Every Union One Year in Mission

understanding the vision of OYiM



General Conference Youth Ministries
youth.adventist.org

Why OYiM?

Because city evangelism **"is the essential work for this time"**
and will result in starting
"a mighty movement such as we have not yet experienced"
(Ellen White: *Medical Ministry* p. 304).

Dear Youth Director,

Right now, you are standing under the shadow of Jericho. The young armies of the Lord under your command are just waiting for their orders.

What will you do? Will you consult with the many excuses tempting you to abandon the cities of the world to the giants of crime, vice, poverty and godlessness or will you command God's young people to move forward? Even now God is saying to you, as He did to Joshua "See! I have given Jericho into your hand, its king and the mighty men of valor" (Joshua 6:2).

Right now, you hold in your hand a simple yet effective strategy for tearing down walls and rescuing the lost Rahab's of the world. One year in Mission when intentionally planned, promoted, and implemented by youth directors at every level of the church is a mighty catalyst for city evangelism, revival and discipleship.

I believe God through this youth and young adult initiative wants to blow the "ram's horn", as he did before the fall of Jericho. The ram's horn is a beautiful symbol of the everlasting gospel. Just like it took the death of a ram to produce a horn, it took the death of our Savior to produce Salvation for the world. No wonder the Bible commands us to "...declare the Lord's death until He comes" (1 Cor. 11:26).

Youth directors, now is the time to take the cities in your Divisions, Unions and Conferences for Jesus "...and it happened when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the walls fell down flat. Then the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, AND THEY TOOK THE CITY" (Joshua 6:20).

Take the city!

Gary T. Blanchard

Pastor Gary
GC Youth Ministries Director

One Year in Mission

understanding what OYiM is all about

What is "One Year in Mission"?

OYiM is a multi-faceted urban missionary movement with a vision for young adults to establish a transforming presence in the cities of the world. It is designed to give teams of young adults (18+) an opportunity to magnify Jesus in the cities through the Three Angels Message!

FACT: The Apostle Paul was the first OYiM Missionary to Antioch (Acts 11:26).

Can We Make Changes?

While the guidelines in this manual are binding we realize the need to at times adjust to local circumstances. All adjustments must be approved by the local Division in conection with the General Conference Youth Ministries Department.

Why do we need OYiM?

Because city evangelism "is the essential work for this time" and will result in starting "a mighty movement such as we have not yet experienced" (Medical Ministry p. 304). The "everlasting gospel" is the only real antidote for the poverty, crime, vice, racism, disease and corruption found in the cities of the world.

What outcomes are expected from OYiM?

Several examples can be found in the Bible, but for now we will use Antioch (in the book of Acts). The gospel preached specifically to the unsaved (11:20, 13:38-39, 4613:46), New churches planted (13:1), Ministry to the suffering provided (11:29), Local churches revived (11:14-15), Souls saved and discipled (13:43, 48), Entire cities and regions positively impacted (13:44, 49), Opposition and persecution from within and without (13:45,50). New church leaders raised up and sent (13:2-4).

What method does OYiM use?

Since only one method works, OYiM missionaries will practice "Christ's method alone" (Ministry of Healing, p 143). They will work together as a team to plan and implement an effective strategy that contextualizes Christ's method (socialize, sympathize, serve, share) with their city's unique culture.

Who can be an OYiM Missionary?

Missionaries need to be young adults ages 18-35 who have, at the very minimum, graduated from high school. They should be:

1. Committed Seventh-day Adventist
2. Active in their local church
3. A good team player
4. Highly recommended by their pastor
5. Willing and able take an entire year off from work/ school to focus on this ministry.

Aren't our other mission initiatives enough?

Without question the Seventh-Day Adventist church has many wonderful mission initiatives around the world and the General Conference Youth Ministries Department (GC) supports them all! However, OYiM is unique because it targets urban populations, and empowers teams of young people (15–30) to work together. OYiM also provides mission opportunities for young adults who may not attend our schools or who have already completed their post-secondary/ higher education (college, universities, trade schools, etc).

OYiM is a global initiative certified by the13 Divisions and the 2 attached fields, Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and Israel.



What is our new Vision for OYiM?

In an effort to expand the impact of OYiM and to heed the call to reach the cities, the General Conference Youth Ministries Department, with consensus from the GC and Division Presidents are challenging every Union around the world to work with their Division to plan, recruit and conduct a One Year in Mission.

Praise the Lord that would be 122 OYiMs in 2019 – 2020!

How would the Division Youth Leaders lead this global initiative?

Step 1: (January – July 2018) The Division Youth Directors should promote the vision among their Union Youth Directors and Presidents. The GC Youth Ministries Department will make the resources (visual presentation, promo video and manual) available on their website, youth.adventist.org for free download. During this time, the Division Youth Leader should also encourage their Union Youth Directors to apply for funds quickly and if necessary appoint an OYiM Division Coordinator.

