MISSION: TO NURTURE CHILDREN INTO A LOVING, SERVING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Reach a Child, Reach the World

We are in the business of reaching children everywhere with the good news of salvation. Thousands of children around the world need to hear about the love of Jesus. We need to reach the children in the cities. We need to reach children with special needs so that they will use their gifts to serve the church and the community. We need to reach the children within our church so that they will develop a lifelong loving, serving relationship with Jesus. We want to encourage all children to:

**REACH UP TO GOD**
- Engage in TAG (Time Alone with God) through daily Bible study and prayer.
- Study their Sabbath School lesson—download Gracelink App to study the lesson and do other activities.
- Read Ellen White books adapted for children—Michael Ask Why and Step by Step.
- Keep a prayer journal.
- Participate in family worship and church worship—lead family worship, singing, and tell stories.
- Practice the principles of healthful living—drink water, exercise, sleep enough, etc.

**REACH IN WITH GOD**
- Participate in regular community service projects—helping the homeless, give used clothes.
- Discover their spiritual gifts and use them for serving the church and the community.
- Participate in church worships—singing, reciting Scripture, giving testimonies.
- Participate in leadership training programs so as to take on leadership roles in the church.
- Encourage their parents to send them to Adventist schools.

**REACH OUT WITH GOD**
- Participate actively in the mission of the church with their parents and other members of the church.
- Witness to their classmates and friends of other faiths.
- Win one friend for Jesus.
- Reach out to people in need and to those with special needs.
It was wonderful for thirteen world division CHM directors and one attached union leader to meet at the quinquennium world advisory held February 29 to March 4, 2016 at the General Conference headquarters. This was the time for consultation, planning and strategizing, networking, and identifying ideas and ways to promote the new initiatives for the next five years.

The main initiative for this quinquennium is Reach the World: Reach Up, Reach In, Reach Out! All the children's leaders participated enthusiastically in the discussions, suggesting many great ideas for implementing the main thrust throughout their division field. Incorporating the initiative into the Children’s Ministries Department, our slogan is: Reach a Child, Reach the World.

Special guests were invited to present topics on Ministry to Special Needs, Healthy living, Introducing Ellen White to Children, Ministry to Muslim Children and others. The children's leaders were challenged to organize and implement such ministry ideas throughout their territories.

The highlight of the week was a brief visit from GC president, Elder Ted Wilson, He encouraged all directors to continue their faithful ministry to children because they are important within the church. Then in the afternoon the directors were treated to a delicious lunch at Cheesecake Factory followed by a great trip to the Baltimore Aquarium.
EAST CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION

East Kenya Union – Hope Channel Evangelistic Meetings’ Recordings

East Kenya Union organized its Mission-to-the-Cities evangelistic campaign, April 18-30, 2016. Pastor Geoffrey Mbwana, GC Vice President and Dr. Saustin Sampson Mfune, GC Associate CHM Director were the speakers.

While Mbwana’s preaching would be for the adults, Mfune would focus on children’s programs that were recorded live on Hope Channel Kenya. The theme for the children’s program was “Say no to Drugs.” The 12 twelve 30-minute programs authored by Mfune focused on things which lead children to begin using re-creational drugs. The programs were musical dramas acted by children and 3 puppets. Several songs were sung by a choir of about 150 children. Others songs were sung by smaller groups. The programs also had an anchor and 8 actors. The programs were recorded from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The filming of these programs was successful because of dedicated parents who brought their children every day to Nairobi Central Church where the recordings and Mbwana’s preaching took place; untiring teachers who taught children seventeen songs over a very short period of time; and extremely energetic children who seemed to have endless source of energy. All the songs recorded in these programs were composed by Dr. Saustin Mfune. It is the hope of East Kenya Union that through this initiative, children and parents will be impacted for the Kingdom of God.

INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION

Caribbean Union – Special Needs Ministry for Children

The Caribbean Union launched its first union-wide Special Needs Ministry training for children’s leaders. The new director, Debra Henry who just came on board last August did an excellent job of visioning, planning, and inspiring her children’s leaders to provide for special needs children in their churches.

Special guests were Dr. Linda Koh, GC CHM director and Dinorah Rivera, IAD CHM director who presented seminars on how to develop an inclusive culture in our churches, identifying different types of disabilities, how to help parents deal with disabilities, and helping children deal with fears and pain. There were interesting activities to help the participants experience what it means to be disabled—not being able to see,
or use one’s limbs. A specialist in the Sign Language taught the group how to sign using songs like Jesus Loves Me and A Mighty God. Praise the Lord for such a vision!

