■ 92% Direct Ministry to Kids (camps & clubs)

Of each dollar raised...

92¢

directly supports ministry in the field or at camp.



SUPPORT FINANCIALLY
AND SPIRITUALLY

PARTNER
IN PRAYER

TRAVEL TO
SEE MINISTRY

JOIN A REGIONAL
TEAM COMMUNITY

THE SPONSOR-STAFF PARTNERSHIP

fosters connection, fellowship
and deep friendship.



MINISTER
TO KIDS

DISCIPLE
KIDS

DEVELOP
LEADERS

IMPACT
COMMUNITIES

TOGETHER

LIVES ARE TRANSFORMED FOR
ETERNITY AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Together, staff and sponsors enter into mission partnership to reach kids and develop leaders across Africa and the Middle East. Sponsorship provides sustainable resources to fuel this mission. **A sponsor's financial commitment directly supports staff and ministry costs in the field.** If fully funded, nearly 100% of in-country operational expenses are supported by staff and country sponsors. By joining African and Middle Eastern staff in direct mission partnership, sponsors are able to build **transformative, life-long relationships** with those in the field.



SENIOR LEADERSHIP



**AFRICA SOUTH
VICE PRESIDENT**
Alexis Kwamy



**AFRICA WEST
VICE PRESIDENT**
James Davis



**AFRICA EAST
VICE PRESIDENT**
Martin Wamalwa



ETHIOPIA
Fireselam Assefa



ETHIOPIA
Hirut Berassa



ETHIOPIA
Wonde Baye



HORN OF AFRICA
Moges Berassa



KENYA
Benson Tsuma



KENYA
Catherine Odongo



**DIRECTOR OF
DEVELOPMENT**
Candace Grisdale



**AFRICA STAFF
DEVELOPMENT DIR.**
Dyan Larmey



KENYA
Matilda Kiumba



KENYA
Richard Odongo



KENYA
Sam Gitau Karago



UGANDA
Augustine Okudel



**DIRECTOR OF
STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP**
Greg Wright



**DIRECTOR OF
OPERATIONS**
Michael Knowles



**GROUP SENIOR
VICE PRESIDENT**
Steve Larmey



UGANDA
Erotu Lawrence



UGANDA
Simon Okiria



UGANDA
Stella Donze

AFRICA SOUTH



**DRC, BURUNDI,
TANZANIA, ZANZIBAR**
James Mungai Kamau



MALAWI
Mphatso Stiles



MALAWI
Zein Tembo



**MOZAMBIQUE, ESWATINI
AND SOUTH AFRICA**
Nkosi Sampindi



RWANDA
George Bataringaya



ZAMBIA
Banji Namatama
Simasiku



ZIMBABWE
Bhekipilo "Bheki"
Ncube



ZIMBABWE
Limukani "Limz"
Sibanda



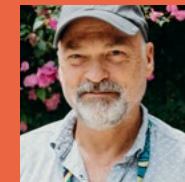
ZIMBABWE
Mandlenkosi "Power"
Ndlovu



ZIMBABWE
Sharon Intauno

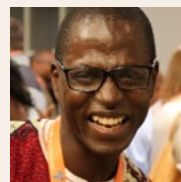


ZIMBABWE
Sithandazile Moyo



MOROCCO
Dan Barnett

AFRICA WEST



CÔTE D'IVOIRE
Pascal Boidy



LIBERIA
Ethel Dixon



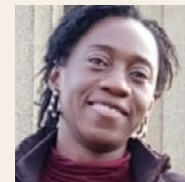
LIBERIA
Rancy Barsaye



LIBERIA
Yancy Dixon



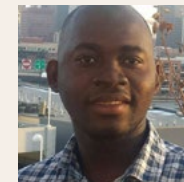
LIBERIA
Zinnah Yallah



MALI
Aissata Déborah Samake



MALI
Tiowa Diarra



SIERRA LEONE
Patrick Lavahun

NORTH AFRICA MIDDLE EAST



MIDDLE EAST
Hunter and Lauri Lambeth



PALESTINE
Yousef Khalil

A Big Thank You!

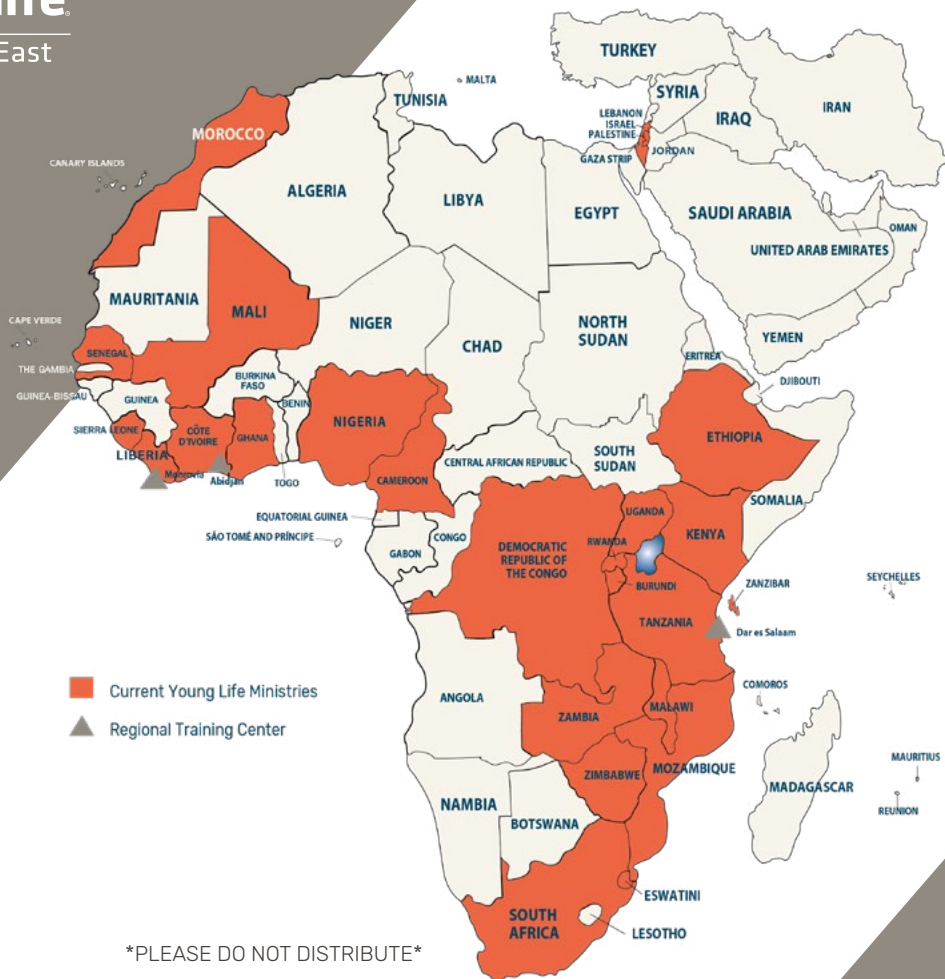
Only together, with your partnership, are we able to impact Africa and the Middle East for the Lord. Together, our ministries will spread across the countries, the division and beyond, reaching kids of every tribe, tongue and nation. Together, kids will know the love of Christ, grow in their faith and develop into leaders who continue to impact their communities for generations to come. Thank you for being in this with us as we partner with the Holy Spirit to bring the Kingdom to Africa and the Middle East.

In Jesus,



Steve Larmey // Group Senior Vice President
Young Life Africa/Middle East/India Sub-Continent/Asia Pacific





PLEASE DO NOT DISTRIBUTE