Meet our New Journey for Change 2 Global Ambassadors!

On August 18 - September 3, 2010, 30 youth from the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Bushwick, Brownsville, and Bedford-Stuyvesant will travel to South Africa for two weeks of volunteer work in the capital city of Johannesburg and in a rural village outside of Kruger National Park.

The youth, along with college-aged mentors from NYU, Medgar Evers College, and Pratt Institute, will volunteer on a daily basis with orphaned and vulnerable children and others affected by poverty and HIV/AIDS, in their homes, schools, orphanages, and clinics. The group will also learn about the history of the country including its apartheid past and its current struggle with HIV/AIDS.

The two week volunteer mission to South Africa is the main catalyst that allows us to transform these young people from local thinkers into global leaders. Turn to pages 3-4 to meet our new ambassadors!

Journey for Change 2 Global Ambassador Year

Upon returning to the U.S., the youth sign a contract to become Global Ambassadors for one year. The contract is particularly important as allows us to stay fully committed to these young people for at least a year with the goal of creating leaders engaged in civic, political, and social change, as well as mentoring each child individually to assist their parents in guiding them to make positive long-term choices for their lives. During this time they take part in a multitude of travel, service, and advocacy initiatives, including but not limited to speaking at schools, serving locally and within the U.S., blogging bi-weekly for Journey for Change and periodically for AC360.com and Timeforkids.com, attending career fairs and arts enrichment programs, taking part in education initiatives, attending monthly advocacy classes, and encouraging their fellow inner-city youth to join them on their mission of service. The Global Ambassadorship component is what makes Journey for Change such a rich and productive program.

Global Ambassador Advocacy Focus

The Global Ambassador’s advocacy campaign will raise awareness for HIV/AIDS in South Africa, where there is the highest concentration of people with the disease in the world and their home community of Central Brooklyn, where there are more infected people than any other New York City neighborhood. We are pleased that the Brooklyn Borough President’s Office will partner with us on this important advocacy initiative. Please turn to page 6 to learn more about the HIV/AIDS Advocacy Focus.
Message from the Director:

Hello everyone. I hope that you are enjoying the summer. It has been a hot one on the East Coast, but as always, there is much to feel blessed about. First, I really want to take the time to thank everyone for supporting my first book “If It Takes A Village, Build One: How I Found Meaning Through A Life of Service and 100+ Ways That You Can Too.” I so appreciate every shout out, tweet, Facebook mention, and of course, purchase. It has been amazing to be able to share on such a large scale about my passion for serving and to hear from others who share the same dedication as I do. Secondly, I am feeling really blessed to welcome 30 new kids into the Journey for Change: Empowering Youth Through Global Service program. I cannot tell you how much it means to me to have the opportunity to introduce travel, service, and advocacy to these young people from Brooklyn, NY. As soon as they step foot on African soil, their whole perspective of the world and their place in it will change and I look forward to keeping you all informed for the entire glorious ride.

Stay Lifted,

Malaak.

“The one thing we can all agree, all faiths and ideologies, is that God is with the vulnerable and poor. God is in the slums, in the cardboard boxes where the poor play house... God is in the silence of a mother who has infected her child with a virus that will end both their lives... God is in the cries heard under the rubble of war... God is in the debris of wasted opportunity and lives, and God is with us if we are with them” Bono
# Meet the JFC 2 Ambassadors!

