Hello, Champs!

Everything we do at YUVA has just one goal: the sustained well-being of children and young people, especially the most vulnerable. We work with families, communities, and partners to ensure that children and young people enjoy good health, are educated for life, experience the love of parents and their surroundings, and are cared for, protected, and participating. More importantly, we serve all children and young people — regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

Yours,
Krishna Athal
Executive Director

You can make a difference! Join YUVA and become active in a variety of service areas. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis. A volunteer of YUVA is called a YUVAN. Visit www.yuvamauritius.com
4 Pillars of Our Vision

YUVA is focused on making a long-term impact by helping children and young people living in poverty, or not being able to have access to basics.

Education
To help children & young people acquire quality education — formal & informal.

Health
To help children & young people develop healthy habits & connect them to services.

Empowerment
So that children & young people can build leadership, teamwork & confidence.

Employment
To help young people develop workplace/technical skills to change their life for good.
Provide those in need with tools necessary to be successful in the classroom.

YUVA has distributed school materials and supplies (stationaries, bags, uniforms etc.) to needy children and young people in the last one year. The first objective of the project was to provide much needed supplies to the students, thereby enabling them to better prepare for the academic challenges they would face in the coming school year. The second objective was to take the financial burden from teachers who often use their personal funds to purchase school supplies for needy students.

It is to be noted that the country needs approximately 160 to 200 pints of blood a day to cater for hemodialysis and for surgeries requiring blood. Donating blood is one of the most noble deeds a human being can do. Blood donation saves lives and we, at YUVA, want to raise awareness on importance of donating blood but also how to prevent and cure other diseases related to diabetes. The 24 blood donation and medical camps of YUVA contributed to the National Diabetes Education Programme.
Empower young people to become entrepreneurs in order to allow them see the possibilities from a young age.

108

Young people trained by professionals to set up their business through the YUVA Entrepreneurship Programme.

The YUVA Entrepreneurship Programme (YEP) operates with the belief that entrepreneurship and business skills are teachable and learnable. This is why we have devised a 5-week free programme to equip startups with the basic skills required to launch and run their businesses at the early stage of their growth. YUVA brings together the best tools and frameworks to teach and hone entrepreneurship skills in Mauritius. The end outcome being strong viable businesses, which go on to create new jobs, more new revenue and ultimately enlarge Mauritius’ private business sector.

Execute our anti-poverty mission by collecting used clothes and distributing them to needy families.

12k

Clothing items distributed to disadvantaged families living at Baie Du Tombeau, Poste de Flacq and Panchvati.

YUVA had launched its anti-poverty mission by collecting used clothes from individuals, civic and corporate organisations, then distributing those clothes to poor and disadvantaged people. Several collecting points were established to receive clothes, including at Super U, Bagatelle Mall, La Croisette and Baie Du Tombeau’s Simla Way. YUVA has a bold commitment to finish what it started, and end poverty in all forms and dimensions. This involves targeting the most vulnerable, increasing access to basic resources and services, and supporting affected communities.
Social work should be professionalised, without depersonalising its practice.

Full educational scholarships given to students to study ‘Diploma in Community Services Work’ at Charles Telfair Institute.

YUVA has awarded 8 full scholarships for the 2017–2018 academic year to young people to pursue the Diploma in Community Services Work programme at the Charles Telfair Institute. This course helps young people develop a comprehensive understanding of industry requirements in the arena of community services and social work practices. Also, there is a strong focus on the needs of industry to respond to the needs of the community in a society where more and more emphasis is placed on community services. YUVA believes social work should be professionalised, without depersonalising its practices.

Plants are the lungs of our land, purifying the air and giving fresh strength to our people.

YUVA has distributed about 5,500 plants (mainly medicinal) in the last one year. Medicinal plants have been used in healthcare since time immemorial. Medicinal plants play vital roles in disease prevention and their promotion and use fit into all existing prevention strategies. A medicinal plant is any plant which, in one or more of its organs, contains substances that can be used for therapeutic purposes or which are precursors for the synthesis of useful drugs. Over 90% of traditional medicine recipes or remedies contain medicinal plants.

