



# THE VOICE

June 2008 Volume 2

***Bula Vinaka and greetings from the YPCN desk,***

***The month of May was a very fruitful one for the group as we launched our new website. It would not have been possible without the help of our supporters and YPCN would like to extend their sincere thanks to those that have taken their time out to make this happen.***

***We wish to welcome you all to another new month and we wish you all the best in every task you set out to do.***

***Also please do send in your comments and articles for inclusions in next month's voice. Articles and comments can be sent through to [ypcnfiji@gmail.com](mailto:ypcnfiji@gmail.com)***

***Thank you  
The Voice Team***

## UPDATES

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#### **1. YPCN WEBSITE**

**( <http://www.ypcnfiji.com/> )**

The official YPCN website was launched last month and the response generated from it has been very overwhelming and indeed humbling for the team.

Moves to start the website was initiated by the project leader Epeli vakalalabure and the YPCN would like to thank him and his team for seeing this through.

#### **2. MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY**

YPCN would like to offer hearty congratulations to the newly formed group that is tackling the issue of mental health of youths in Fiji.

Youths for Mental Health (Y4MH) have recognized the need to advocate for positive mental health for youths in particular and have taken on the challenge of addressing this issue and working together with stakeholders in shaping mental health awareness in the country.

They may be contacted at the following email address: [yc4mh.media@gmail.com](mailto:yc4mh.media@gmail.com)

### **3. PAN-COMMONWEALTH YOUTH CAUCUS APPOINTMENTS**

Australian Matthew Albert, 27, and Tongan Ebonie Fifita, 23, were confirmed as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively of the Pan-Commonwealth Youth Caucus (PCYC) just prior to the 2008 Commonwealth Youth Ministers' Meeting (CYMM) held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 27 – 30 April.

The PCYC is made up of youth representatives from the Commonwealth Youth Programme (CYP) Regional Youth Caucuses. The PCYC advises international Commonwealth leaders, include prime ministers and youth ministers, on youth issues and priorities and advocate for youth empowerment through their Participation in decision-making.

### **4. FIJI YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD ON PEACE**

Congratulations to the two members of the YPCN who are members of the FYABP which advises on activities of certain NGO's in Fiji that deal with Peace development and programs in Fiji.

## HAPPENINGS

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#### **1. FCOSS CAMP**

The Fiji Council of Social services is organizing an event for National Workshop on the Prevention of Drugs and Substance Abuse on the 23<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2008 at Namatakula Village in Nadroga. The secretariat will provide Accommodation, meals and standard Traveling allowance to all elected/Registered participants.

For more information please contact the Tevita Tokalauvere of FCOSS on Ph: (679)3312649 Fx: (679) 3302936, Website: [www.fcoss.com.fj](http://www.fcoss.com.fj) Email: [tevita@fcoss.org](mailto:tevita@fcoss.org), [ted\\_leng@yahoo.com](mailto:ted_leng@yahoo.com)

#### **2. INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY**

Let us know what you want to do for International Youth Day. Email your recommendations to [ycpnfiji@gmail.com](mailto:ycpnfiji@gmail.com)

#### **3. CAPWIP and UN/ISDR Women's Conference**

The Center for Asia-Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP) and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (UN/ISDR) are hosting the Third Global Congress of Women in Politics and Governance which will be held on October 19-22, 2008 at the Dusit Hotel, Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines. The theme of the congress is "Gender in Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction. For more information Please download the full information sheet and registration form for this Third Global Congress of Women in Politics and Governance from our website, <http://www.capwip.org/3rdglobalcongress.htm>

## 5. LETTER FROM PEACE CHILD PACIFIC.

Dear Pacific Group,

Hi, my name is Vikisha and I have been helping with YSF projects and Shasheen for the last 2/3 years and am based in Sydney, Australia. Following the email Shasheen sent out about the UN Development Report on Climate Change, I joined up to the taskforce with Peace Child and have been making contributions as I am sure many of you have been. Coming to the near of this project, I am lucky enough to be able to go to the UK to be part of the Editorial team as they finalise the submissions and put together the following report. It is not too late to contribute, so if any of you have photos, stories, reports on climate change email them to [publications@peacechild.org](mailto:publications@peacechild.org).

An ONLINE Editorial Meeting is open to all of you, if you would like to join and on there they will be publishing on the website the new pages of the booklet as they finish them, so you can contribute ideas, thoughts, corrections – or better articles/ paintings / photographs.

They are also looking at defining the title and we need your suggestions. The title will be the guiding light in this process as well as the first introduction the reader has to the publication so it has to be excellent! Peace Child is keen to open the title with '2 degrees' in order to impact that all-important threshold on the reader immediately, however they are in need of an effective sub-title.

"TWO DEGREES: Fill in the blank..."

It must be snappy yet informative. Please send your ideas or alternative suggestions – nothing is set in stone.

Peace child are also still seeking bold and creative front and back cover designs so please inform any artistic friends you know – it would be an amazing opportunity for anyone to have their work on an international UN publication.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me. Climate change is an issue that is affecting the world, but more so the pacific islands, this is an opportunity to get your voice heard in an UN publication, so start contributing if you haven't already!

## REMINDERS FOR JUNE

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1. *USP exams are coming up this month. To those of you sitting for tests we wish you all the best....remember don't stress 😊*
2. *The Lami Town Council starts their week long Clean up Campaign on the 7<sup>th</sup> June, It will be a good time to help around the house if you live in Lami and help keep our Environment clean 😊...Waste and garden refuse only... 😊*
3. *And finally a very important reminder...be happy and be positive 😊 smiles make the world go round 😊 😊 😊*

If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other. Mother Teresa

THE END.