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<tr>
<th>Adeola Akinwande, 13 yrs</th>
<th>Dorian Anderson, 13 yrs</th>
<th>Brenden Archer, 12 yrs</th>
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<th>Gabrielle Bradley, 11 yrs</th>
<th>Jasmine Brown, 15 yrs</th>
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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Dara Hutchinson</td>
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<td>Kaela Jones</td>
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<td>Taijah Jones</td>
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<td>Briana Kirven</td>
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<td>Myah Lynch</td>
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<td>Maria Nunez</td>
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<td>Alysia Roberts</td>
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<td>Keara Sheppard</td>
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<td>Marie Solivan</td>
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<td>Keion Staton</td>
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<td>Aneudy Taveraz</td>
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<td>Chanell Thompson</td>
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<td>Douglas Williams</td>
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<td>Kavon Williams</td>
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<td>Tyler Williams</td>
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The schedule for the 2010 Mission Trip to South Africa reflects a wonderful mix of projects and activities similar to the 2008 Mission, with some exciting new additions to the schedule. The group will focus their service work in Diepsloot, a shanty town in Johannesburg, with 250,000 residents living on less than $2.00 a day, but will also have the opportunity to serve in a rural village, in partnership with The Buffelshoek Trust. Below, please enjoy some of the highlights from the upcoming schedule:

**HOME VISITS**

The ambassadors will each be grouped and assigned 3 families that they will make regular visits to in Diepsloot. These families include granny-led and orphan-led households, all of whom have been impacted by HIV/AIDS. The ambassadors will meet the families, assess their needs, budget to shop for the home, and also help with home improvements such as painting or cleaning.

**APARTHEID MUSEUM**

The ambassadors will visit The Apartheid Museum in Johannesburg. The unique museum gives an interactive look at the complete history of the rise and fall of apartheid in the country. They will leave the museum with a better understanding of the harsh reality that occurred in South Africa through the 1990’s.

**DIEPSLOOT COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY**

In partnership with the Diepsloot Social Services office, the ambassadors will join residents and partake in a community clean up day. The ambassadors will clean up two main areas including a section known as the squatter camp, which is in such poor conditions that the residents are not even able get electricity to their shacks and there is no plumbing or sewage system. The community clean up day will also include governmental booths in which our ambassadors will help residents sign up for ID cards, school grants, and other governmental support.

**SALVATION ARMY SOUTH AFRICA**

As our ambassadors come from the Bushwick, Brownsville, and Bedford Salvation Army Community Centers, we are happy to partner with Salvation Army South Africa to visit their projects including Ethembani Children’s Home, an older orphanage, and a clinic. The ambassadors will also attend the Salvation Army Church in Soweto.

**MEET THE US AMBASSADOR AND CONSUL GENERAL**

We are excited to continue our partnership with the US Embassy and the US Consulate in South Africa. The ambassadors will spend an afternoon at the Consulate in Johannesburg, learning about careers in the foreign service and tour the facility. Additionally, US Ambassador Donald Gips and his wife, Liz Gips, along with US Consul General Andy Passen will host a reception at the Ambassador’s residence in Pretoria, where they will also have the opportunity to meet with political and NGO leaders to discuss their experiences in South Africa.

**RURAL SERVICE WORK AND SAFARI AT KRUGER NATIONAL PARK**

The ambassadors will take a 5 day excursion to Limpopo, where they will volunteer at two primary schools, visit the Bhubezi clinic - a leading HIV/AIDS clinics in the area, make home visits to families, enjoy a braai with the local community, and go on safari in Kruger National Park. We are thrilled to partner with the Buffelshoek Trust on the rural service component.
The ambassadors in the Journey for Change 2 program will be focusing their advocacy work on HIV/AIDS both internationally and locally.

**HIV/AIDS in South Africa**

- An estimated 6 million people are living with HIV, the highest concentration of people with the disease in the world.
- The surrounding 4 nations have the next highest rates. There are 22.4 million people living with AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 3.2 million of those living with HIV are women and 280,000 are children ages 0-14.
- Annual deaths from AIDS are 310,000 people.
- There are 1.8 Aids orphans.

**HIV/AIDS in Brooklyn**

- According to the Brooklyn AIDS Task Force, Central Brooklyn, including Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brownsville, and Crown Heights is ground zero for the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Brooklyn, but also for African-American women, adolescents and children with the disease in New York City.
- Central Brooklyn has the largest African-American community on the continent of North America, and with 3,684 people living with AIDS; it is more than any other neighborhood in New York City or 27 states.
- Brooklyn has the highest percentage of AIDS deaths in New York City.
- A staggering 87% of all people living with HIV/AIDS in Brooklyn in 2008 were persons of color, with 7% of the nation’s children under 13 with HIV/AIDS also living in Brooklyn.

