

## **Our Mission: We Leverage Leaders**

*The mission of the Global Action Initiative is to exponentially increase the global leadership effectiveness of ministry and marketplace leaders to impact our world.*

## **Our Vision: We Catalyze Leaders**

*The vision of the Global Action Initiative is to combine effective leadership with innovative best practice models to transform the spiritual and social climate of global communities at risk.*

## **Our Method: We Connect Leaders**

Since its inception, The New York City Leadership Center has demonstrated that intelligent, strategic alliances with like-minded partners allows all the parties to do greater things and produce better outcomes than they would have if they worked independently.

The Global Action Initiative strives to build cooperation among leaders across multiple sectors of society that transcends racial, economic and denominational boundaries. We convene church, business and nonprofit leaders to cultivate alliances that utilize the strengths of each to assist communities in crisis and tackle global poverty.

## **What we have accomplished**

Following the tragic events of 9/11/2001, a collaborative response was birthed between our organization, partnering churches and World Vision. The result was the creation of the "American Family Assistance Fund," which raised \$6 million to assist both the survivors and the family members of those who had been killed. Each person met with a local pastor and a representative from World Vision to learn what spiritual support resources were available in their neighborhood and to receive financial assistance. We saw firsthand how effective and powerful intelligent, strategic partnerships can be in securing exponential outcomes.

In 2002, aware that HIV/AIDS was creating 6,000 orphans a day, we asked the question: *What would happen if churches united to impact the global HIV/AIDS crisis?* Utilizing our network of partnering churches, our organization led a coordinated response rallying those churches to work together to aid specific AIDS-impacted nations. The "Hope Church Alliance" emerged, and in just three years nearly 5,000 children from communities in Kenya, Uganda, and Rwanda were sponsored by individuals and churches associated with our team. Our goal is to see this movement grow into an epidemic of compassion that will dramatically impact the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

We are progressing toward that goal. As of today, close to 10,000 children have been sponsored and more than 100 pastors have journeyed to East Africa to see the results of this unified effort for themselves. The New York City Leadership Center, acting as a bridge and facilitator, is committed to advancing this endeavor.

### The New York City Leadership Center's "Haiti Initiative"

On January 12, 2010, just before 5pm, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti. The most powerful earthquake to strike the country in more than 200 years, the quake's epicenter hit just 10 miles west of Port-au-Prince, the administrative, economic and cultural center of the country. More than 220,000 people lost their lives and over 300,000 were injured. 500,000 people fled the devastated area to find shelter in the countryside putting additional strain on the already meager supplies of food and other basic services.

Today, not much appears to have changed. The U.N. estimates that 1.5 million people currently live in camps. That means roughly one in nine Haitians is homeless. There are currently 350,000 orphans. In a July 13, 2010 CNN article, musician and Presidential hopeful, Wyclef Jean, stated, *"With the amount of money that has been raised to help our country, I was expecting to see construction projects. I was expecting to see thousands of heavy tractors and loaders lifting up rubble. I was expecting to see people relocated from tents and starting to get into temporary housing. And yet, during my last visit, just a few weeks ago, I saw very few, or none, of these."*

One of the issues inhibiting the rebuilding process is that of the more than 9,000 nonprofits working in Haiti today, very few are working together. The lack of a unified plan and duplication of efforts makes forward movement slow and difficult. Sean Penn, during a CNN interview, described the situation as, *"like sprinkling salt on a beach"*.

Three of the immediate objectives of the "Haiti Initiative" are:

1. to bring together Haitian leaders and strategic influencers from the nonprofit, church and business communities to identify and act on the greatest problems facing Haiti
2. to improve the effectiveness of relief efforts
3. to accelerate the rebuilding process

### Haiti Initiative Engagement Opportunities

**Collaborative Conferences** – We will host key leaders at two annual events, one in NYC and one in Haiti, to provide a platform for ongoing discussion and create opportunities for strategic partnerships to develop. The conferences will be designed to promote unity toward the rebuilding effort as we share best practices and resources, overcome obstacles and tackle goals together.

**Sustainable Projects** – We will identify sustainable collaborative projects and engage with appropriate partners from nonprofit, church and business communities to complete each project.

**Business Leader Vision Trips** – We will host three annual trips to Haiti for business leaders. Leaders will visit a variety of projects and be introduced to multiple engagement opportunities. They will also participate in an informative personal development process.

**Pastor Vision Trips** – We will host three annual trips to Haiti for pastors that will provide training and highlight a wide range of engagement opportunities for churches. Pastors will also take part in training and equipping Haitian pastors.

### Haiti Initiative Five Year Goals

- To provide transformational engagement opportunities for business and church leaders, helping them to grow in faith and service.
- To develop a network of business, church and nonprofit organizations willing to work in unity with a focus on housing, education and employment.
- To engage 50 churches that will invest together in the rebuilding effort.
- To enlist 50 U.S. pastors to train 1,000 Haitian pastors in practical theological skills.

### Imagine a future where . . .

- Hundreds of American pastors and churches are building significant partnerships with global communities in need.
- A new missional model facilitates strategic partnerships between churches, nonprofits, businesses and national leaders that works to fulfill common desired outcomes.
- High value training and engagement opportunities are available for hundreds of business leaders to grow in their faith and service.
- A network of motivated corporate leaders and businesses are mobilized and excited to fund projects because they are part of a meaningful vision and have ownership in the cause.

The problems are large but together we can create extraordinary results. By linking thousands of churches with business and nonprofit agencies we can see something truly amazing take place.

**Now is the time** to organize and catalyze agencies and organizations into collaborative service before more children and families are devastated by hunger, homelessness and hopelessness.