IAD Children’s Ministries Advisory

The Inter-American Division Children’s Ministries Advisory was conducted by Dinorah Rivera, IAD CHM director on April 18-19, 2016 for her 24 union CHM directors in this large territory. The division’s theme for their initiative is “Lord, Transform Me.” The participants discussed enthusiastically the initiative and how to implement it in their ministry to children, including ideas on how to deepen the prayer life of children, launching of the new EndItNow initiative, VBS, etc. Different union directors gave inspiring reports and some shared outstanding resources they have developed. With twenty-four unions and three different languages, there are challenges in this large territory. However, each leader is committed to being transformed by the Holy Spirit by spending more time in their own personal devotions, and to continue their passion to nurture and disciple children.

SOUTHERN AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN DIVISION

West Zimbabwe Conference – Camp Meeting at Garden of Eden Resort

West Zimbabwe Conference, held its camp meeting March 23 – 26, 2016 at a beautiful resort known as Garden of Eden situated about 26 km northeast of Bulawayo City. Dr. S austin Sampson Mfune, GC CHM Associate Director, Pastor
Irvene Gwatiringa, a natural and gifted Children Ministries’ leader and Douglas Mapeta, the founder of Sunrise Academy, a school for the deaf were the speakers for 150 children daily and for 250 children on Sabbath during the camp meeting. The theme of the camp was Say No to Drugs. Mrs. Siphiwe Chisewe, ZUC CHM Director, was not able to attend the camp meetings due to some emergency. She entrusted the running of the camp to a gifted, extremely creative and hardworking Mrs. Nomathemba Nhoro, the Administrative Assistant to the ZUC Secretariat. Sabbath afternoon, children and leaders, clad in their ‘Say no to Drugs’ T-Shirts, presented a powerful program to the parents. Seated in the audience were Conference Officers and several Pastors. One parent as he bade farewell to Pastor Mfune remarked, “We need our children to be drug-proofed by such initiatives. With such dedicated leaders, the devil can do no harm to our children and youth.”

**SID Sabbath School Council**

SID held its quinquennium Sabbath School Council, April 21, 2016 made up of CHM Union Directors and Sabbath Union Directors, at Birchwood Hotel in Johannesburg, South Africa, Caroline Chola, SID CHM Director and Gideon Reyneke, SID Sabbath School Director, co-chaired the Council and attended by Dr Saustin Sampson Mfune, GC Associate CHM Director. The leaders grappled with a lot of issues. A lot of time was spent examining two issues. Firstly, the Council explored various options as to how parents can be motivated to buy lesson guides for their children. And secondly, the change of the Gracelink curriculum was discussed and length. Several recommendations were made which, if implemented, would result in a quantum leap in CHM and Sabbath school departments in this Division.

Twelve Union CHM leaders and one attached Field and their Associates participated in the quinquennium CHM Advisory held in Birchwood Hotel, Johannesburg. Caroline Chola, SID CHM Director chaired the meetings. Dr. Saustin Sampson Mfune, GC Associate CHM Director attended as an advisor and also did all the devotionals. He also preached on Sabbath at a church in Pretoria and in the afternoon presented a seminar entitled, Communication that Raises Spiritual Giants.

Reach the World, the theme for this quinquennium was the focus of the Advisory. The leaders, through the Division’s strategic document, looked at how children can be fully involved in realizing the quinquennial mission of the church. The Division voted several initiatives and made a number of recommendations to the SID Committee including a Division wide leader’s Congress to be held in Mauritius in 2019 in late July and early August.
Though this was time for serious business, it also provided opportunity for leaders to share ideas, network and socialize. The leaders thanked the Lord who has kept them alive and they don’t take this for granted. This was time well spent. We praise the Lord for such dedicated leaders.

SOUTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION
North-Central Mindanao Conference — Little Trumpets Training Workshop

Congratulation to our Children Evangelists for having successfully completed the Level-I of Child Evangelist Training Workshop on April 25-30, 2016 at the Conference Hall, North-Central Mindanao Conference, Julio Pacana, Cagayan de Oro City.

Pastor Edgard Engles conducted regular training for many children who show interest and potential to be evangelists. After the classroom and field training workshop, 25 children receiving their certificates of attendance. They can make their own Bible study, sermon and preach.