**Ambassadors Voices:** The Journey for Change Ambassadors will advocate for awareness and testing in their own community of Central Brooklyn. Simply put, they would like for every single resident of Brooklyn to “know their status.” Additionally, they will raise awareness for the urgent need to have access to life-saving antiretroviral drugs in South Africa and other parts of Sub-Saharan Africa.

"Education, then, beyond all other devices of human origin, is the great equalizer of the conditions of men -- the balance-wheel of the social machinery"  
*Horace Mann*.
Joshua Hall, Age 16  
LEAD Engineering  
University of Virginia, Charlottesville

Joshua’s mechanical engineering team built a wind turbine and came in 2nd place, winning iPod Touches! His program included a visit to the Google offices in New York City, a visit to NASA, and he also learned how to create a video game. Joshua now hopes to attend UVA for college.

Jenee Lawson, Age 16  
LEAD Business  
Dartmouth, Hanover

Jenee’s business plan team worked on “Google Goggles”. Their business plan competition was held at the Google offices and Jenee’s team came in 2nd place. The group also traveled to Boston for a weekend sightseeing trip!

Latoya Massie, Age 16  
LEAD Engineering  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Latoya is currently attending her three week engineering program at UMich. The program is focusing on using mechanical, chemical, electrical and computer engineering to come up with “Green Solutions” for a number of environmental challenges facing the world.

Steven Pallares, Age 16  
LEAD Business  
Northwestern University, Chicago

Steven’s group created a business plan around an idea called Super Sitterz, which is an online company that matches families with the perfect sitter. His favorite highlights from the program were visiting the Google offices and going to Six Flags.

We are pleased to share that four of our Journey for Change alumni club ambassadors were selected for the LEAD Program this summer. LEAD, founded in 1980, partners with corporations and top business and engineer schools around the country to provide 3-4 week programs that immerse participants in a range of topics from finance to marketing, to e-commerce to entrepreneurship for business, and all fields of engineering and technology. The program, which recruits top academic students of color, aims to create industry leaders of tomorrow. Our first three ambassadors have returned from exciting and educational experiences, while our forth ambassador is currently at University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. We look forward to continuing our partnership and strengthening our educational component of the Alumni Club. To read more about LEAD, please visit their website by clicking here.
Angel NGO Spotlight:

Run for Congo Women

Run for Congo Women is a global run/walk movement benefiting Women for Women International’s Congo program.

About Congo

In 2000, The New York Times reported the war in Congo had cost 100,000 lives. Based on their work on the ground, the International Rescue Committee knew this was a gross underestimate. When they set out to get an accurate number, they discovered the grave reality: the Congo is by far the world’s deadliest conflict since World War II. Since 1998, 5.4 million people have died there.

The death toll is the equivalent of an Asian Tsunami every 6.5 months. A September 11 every 2.5 days. And nearly half of the deaths in the Congo are of children under the age of five. The conflict in Congo began with the conclusion of the Rwandan genocide. The Interahamwe (the Hutu militias responsible for the massacre of 1 million in Rwanda in a period of four months) were pushed over the border into the Congo where they set up camp and began terrorizing the Congolese people.

Various militias or government forces were sent in to fight the Interahamwe, then each other. It erupted into what has been termed “Africa's First World War.” The UN has accused all nations involved of using the war as a cover for looting diamonds, coltan, gold, and other resources from this mineral rich region.

Civilians are left to fend for themselves against brutal attacks, torture, looting, rape and murder, as well as deprivation of the most basic conditions necessary for life. Women in the Congo carry the heaviest of burdens. They have been gang raped. Tortured. Watched their husbands and children murdered in front of them. Forced to flee their homes. Many have watched two, four, even seven children die from preventable illnesses.

