**Institute for the Healing of Memories**

**Restoring Humanity project 2012**

**Activities for January – March 2012**

**Planning**

Most of January and February was spent recruiting and mobilising new areas to join the project and putting in place the plans for the rest of the year. After some difficulties we now have a group of youth from Bishop Lavis participating. Numerous meetings have taken place with the Principal of Inkwenkwezi High School in Du Noon to get them on Board. We will know in the second school term if they are on board.

Meetings were scheduled in all communities with participating youth and new recruits attending to share plans for RH this year and share the values and code of conduct of the project.

The Restoring Humanity project is thus scheduled for implementation in Athlone, Atlanits, Bishop Lavis (and Elsies River), De Noon, Mamre and Masiphumelele. We have also started the process of visiting schools to implement a RH schools project. 15 schools have so far been visited.

**Recruitment and development of youth facilitators**

Eleven new youth facilitators have been recruited to the project. A youth facilitators training took place at the Lutheran Centre on 16 – 17th February 2012. The training was used to introduce the organisation and the project to the new recruits. Develop the content of the Africa Unite schools workshops, and assess the skills level of the participants.

With more training and practice the majority of the participants have the potential to become competent youth facilitators. Regular meetings are scheduled with facilitators to prepare them for project implementation. Individual facilitators have also been brought in to assist with some of the logistical tasks related to the newsletter, Human Rights day programme and the Holiday programme.

**Africa Unite – schools project**

The IHOM in partnership with Scalibrini Centre will be conducting three workshops in twelve schools on cultural diversity as part of the Africa Unite campaign. The identified schools are:

* Robinvale Sen Sec and Proteus in Atlantis
* Portland High in Mitchells Plain
* Bishop Lavis High in Bishop Lavis
* Inkwenkwezi in DuNoon
* Thembelihle in Khayelitsha
* Masphumele High in Masiphumelele
* Langa High in Langa
* Spes Bona in Athlone
* Excelsior High in Belhar

This is a six month project from March – August 2012. We have also conducted a workshop for the peace ambassadors as part of the project on Monday 26 March at the Scalabrini Centre.

**Non Racialism Forum**

The Strategic Planning workshop to discuss a co-ordinated strategy among organisations who work with youth and children took place on 21 – 22 February 2012 at the Children Resource Centre. Attached find the report of the workshop, a second meeting has taken place and implementation is taking place in the very day work of the organisations. The District 6 Museum and the Khoi movement have also joined the project. Work is also being done in Gauteng.

**Human Rights Day Celebration**

The activity bringing the different communities together took place on 21 March Human Rights Day at the District 6 Homecoming Centre in Cape Town. The more than 70 participants come from Athlone, Atlantis, Khayelitsha, Mamre and Masiphumelele. (programme attached). The programme dealt with Human Rights and Human responsibility. Fr. Michael very briefly spoke to the young people. The feedback has been very positive.

**Holiday programme – Focus on Cultural diversity.**

During the first week of the Easter school holiday we run a 3 day programme at the Ibuyambu Cultural Centre in Cape Town. This was done in partnership with YARD (Youth Art Development) Co-op. Over the three days we had an average of 80 young people attend per day. They came from Athlone, Atlantis, Khayelitsha, Mamre, Masiphumelele and Bishop Lavis. Issues discussed included, our common humanity and diversity, stereotypes, prejudice, discrimination and how to build solidarity. Participants also attend workshops on creative writing, cartoon drawing and photography. It is important to note that more than 80% of the participants attended all three days. (programme attached)

**Youth Newsletter**

The second youth newsletter was completed the second week in March. 300 copies were printed, most has already been distributed and we are in process to have additional copies printed. A youth editorial team has been established and will be meeting in the coming weeks. The 3rd newsletter is scheduled for end of May 2012.