Medicinal and decorative plants distributed around the island, covering all the nine districts of Mauritius.
Empower youth to ensure ethical leadership, collaboration and good governance.

Youth leaders from 18 different countries of the world met in Mauritius to discuss the pressing issues faced by young people.

YUVA invited youth representatives from Public, NGO and (Social) Business sectors, coming from all over the world to participate in its various international forums. The forums aimed to unite youth leaders and foster discussion and exchange on social work and community services work. As experience shows, there is an urgent need for all social leaders to combine their strength and experiences in order to tackle rising issues faced by children and young people in the world.

Help young people develop workplace and technical skills to change their life for good.

Families residing at Panchvati, Rivière du Rempart offered gifts on the occasion of Christmas and New Year.

Thanks to donations from sponsors like you, we gave families, residing at Panchvati, Christmas gifts this year. We only have one rule: Every family gets a gift. No exceptions. The holiday season was here. And no matter who they are or what traditions they celebrate, Christmas is a time when we want to see everyone in Mauritius have a smile on their faces. Disadvantaged families are thrilled when their sponsors send holiday cards or money. And let’s be honest — they really like getting presents, too.
Primary and secondary students encouraged to continue schooling and to maintain good attendance at school.

YUVA ran an initiative committed to reduce school absenteeism and dropout rates among primary and secondary students residing at Baie Du Tombeau, Roche Bois and Saint Croix. Again, our focus was on children and young people from economically backward families. Various innovative techniques have been used to execute this project. Here, we thank all the parents, teachers and heads of schools that have collaborated with us to conduct this initiative.

Children and young people sensitised about healthy habits, and existing health services in Mauritius.

Being healthy is what we should all strive for – when we are healthy, we are balanced and most importantly, we are happy. Roman poet Ovid once famously remarked that our habits change into our character. What he probably meant to include was that our habits, just like our characters, are never set in stone, but instead are dynamic, fluid like the water of a river, and just like this water flowing down a river, our characters are influenced by obstacles in their path.
Prepare young people to better match skills with the demand of employers.

3900

Young ladies and school leavers from various villages encouraged to register for the National Skills Development Programme.

In-line with its goal to reduce unemployment among young people in Mauritius, YUVA in close collaboration with the Human Resource Development Council (HRDC), helped unemployed youngsters to secure a better future by organising workshops in different villages. Attendees could do on-spot registration for the National Skills Development Programme (NSDP) and the Graduate Training for Employment Scheme (GTES).

Empower young people to respect diversity and culture that exist in our country.

150k

Puris, 20000+ juice cups and 20000+ biryani plates distributed by YUVA for Maha Shivaratri at Grand Bassin.

Maha Shivaratri is celebrated in a wide variety of ways in different countries where Hinduism is practised, but all are concerned with marking the marriage of Lord Shiva to Parvati. It is a very important Hindu festival and it is suggested that some 300,000 pilgrims celebrate Maha Shivaratri in Mauritius. It involves fasting, praying and making offerings to Lord Shiva and can start up to a month before the actual day. In Mauritius, all Hindus are also required to walk to the lake at Grand Bassin, called Ganga Talao (or Lake Ganges). Depending on where they live, pilgrims will start walking to Grand Bassin several days before.
Underprivileged primary and secondary students provided with free private tuition for different academic subjects.

YUVA provided free tuition for primary and secondary students — coming from disadvantaged families — in the last 12 months. Called “Bridge to Literacy”, the project involved teachers giving all-subject tuition to primary, and English language/literature tuition to secondary students. Students from households with a monthly income of below Rs 10,000 qualified. Furthermore, their progress was tracked. And the tuition sessions were delivered every Sunday, in the north at Petit Raffray.