Participate in a Run for Congo Women Near You

Volunteers in cities across and beyond the US are hard at work planning Run for Congo Women events in their communities. These events raise local awareness about the Congo while raising funds for our Women to Women’s Congo’s program. Click here to learn more and register.

Women for Women International

Since 1993, Women for Women International has helped thousands of female survivors of war, civil strife and other conflicts rebuild their lives and regain their sense of self. Through our one-year programs, women are given the tools they need to get back on their feet and contribute to their community. Founded by Zainab Salbi, Women for Women International operates in eight countries and helps women transform from victim to survivor to active citizen. Our programs provide: Financial aid, Job training, Rights awareness, and Leadership education.

Women for Women International operates through direct donations and a unique sponsorship program, in which one woman sponsors a woman in one of our countries' programs. For more information, visit the Women for Women website at www.womenforwomen.org.

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Mandela’s Way is a distillation of countless hours of conversation between Rick Stengel and Nelson Mandela’s into what Stengel sees as fifteen core truths of Mandela’s life - truths we would all be wise to live by. Each truth is expanded upon and brought to life with examples of its application in Mandela’s own life.


Nelson Mandela is a true hero and the closest thing the world has to a secular saint. The tenets that have guided his life and shaped his remarkable journey are now accessible to all in Mandela’s Way: Fifteen Lessons on Life, Love, and Courage, by Richard Stengel, editor of TIME magazine, with a preface by Mandela himself.

MANDELA’S 15 LESSONS:

1. Courage is not the absence of fear.
2. Be measured.
3. Lead from the front.
4. Look the part.
5. Lead from the back.
6. See the good in others.
7. Keep your rivals close.
8. Have a core principle.
9. Know when to say no.
10. Know your enemy.
11. It’s always both.
12. Love makes the difference.
13. It’s a long game.
14. Quitting is leading too.
15. Find your own garden.

“If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one” Mother Teresa
Did my ancestors have to endure such inhuman circumstances from an alien? Being righteous and open to newcomers resulted in lashes, blood and death. Why? Why was I ripped from my culture, heritage and chances of knowing where my origins are from? 13 years of bareness. Carrying nothing on my back to share with my loved ones. Was it really necessary? Our ancestors want us to know that they are thinking of us. They want us to rettrace our ancestry. – Sydney Smart, 13-years-old

El Mina Castle
To learn more on the life of a slave. To imagine 50-100 people locked in a small, dark cell. To feel the overpowering heat. You can't move and can barely breathe. To think of the torture our ancestors endured. Some things you can't conceive. To smell the terrible stench of death and those dying of disease. And the person who urinates on himself for there is no restroom to go to if you please. Some are terrified. Some choose to be brave. Some rebel and dig themselves an early grave. They are beaten and battered if they misbehave. And that is but a snippet in the life of a slave. – Joshua Hall, 16-years-old

The Following Poems were created by our JFC Ambassadors after visiting Elmina Castle…

Donate to Journey for Change Now!
Help us uplift the lives of our Brooklyn youth through our travel, service, advocacy, and educational programs by donating NOW! Every cent contributed is used for direct project purposes and not for organizational overhead. Therefore, as a donor, you know that your contribution is helping to directly impact the life of a child.

Donate By Credit Card:
To Donate to Journey for Change via credit card, please click here.

Donate By Check:
To Donate to Journey for Change by check, simply fill out the form below and mail to:
Journey for Change
c/o The Angelrock Project
Box 996
Tenafly, NJ 07670
*Checks can be made payable to: The Angelrock Project Foundation with Journey for Change in the memo.
For more information, please call Lea Cohen at 201-750-8370 or email Lea@angelrockproject.com. All donations are 100% tax deductible. The tax I.D. number is 95-35100055.

Name __________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________________________________

City: ___________________ State ______________ Zip: _____________

Phone: ___________________ Email: ______________________________________

Ambassador Level: $500
Advocacy Level: $250
Mission Level: $100
Global Level: $50
Travel Level: $25

I would like to contribute $________ towards the Journey for Change program.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION AND SUPPORT!