

# U.S. Embassy YOUTH ACTION NETWORK





**In July 2012, the U.S Embassy's Public Affairs Section established a Youth Action Network (YAN), bringing together approximately 50 young Guyanese leaders from around the country.**

**The youths selected to participate in the Youth Action Network are exceptionally motivated, and many of them have already demonstrated their passion to give back to society through distinct youth outreach activities.**



# Youth Conference on Service and Leadership

*under the theme*

## **"Ready Serve, Ready to Lead"**



The Youth Action Network was officially launched July 20 through its first event – a Conference on Service and Leadership under the theme: “Ready to Serve, Ready to Lead.” This was the first of many opportunities for Guyanese Youth Action Network Members to participate in networking and training to enhance their leadership skills, professionalism, and implementation of community service and development activities.

**The Network also serves to facilitate the Embassy's interaction with young Guyanese leaders, so Embassy officers can better understand the unique perspective of Guyana's young people and discuss ways to address the needs and challenges they face.**





**The July 20 Youth Action Network Conference offered training sessions for youth leaders on public speaking, organization and life skills, creativity, community resource mapping, and project management.**



BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

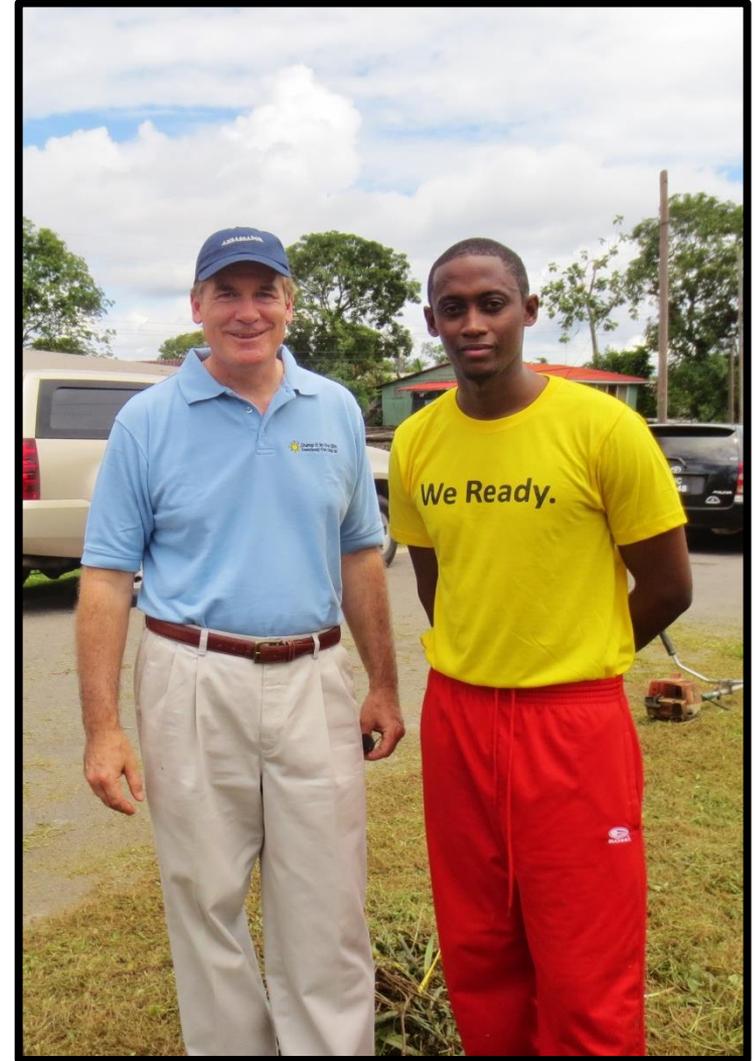
# INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE ALUMNI

Inspire. Empower. Connect.



**Two of our alumni – participants of the State Department’s International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) – led sessions during the Conference. Michella Abraham-Ali (NCN Radio) led a session on Public Speaking – and Dmitri Nicholson (Youth Challenge Guyana) led a session on Project Management.**

# YAN Cross-Cultural Community Service Day in Linden



The U.S Embassy's Youth Action Network (YAN) teamed up with partners for a lively day of community service in Linden under the theme: "Ready to Serve, Ready to Lead."

**The Youth Action Network Cross-Cultural Community Service Day in Linden was organized by the U.S. Embassy's Public Affairs Section.**



**Ambassador Hardt also joined the volunteers at each of the sites in Linden to support their civic engagement.**

**Youth Action Network members joined together with 34 U.S. military cadets from the Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency Program (CULP). MLO also supported the community service day through financial sponsorship.**





**U.S. Peace Corps Volunteers based in Linden had a big hand in the organization and implementation of the Youth Action Network's Cross-Cultural Community Service Day in Linden. Peace Corps Volunteer Wendy Kogel identified all three of the sites that the volunteers worked in.**



**A total of 76 volunteers completed three different service projects around Linden.**





# #1

## Field Clearing

A visitor to the field clearing project.

The first service activity took place in Retrieve, across from the Brittelbank Daycare Center, where volunteers joined community members to clear overgrown bush to begin work on a playfield for the children.



**All in a days work...**



**Before**

**After**



# The team of volunteers for the Field Clearing Project



The second service project involved painting murals on the walls of McKenzie Sports Club that have positive messages for the community.



## #2 Mural Painting

Ambassador Hardt painted with some of the volunteers



# #3 Community Sports



The last activity brought several disadvantaged Linden youths out to the Bayrock Community Center (the Basin) in Wismar for a cross-cultural, sports diplomacy exchange.



**Guyanese and U.S. youths shared in games from both countries, while emphasizing the importance of good sportsmanship, teamwork, and exercise.**





**Guyanese and U.S. youths came together for a good cause – to benefit the community of Linden, Guyana. While doing their community service, the youths also had a chance to get to know each other.**



We Ready.

We Ready

DUNN  
for a  
Litter-free  
Guyana Shines  
LINDEN