Healthy children and young people are the greatest asset that Mauritius can have.

YUVA aims to promote appropriate diets and healthy lifestyles, including raising the consumption of fruits and vegetables by two-fold, decreasing the consumption of oils, saturated fats and trans-fatty acids by 5%. We also aim to protect consumers – specially children and young people – through consumer education. The country’s Non-Communicable Diseases Survey Report 2015 showed that the prevalence of diabetes in Mauritius in 2015 stood at 22.8% as compared to 23.6% in 2009, while the prevalence of pre-diabetes for the same period has declined from 24.4% to 19.4%.
Work with young people to make the year be remembered as the dawn of a new era of sustainable development.

Young people sensitised about the 12 Sustainable Development Goals adopted by YUVA from the United Nations.

As YUVA notes, this year is a time for national action. YUVA advocates for 12 Sustainable Development Goals to achieve extraordinary things in the next 10 years: end poverty, promote prosperity and well-being for all, and protect the island. These Sustainable Development Goals set a course to achieve these objectives – for people everywhere. The Goals serve as YUVANs’ to-do list. This is an era of historic opportunity. We can be the first youth generation to end extreme poverty, the most determined youth generation in history to end injustice and inequality, and the last youth generation to be threatened by climate change.

What gunpowder did for war, the press has done for the mind.

YUVA has always made an effort to remain transparent with members of the public through press communiques, media interventions or through social media posts (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram). In the last one year, several YUVANs have intervened in news articles and radio and television shows to share and promote the vision of the organisation to a larger audience. Since we give a lot of importance to communications, a dedicated team has been set up by YUVA to handle public and media relations.
But if you don’t like the present system... What’s your alternative?

Essays received from secondary and tertiary students for the ‘Mauritian Student Essay Contest’.

YUVA had announced the Mauritian Student Essay Contest twice, on the next system. With a panel of respected politicians, activists and scholars as judges, we awarded three first prizes for the best original essays by a secondary, an undergraduate, and a graduate. Three runner-up prizes were also awarded.

The contest was reserved for citizens of Mauritius and strictly for students enrolled in a secondary / undergraduate / graduate programme. Also, submissions had to be individual; no group submission was encouraged.

Promoting the practice of sports among children and young people for them to lead a healthy life.

Underprivileged children and young people participated in sports activities with the intent to build the culture of keeping fit.

YUVA believes that sports can develop transferable skills and toolkits, which play a key role in a self-reliant and sustainable life and lead to income-generating activities and economic participation. It can advocate for ending poverty as well as generate funds and facilitate partnerships for this goal. Through sports, children and young people of Mauritius can adopt active lifestyles that enhance well-being, health and prevent diseases, particularly non-communicable diseases.
You may choose to donate to one of our major field operations or to make a general unearmarked donation. These unearmarked donations are essential to enable us to help children and young people who are in desperate need, but for whom it can be difficult to raise funds as their plight is no longer in the news.

By contributing to a programme you feel strongly about as a donor, engage creatively with the shape, form and impact of that project. Why? So a generation of children and young people never looks back on the possibilities of how they can create positive change.

If you would like to consider supporting our work, you can do so in the following ways:

1. Cash Donations for Mauritian Citizens
2. Via Bank Cheque or Draft, to be made out to ‘YUVA’ and sent by post to:
   YUVA Head Office
   2nd Floor, Jade Court
   Jummah Mosque Street
   Port Louis 11602, Mauritius
3. Via Bank Transfer to YUVA’s bank account:
   Account holder: YUVA
   Account no.: 62030100193303
   Swift code: STCBMUMU
   IBAN: MU09STCB11180030100193303000MUR
   Bank: State Bank of Mauritius, SBM Tower, Port Louis

YUVA is not a government agency but depends on donations to carry out its work. What’s more, the value of contributions is increased by the fact that the NGO has a huge volunteer network, with 755 volunteers for every paid member of staff.

Once again, thank you for your support!