



‘These young people are also equipped to reach out to their generation.’

Four of the YouthLife leaders

YouthLife in Central Asia

As the economic crisis deepens, prospects for young people in central Asia are deteriorating. For more than a decade CMS partner YouthLife has given youth at risk a chance to rise above their circumstances. The breakdance clubs they run in several countries aren't just about having fun – young people are equipped for the future and given hope. Lives are transformed through physical, social, career and spiritual support, including crisis family management, life-skills training, careers advice and multi-media training.

YouthLife leaders

Most staff and leaders came to the clubs as teenagers. As they learned to breakdance they found friendship and self-esteem. YouthLife offers unique opportunities for training and relevant role models. Leaders encourage youth to find peace and reconciliation with estranged families; dealing with the root causes of youth alienation such as breakdown of family relationships, rejection, low self-esteem and alienation from society.

Is there life after breakdancing?

Vitea came to YouthLife to escape the monotony of teenage life. Six years later he is one of three breakdancers who have just graduated with degrees in International Economics. Supported by YouthLife, this is a great achievement for them and fantastic inspiration for other young people. The YouthLife sponsorship programme currently helps about 70 students go to university.

Not what you expect from a breakdance club?

Youth Life has a wide-ranging training programme. It's not just about coaching and mentoring youth leaders who develop the 1,500 young people attending 30 youth clubs each week. Specialist trainers focus on themes, including

youth advocacy, career advice, family crisis management, business development and multi-media resources. Businesses generate income for the clubs to develop their own unique vision and to impact local communities more effectively, while giving teenagers hands-on training in all aspects of running a small company. The new multimedia studio is producing video clips which can reach youth across the region.

Other activities focus on the welfare of teenagers. Relationships with their families are often a major concern. Regular assessment often leads to home visits and reconciliation between alienated teenagers and their families.

With your support, YouthLife can transform the lives of thousands of young people and decrease their risk of delinquency, crime and prostitution. These young people are also equipped to reach out to their generation, heal broken lives and restore relationships with families and with God.



Vitea – from ‘wideboy’ to university graduate



Diocese of
Rochester

