



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Pamela O'Brien
Director of Business Development
and Communications

T: 703.421.1551
F: 703.421.1559
C: 703.627.3880

New Vision Announces Global I.M.P.A.C.T. Youth Mentoring Initiative

September 18, 2013 - Philippi, WV – New Vision Renewable Energy announced the formation of the **Global I.M.P.A.C.T.** youth mentoring initiative at the CCDA Annual Conference, Cultivate 2013, held in New Orleans. Global I.M.P.A.C.T. is a catalyst for connecting youth development organizations nationally and globally who are sharing resources and best practices in mentoring and community youth development and collectively *ReEnergizing Communities* around the world.

Global I.M.P.A.C.T. (International Mentoring Partnership Advancing Community Transformation) goes beyond traditional forms of youth mentoring and programming to inspire and equip young people to develop solutions for the challenges they face. The goals of Global I.M.P.A.C.T. are to:

- Engage young people and mentors in under-resourced communities to be problem solvers and leaders,
- Show youth how to contribute and make a meaningful impact in their own homes and communities,
- Advance renewable energy solutions by bringing the benefits of solar-powered light and electricity to developing communities in the world.

New Vision unveiled the strategic partnerships and the first phase of their collective youth mentoring network through a new online portal at: globalimpact.nvre.org. Here, mentors and mentees alike will be able to collaborate and share best practices, achievements, and resources through a number of social media elements. New Vision will seek funding to support their Theory of Change: *“Engaging disadvantaged children in experiential learning and service projects, and connecting them to caring adults as well as a global peer community, will result in community transformation and individual STEAM knowledge and skill gains which are not being achieved in current school, play, or home experience”*. “STEAM” adds the element of Art to the national STEM initiative for Science, Technology, Education, and Math.

New Vision Renewable Energy was one of three national organizations that partnered together to support mentoring programs in 38 states involving over 3,000 students in a variety of mentoring activities in 2012-2013. The United States Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) awarded a grant to the partners of the Leadership Foundations Mentoring Initiative: Leadership Foundations, headquartered in Tacoma, WA, **New Vision Renewable Energy**, based in Philippi, WV, and COPHANI, based in Boston, MA. The program’s goal was to reduce juvenile delinquency by increasing protections and lowering risks for America’s underserved and at-risk youth through mentoring relationships. Global I.M.P.A.C.T. was birthed out of the sustainability efforts of New Vision to ensure that high-risk youth continue to receive much needed mentoring services.

“It is very exciting to be connected to so many great community organizations in this national demonstration project in seeking ways to effectively bring out the best in young people and the adults who are working to invest in them,” said Ruston Seaman, President of New Vision Renewable Energy.

New Vision has community-based projects in 12 states including Alaska, Colorado, Kansas, Iowa, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina and West Virginia.

ABOUT NEW VISION:

New Vision Renewable Energy is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization launched in Philippi, West Virginia in 2009 as a grassroots Christian Community Development organization working to ReEnergize Communities to implement renewable energy solutions in their own neighborhoods through hands-on community development efforts. New Vision is an educational and innovation movement focusing on applicable technologies with renewable solutions and serves as a hub of collaborative discussion, training and invention bringing together green innovators, community leaders, youth, companies, organizations as well as public and private partners. As a member of the United Nations Foundation Energy Practitioners Network, New Vision helps to eradicate the effects of poverty in the developing world. Visit www.NVRE.org or find us on Facebook at New Vision Renewable Energy for more details. For more information, contact Pamela O'Brien at POBrien@NVRE.org.

ABOUT CCDA:

CCDA, the Christian Community Development Association, brings together a network of strong relationships with like-minded Christians to help overcome the sense of loneliness and isolation that often accompanies a life committed to CCD ministry. The Annual Conference is held for practitioners to share best practices in urban and rural community development programs. For more information on CCDA, go to www.cdda.org.



New Vision gathered with many of their youth mentoring partners at CCDA 2013 to discuss Global I.M.P.A.C.T.