



SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2018



“Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil” Ecclesiastes 4:9

Teamwork is evident in the societal structures of marriage, family, community, church and business. We are designed to need God and each other. No one has all the skills, gifts or wisdom necessary for a successful life. We are exhorted to use the gifts we receive, the talents and unique bents of our created nature, as well as our spiritual gifts, to serve one another with kindness, respect and appreciation.

There is no jealousy in teamwork. When the whole team is working for the glory of God, there is no internal competition. Apostle Paul puts it well: *'I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow'* 1 Corinthians 3:6.

Positive teamwork leads to a peaceful society whereby there is justice and equality for everyone. Peace will enable a sustainable environment to take shape and a sustainable environment will help promote peace.

In the month of September, PHARP was privileged to work with men and women who are committed to moving their communities towards a stronger democracy. This was in partnership with IEBC in a two day forum held at Sarova Pan Afric Hotel in Nairobi and three day discipleship symposium held at ACK Guest house.

On September 12th and 13th: PHARP as a peace stakeholder was invited by Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) to be part of a consultative forum that is analyzing post-election evaluation of the 2017 general elections and fresh presidential election. The guiding theme was *'moving Kenya towards a stronger democracy'*. The main objectives of the forum were to: assess the commissions' performance in the last general elections, to assess whether IEBC goals to conduct credible elections that are efficiently and effectively managed was achieved and to employ findings of evaluation.

Honorable William Cheptumo chairperson of Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee (JLAC) pointed out that Kenyans desire a free and fair electoral board. However, this will take time and it will not come easy, but it is possible if we all work as a team. We need to learn from our mistakes and do three things: admit it, learn from it and don't repeat again. The IEBC Chairman, Mr. Wafula Chebukati, urged all stakeholders and the people of Kenya to help in looking at ways of saving costs and managing money, so as to stop being the most expensive commission within East Africa Region. On behalf of the IEBC, they are ready to learn from mistakes and receive suggestions that will improve the delivery of services. With much deliberations and ideas generated from the present stakeholders, it was noted and agreed that going forward; IEBC will invest in building the trust of the people.



PHARP staff (Pelagie) standing with Mr. Chebukati (IEBC Chairperson) and Mr. John (Centre for Diaspora).

On September 20th: PHARP was delighted to host the tSOAR-USA founder Joe Williamson, the author of 'Finding your place in the world' at the PHARP office. This was a blessed opportunity for him to meet and know more about the PHARP staff. Some of the highlights of the fellowship was on how discipleship trainings are conducted within communities, what is the impact and the challenges observed. As an elderly man who loves the Lord, is very committed to see that pastors are empowered and equipped.



Left: PHARP team and Joe. Right: A display of Christian love.

On September 21st to 23rd: PHARP among other 26 discipleship practitioners from Rwanda, Malawi, Kenya, Ethiopia, USA, Liberia and DR. Congo met at the ACK Guesthouse-Nairobi for a three day discipleship forum. The aim of the forum is to look upward, look backward and look forward in regards to effective discipleship process. The founder of tSOAR and a great supporter of discipleship work, Joe

Williamson was present. It was good to have him in Kenya and meet with the people working with churches and communities in expanding the Great Commission of making disciples, as well those using his material which was reworked on, in order to make it better and clearer for those using the book. Participants gave testimonies of how they are working within their countries, the challenges and successes met.



Top left: Pastor Paul (tSOAR-kenya), Amos (tSOAR- DR Congo) sharing their experiences.

Below left: Pelagie (PHARP), Dr. Sei (Liberia) sharing their experiences too and the French translation of 'Finding your place in the world' ('Decouvrez votre place dans le monde) available at the PHARP office.

Joe the author of *'Finding you place in the World'* and founder of tSOAR Ministries, urged all discipleship practioners to listen to God and do what He asks us to do. As we work to teach and equip, what is God's will for me/us each and every day? He encouraged on three critical things; nothing should come between our time with God, Who am I and what am I called to do? And there is always time to do God's will.

Lastly, as different organizations present at the symposium, they all have various structures on how they conduct their activities; but we should note that freedom demands responsibility, God motivates us with love, not fear and let the love be the reason why we do what we do.



Top left: Pastor Zizi and Pastor Nchito from Malawi. Top right: Rev. Felicien (standing) contributes to discussion. Bottom: Joe pouring his heart on discipleship. He also receives gift from PHARP team.

PHARP- MALINDI ONGOING ACTIVITIES

1. A two months civic education is going on at PHARP in conjunction with Uraia Trust. The aim is to create awareness on the rights and obligations as enshrined in the Kenyan constitution, conflict resolution and give participants a sense of hope and dignity. The two months study covers: Introduction to chapters of the Kenyan constitution, Bill of rights and Devolution matters.
2. **Discipleship:** on 27th at the Pharp centre-Jilore 10 leaders met for fellowship. The aim of the fellowship was to introduce the tSOAR (time, truths, trust, surrender, obey, abide, reconcile) tool in order to strengthen the relationship between leaders and God and renew their spirit of service for accepting to give part of their time and energy.
The theme for the meeting was framed in a question form, “*What is the Lord doing and telling you to do at home, work or church?*” The leadership wisdom was drawn from (John 5:17 “*My father is still working, so I am working too*”). Leaders were happy to fellowship together and learn from one another especially the humbling testimonies of where the lord took each one of them. Some of the leaders were alcoholics and could not believe that the love of God could reach them while others could not believe their husbands could ever change for good.
3. **Farming plot:** The second round of maize planting are now mature for harvesting. This farming initiative started through the support of FTM-UK which seeks to support communities with peacebuilding and literacy skills to improve their lives. The members in the project will therefore be marketing and selling the produce in the coming month.



Left: civic education class. Middle: Discipleship group. Right: watering of crops

THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER REQUESTS

- 1. Thank God for successful activities in the month of September.**
- 2. Thank God for all our partners and friends of the ministry.**
- 3. Thank God for safe travels and arrivals of all participants who were in Kenya for discipleship symposium.**
- 4. Pray for October activities: Peacebuilding and Discipleship training in Mkwachunyi ACK, Taita Taveta County and training for women in Kajiado North County.**