Scotland Mission – Holiday Bible Club (VBS)

Starting with 33 children on Wednesday, April 6, and rising to 55 children by Friday, this excited group of children busied themselves in a four-station “Say no to Drugs” Holiday Bible Club (VBS) program written by Dr. Saustin Sampson Mfune, GC Associate CHM Director. This program comes with songs and everything that goes with a VBS program. Valentah and Cedrene who had received the program in advance, added their own flavor to the program. The theme song was entitled “Say no to Drugs.”

Pastor Claudin, the local Pastor of the area supported this program fully when it started on April 6. He proved to be very

TRANS-EUROPEAN DIVISION
Scotland Mission – Training for Parents and Leaders

Dr. Saustin Sampson Mfune, GC Associate CHM Director, conducted a training for parents and leaders on April 2 & 3, 2016 in Paisley Town in Scotland Mission. Pastor Bernie Holford, President of Scotland Mission, welcomed Mfune to the territory and thanked Jeniffer Kibadeni the outgoing CHM director for an outstanding work she had done and welcomed Cedrene Botha as the new CHM leader. Cedrene Botha introduced Valentah Siamuzwe, an energetic lady who would be in the driving seat of the Holiday Bible Club which would start on the 6th and end with a graduation on the 9th. Valentah encouraged parents to register their children for the Holiday Bible Club.

Mfune covered three topics during the week-end trainings. On April 2, he talked on How to Communicate to Children. On April 3, he covered 2 topics. First topic was entitled “Safeguarding your set apart time.” This topic focused on the importance of prayer in the life of a leader. The second topic focused on How to Run a Holiday Bible Club (VBS).

These were spirit-filled meetings.
instrumental and children just loved him. And there were a number of volunteers who helped oil the machinery of the VBS to make it run smoothly.

On Saturday, the children came dressed in their Say No to Drugs T-Shirts. They ran the whole program from morning to afternoon. The Sabbath afternoon program concluded with a song “I Pledge to keep my Body Pure.” Children sang their pledge to keep their bodies pure knowing that their bodies are the Temple of the Lord.

Many resources were introduced, and each conference president who was present was very keen in getting permission to translate these resources for their children. They were very supportive of the children’s work.

Baltic Union – Children’s Ministries Training

The Baltic Union, under the leadership of Alla Nommik, the new CHM director, organized a Children’s Ministries Training in Riga, Latvia, April 8-10, 2016 at their union headquarters. The union church was packed to capacity with children’s leaders coming from Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia conferences who participated enthusiastically in the training conducted by Linda Koh, GC CHM director, Clair Sanches, TED CHM director, and Karen Holford, TED FM director.

There were plenary sessions as well as a variety of workshops for the participants to select from. But it was wonderful to see many leaders participated enthusiastically by asking great questions, sharing ideas and also getting involved in all the activities.

Baltic Union
WHEN I WAS A CHILD, I SPAKE AS A CHILD, I FELT AS A CHILD, I THOUGHT AS A CHILD: NOW THAT I AM BECOME A MAN, I HAVE PUT AWAY CHILDISH THINGS.

(1 CORINTHIANS 13:11 ASV)

enditnow®
Adventists Say No to Violence

Beginning with 2016, the “enditnow” campaign will be an inter-departmental effort to promote abuse awareness and to stop abuse of any form within the church. Although it began as a campaign to stop abuse against women, it is recognized that abuse and violence also happen to children, men, the elderly and families. Hence, the new “enditnow” initiative will be promoted by various departments, namely, Children’s Ministries, Family Ministries, Health Ministries, Ministerial Association, Women’s Ministries, and Youth Ministries.

Take note of The “enditnow” Emphasis Day which falls on the 4th Sabbath of each year. A package of resources will be prepared to celebrate this special day as we educate our congregation, old and young about stopping violence in our homes, schools, and churches. Speak up for children because children’s leaders are the voices for these little ones. Let’s be strong advocates to safeguard and protect our children.

Go to the website at www.enditnow.org to download postcards and brochures for this special day.

TOTAL MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

The General Conference has launched a new and bold initiative called Total Member Involvement (TMI), encouraging every church member to be involved in spreading God’s last-day message—from speaking the Word to living the Word. Hebrews 13:16 says, “Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”

We want to encourage every child to be actively involved in preaching God’s Word, sharing the last-day message with their friends, and to live a life like Jesus. Everyone can be a soul winner when they use the gifts that God has given them. They can help the needy, visit the shut-ins, make get-well cards and send them to the sick, pray for a neighbor, etc. When children are involved, they are more likely to remain in the church. Total Child Involvement!