Step 2: (July – January 2019) The Division Youth Director should form an OYiM Strategic Team made up of your Union Youth Directors who catch the vision and want to move forward. Each Union Youth Director should then work with their conference youth directors to:

1. Identify a city,
2. Acquire a center of influence,
3. Recruit two OYiM leaders, and
4. Begin mass recruiting in their Union.

Step 3: (2019 – 2020) Following a Union-wide dedication service each Union should launch an OYiM in 2019. These OYiMs should ideally end before the 2020 General Conference Session. At that time, each division should send their report regarding the success of OYiM to the General Conference Youth Ministries Department. The reports should be done by video and/or live stream.

Who should lead the OYiM initiative?

Of course, the initiative should be carefully and prayerfully overseen by the Union Youth Director but the day-to-day operations and leadership should be done by two trusted, tested, and mature OYiM leaders (35+). They need to have the skills to lead a team of between 15-30 young adults. If the OYiM team consist of male and female, the leaders would be of both genders. Youthful Pastors who are free from heavy local church responsibilities but are still able to focus on the OYiM initiative would be ideal for this role.



How will OYiM Leaders be trained?

An online 5-day interactive training school will be available January 28 – February 1, 2019. This training will last up to 4 hours each day, and will include at least 1 – 2 hours of locally applicable interactive training.

1. Both OYiM leaders (male and female) from each Union should join the event from their Union office.
2. The Union Youth Director should be present for the OYiM University training.
3. The participating Conference Youth Directors should be present for the training.



Why online — not face to face?

1. Cost: less money spent for travel means more resources for the OYiM missions.
2. Culture: training can be contextualized to the local culture.
3. Connection: because the training will happen at the OYiM office it gives the OYiM directors a chance to connect with their Conference/Union directors face–to–face.
4. Continuing Education: create an OYiM training hub at youth.adventist.org.

Where will OYiM missionaries stay and minister?

Missionaries serve and sometimes live at the "center of influence" a term coined by Ellen White. These places can be rented or purchased facilities, churches, schools or homes. If at all possible, the missionary's living and serving locations should be at different places. "Centers of influence" are places where our OYiM missionaries can give Bible Studies, hold workshops, have church and conduct evangelistic seminars, etc.

How much does it cost our OYiM young adults?

The cost is up to the overseeing Union and Division. Some may cover all housing, food, and transportation, while travel to and from the mission, as well as basic necessities are left up to the individual missionaries. Please note that the OYiM Missionaries should carry at least some of the financial burden themselves.

How will the Union fund OYiM?

We are promised that "As we do this work, we shall find that means will flow into our treasuries..." (Evangelism p. 62). However, there are at least three potential streams of financial support.

1. The local Division/Union/Conference evangelism, youth and church planting budget.
2. The GC Youth Department will invest $40,000 in every Division that garners a minimum of 3 Union support (this money could be used as a matching fund). There is also $5,000 for each additional participating union after the first three.
3. Mission to the Cities offer up to 150K per city once your application with them is approved. Visit their website Urbancenters.org for information on applying for a grant.

Again, we must never forget that the same God who fed 5,000 with 5 loaves and 2 fish, is the same God who "shall supply all of your [our] needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Phil 4:19).

If we pray, plan and implement God will provide!

What if we want to call our initiative by a different name?

No problem! Just be sure that your initiative is in harmony with the strategy outlined above.

1. All major variations must get prior approval from the OYiM Steering Committee.
2. Please keep in mind that even if you choose a different name to use locally, to avoid any confusion your OYiM initiative will still be referred to as OYiM.

What about our Division OYiM coordinators?

Yes, each Division should already have a coordinator in place. Please make sure this is a reality in your Division. Also, make sure your OYiM coordinator is on high alert and knows the strategy outlined in this document. We are praying that hundreds of young people will be rallying to join OYiMs around the world and these coordinators have to be well informed, positive and helpful. To assure this each Division Coordinator should be a member of the OYiM Strategic Team.

Why such an emphasis on this initiative now?

We are fast approaching one of the most important gatherings in the history of the SDA church, The 2018 Global Youth Leadership Congress (July 31-August 4). This congress will provide the perfect setting to motivate and direct our youth and young adult leaders around the world. Now is the time TO GO BIG SO WE CAN GO HOME!


DIVISION YOUTH DIRECTOR | GC OYiM ADVISORY
OYiM Strategic Team
Union OYiM Coordinator
Conference | Mission OYiM Directors
OYiM Leaders

What would the infrastructure for OYiM look like?

Division Youth Director:

1. Cast vision, motivates and oversees the Union Youth Directors.
2. Chairs the OYiM strategic Team that is made up of Union Youth Directors and the OYiM division coordinator.

