



## Initiatives of Change

*The month of April and May were busy ones. The preparation for the All Africa Conference overshadowed most of the other programmes in the country. We make a brief look on the two months –Ann & Njoroge-*

**Youth Talent Show in Subukia:** It was all joy to the Subukia youth during the talent show held at Subukia Polytechnic in early April. This is one of Subukia's *IofC* act to reach the young ones in the area. There were a variety of presentations which prove that there is real talent in the area and in the youth in general. Getting youth to participate in events is hard but when given a chance to express their inner felt calling they do it whole heartedly. The theme of the day was – ***Say No to Alcohol and Drugs.***



Talent Show Case

The District Youth Officer was there to colour the occasion. The youth were also issued with some certificates as a way of appreciation.

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## Preparation for the All Africa Conference:

**Meeting:** There were countless meetings held in regard to the All Africa conference since December last year! A lot of sacrifice (time and money) and hard work, especially for people who had to travel all the way from Bungoma to Nairobi or Nakuru. For sure as the Swahili saying goes “Ukiona Vyaelea jua Vimeundwa” (*If you see them floating, they really have been worked on*). The draft programme we made first in December was just overly dynamic- it kept on changing every other meeting that a times we felt as if we weren't making steps forward!

**Power House:** On the last month of the preparation, a group of young people (Muikia, Mediatrix, Alex, Njoroge, Steve, Ann, Eldoma (Sudan), David (Australia) ganged up together to live in Ann Njeri's small apartment in Nakuru and totally focus on the conference. We formed a small community and called ourselves ‘*Power House Crew*’. Some sleeping on the floor and others on the bed, we worked hard day and night, weekdays and weekends. We had our moments of laughing together, annoying each other, upsets, some of the boys complaining they shouldn't clean the dishes and the house... and called themselves *Desperate House Boys*- before compulsory falling in love with the job. In spite of our annoying each other at times, we were a great team work and our daily morning reflections bonded us tightly and created space for people to reach within and grow spiritually.



Power House Crew n adopted members singing

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**Africa I Do Care! All Africa Conference:** After the hard work of preparing the conference, it started and came to a successful end. We had over 95 participants from over 15 countries from within Africa and beyond.

Professor Patrick Lumumba was the Key Note Speaker for the opening and he moved people into tears as he spoke so powerfully from the heart. To read more on the opening of the conference, please visit <http://www.iofc.org/node/48295>.

Africans and friends of Africa all joined to celebrate the uniqueness of Africa as well as discussing in depth what our personal and collective contributions are to making Africa what it should be. Personal experiences were shared; some very touching and painful- the reality of many in our dear continent-posing a big challenge to all of us on playing our roles to reduce the pains and concerns in our motherland. Africa Do you Care?

For a full report please visit <http://www.iofc.org/node/48689>

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**Creators of Peace Workshops in Nakuru:** Three Peace Circles workshop took place as from the 20-26 May, 2010 at St Mary's Pastoral Centre. 35 women from mainly Rift Valley province benefitted from the training. Most of the women had great concerns about the massive negative ethnicity in the country amongst other issues. The longing to forgive and to be forgiven was expressed with many having tears on their faces. 'Forgiveness is not something simple' said one of the ladies 'Forgiveness is the door to peace' shared another. To read more on the first workshop, please visit <http://www.iofc.org/node/48437> More news will be sent to you about the second and the third workshops.



## PERSONAL SHARING

### The story of Isaac Githae as told by John Njoroge

For about twenty years Isaac Githae a.k.a Man Sae, has been toiling daily to improve Subukia town. He unblocks the garbage filled trenches with all their filth, erects bridges, plants trees, levels road among other things. Who pays him? That is the most amazing story.

*'This is my calling. The call is so strong that I can't attend to anything else whole heartedly. No one cares for the environment I wish I could get enough support to make it the way I envision it'* so he says in a most passionate way. It is like he is talking about his child. As for payment he says that God supplies all his needs while doing this voluntary job.

He is very thankful to *IofC* for we are among the few who encourage and support his voluntary work. I recently visited him at his recent project; relocating a collapsing bridge over river Subukia and planting over twenty trees in an erosion prone section of the river. He is not about to stop-with or without support.



Man Sae at one of his projects

I wish each of us would have the same spirit- going after our goals without a double mind or a weak heart. After all, God calls, supplies, supports and pays.

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**Report by John Njoroge and Ann Njeri**

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