OYiM Strategic Team: This team is made up of Union Youth Directors who want to see the OYiM mission succeed in their Unions.

OYiM Coordinator: (It is recommended that these individuals be stipend or paid employees in the Division youth department.) They:

1. Take calls from young people in their division interested in OYiM and answer questions they may have.
2. Connect young people with the two OYiM leaders (male and female) for their specific Unions.
3. Follow-up with the young people to make sure that all connections are made.
4. Send a list of interested young people to their respective Union Youth Directors and OYiM Leaders.

Union Youth Director:

1. Cast vision, motivates, and oversees the success of the OYiM initiative in his/her union.
2. Work with the local conferences to appoint two OYiM leaders and initiate mass recruiting.
3. Attends and facilitiate OYiM University training along with the Local Youth Director.



OYiM Leaders: The success of the operation is almost entirely dependent on these gifted and called leaders. It is recommended that these directors could receive a stipend or even be paid pastors or church planters provided they can focus on OYiM and not be tasked with local church leadership.

1. Oversee the day to day operations of the OYiM team
2. Responsible for the mission strategy, training, spiritual growth and overall safety of the missionaries.
3. They are directly responsible to the Union Youth Director.

Forming an OYiM Committee for Unions and Conferences

The OYiM Committee of the local conference should include four conference employees; one of the four should be chosen as OYiM Secretary, and the OYiM Coordinator (once chosen).

The Committee shall not have more than five designated members. Should any of the aforementioned decline to participate in the Committee, the roles may be filled in by other conference employees, but for the sake of efficiency the committee should remain at five persons.

Suggestions for additional Committee Members:

- ☐ Associate Tresurer
- ☐ Adventist MIssion Director
- ☐ MIssion to the Cities Coordinator
- ☐ Health Director
- ☐ ACS Director

Tip

Choose members from departments with similar goals and plans as OYIM. This can help in both planning and budgeting proposals.



Selection of the OYiM Task Force

General Guidelines of the OYIM Committee; Youth Director & OYIM Coordinator

1. The OYIM Committee review and scan all candidate profiles.
2. Submit final recommendations of candidate profiles to Union/Conference Executive Committee for voting.
3. OYIM Coordinator informs the voted OYIM Task Force to proceed with any additional requirements and preperation needed to complete the process.
4. Register OYIM Taskforce with the local division.

How to Choose an OYiM Focus City?

The location of OYiM training and activities should be in alignment with the local Union/ Conference's ongoing Mission To The Cities Initatives and Centers of Influence.

1. *Has reliable transportation (whether it be public transportation or well developed urban infrastructure of highways and main roads on which to drive a vehicle)*
2. *Has active local churches with ongoing ministries that OYiM can join and help to develop*
3. *Is large enough that is has at least one of the following (ideally a combination of several):*
   - *Business centers or districts*
   - *College or university campuses*
   - *Active civil organizations (local government or non-profit agencies)*
   - *Cultural hubs: sections of town where people go to museums, cafes, farmer's markets, malls, restaurants, performance halls, etc. Places where people meet up to socialize.*

Suggested books to read

Passport to Missions by Cheryl Doss
The Blueprint by Rico Hill and Jared Thurmon
Ministry to the Cities by Ellen G. White
Evangelism by Ellen G. White

Members of the **OYiM Steering Committee**

Youth Directors and Associate Directors of the:

1. East–Central Africa Division
2. Euro–Asia Division
3. Inter–American Division
4. Inter–European Division
5. Israel Field
6. Middle East and North Africa Field
7. North American Division
8. Northern Asia-Pacific Division
9. South American Division
10. South Pacific Division
11. Southern Africa–Indian Ocean Division
12. Southern Asia-Pacific Division
13. Southern Asia Division
14. Trans–European Division
15. West Central Africa Division
16. Select group of current and former OYiM young adults.

Division OYiM Coordinators

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One Year in Mission (OYiM) is an exciting adventure with the Lord. Going where He calls, impacting and transforming communities around the world for Jesus as you respond to their needs in adventurous and creative ways.

While this calling is too big for anyone, with Christ all things are possible. As you follow this inspired instruction, you cannot fail:

> "Consecrate yourself to God in the morning; make this your very first work. Let your prayer be 'Take me, O Lord, as wholly Thine. I lay all my plans at Thy feet. Use me today in Thy service. Abide with me, and let all my work be wrought in Thee'" (*Steps to Christ*, p. 47).

Stay close to Jesus and one day soon you will hear Him say, "Well done, good and faithful servant . . . Enter into the joy of your Lord" (Matt. 25:21, NKJV).



Ted N.C. Wilson, President
Seventh-day Adventist Church

Adventist® Youth Ministries
youth.adventist.org