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Newsletter

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Growing Together: EUD Joint Advisories

Credentials

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From September 4-8, 2016, the Inter-European Division organized a joint Departmental Advisories for the Quinquennium 2016-2020. The meeting took place in Seville, Spain and about 300 people from the different departments from the GC, the EUD and the Unions met in plenary sessions in the mornings and in Departmental Advisories in the afternoons.

Every morning, during the plenary sessions, the Strategic Framework of the EUD for this quinquennium was presented and discussed according to the different areas of interest.

This strategic framework has been created according to the GC Strategic plan 2016-2020, as also according to the results of the suggestions and proposals that were discussed and shared by all participants of the EUD Mid-Year Committee. The EUD Strategic Framework has been divided in 7 main areas of interest or Strategic Focus Areas that include different departments and ministries and their area of activities. These areas are:

- 1) Growth in Discipleship
 - 2) Emphasis on Mission Awareness and Involvement
 - 3) Education
 - 4) Family Life and Foundations
 - 5) Comprehensive Health Ministries
 - 6) Communication
 - 7) Personal and Collective response to Social Welfare Needs of the Community
- Every morning, from Monday to Thursday, one or two Strategic Focus Areas were presented in the main session and departments or ministries had the opportunity to share with the participants how they may give a contribution to those areas according to their own projects, programs and interests of the specific area of activity. CHM was involved in most of those areas as it is already involved, since many years, in Discipleship, Education, Family, Health and Social Projects for and with children. It is interesting to observe that the same area of interest may be considered and supported in different, complementary

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Did you know? How big was the ark?

According to Genesis 6:15, the ark was at least 450 feet (137 m) long, 75 feet (22 m) wide, and 45 feet (14 m) high. That's about half the size of an aircraft carrier. Aircraft carriers are more than 1.000 feet (305 m) long and can carry 5.000 people and 90 planes. According to some scholars, Noah's ark could hold as much cargo as 330 railroad cars!



GROWING TOGETHER

EUD Joint Advisory

How many participants?

Ca. 300

What was the purpose?

- To give to all participants to meet and share dreams, challenges and experiences
- Create awareness of common grounds between the ministries
- Implement synergy and connectedness for better service

What were the challenges?

- Logistics: find a suitable place
- Find a proper date fitting for everyone
- Provide options for persons in charge of more than one department

How was the program organized?

- Plenary sessions in the morning focused on common issues and plans
- Specific departmental advisories in the afternoons to better on focus on the needs

Which dreams and plans do you have?

- To continue working in connection with different departments by sharing projects and activities
- To raise awareness in thinking and acting more "interministries and intergenerational"

Which products did you produce?

- Reach the World Booklet - EUD Strategic Framework for 2016-2020: proposal of 7 strategic focus areas and objectives that invite all ministries and departments to develop ideas together to reach a common goal. These areas are based on the three major areas defined by the GC, "Reach Up to God", "Reach In with God", and "Reach Out with God".

This booklet can be downloaded from the EUD website on:

<http://eud.adventist.org/en/about-us/strategic-plan/>

What may be recommended to all members in the EUD territory?

- To keep in mind our core values as Christians and Seventh-Day Adventists in the spiritual, ethical, and relational area and act accordingly

ways, by several departments and ministries, with the purpose to offer a better service and a wider span of action that allow, in the same time, better connections among ministries for a better service to members.

After the morning sessions, the afternoons were organized in specific advisories' meetings. All participants were asked to meet in different seminar rooms to work in a specific way in their own areas of responsibilities. The CHM Advisory gathered participants from almost all countries and Unions represented in EUD, to work on more specific CHM ideas, topics, projects and challenges. During such time Division and Union directors presented what has been done during the past quinquennium; questions were addressed, the different challenges has been shared and new material was presented. It has been an inspiring time for all directors to share and confront themselves with other colleagues and receive encouragement and ideas, to provide a better service in their territories and communities. We realized that it is possible to overcome challenges also with the support of other fellow-workers and by

sharing experiences and expertise.

Many dreams and projects have been put in place and all the group decided to keep in touch to continue the job and try to work together with the purpose to avoid reinventing the wheel every time in their own part of the world, that means, also sharing good ideas and tools.

Linda Koh, GC CHM Director was also present to this Advisory, she gave her support and shared ideas from other Divisions with the EUD CHM participants. Her wisdom and strong support for children around the world is always greatly appreciated.

We want to thank God for having the opportunity to be part of such an important event. All participants enjoyed the venue, the hotel facilities and the fellowship from this gathering of different people belonging to diverse departments and ministries. It has been a blessing to have the opportunity to see that there is a quite consistent number of people that are working for a same purpose and goal: sharing God's love and project for us and for the world. Jesus is coming to take us home and we want to help everyone around us to be ready for that great day.

Jesus wants
all of me



Dream come true

I have a dream. And God will make that dream come true, because my life is his. My dreams are His too - His to shape and mold into anything He wants. So I will let God shape my dreams. They are in good hands. He is making something beautiful.

"The parched ground shall become a pool."

Isaiah 35:7

Out of the mouths of babes...



A little girl had been to Sunday School for the first time and was asked by her mother how it compared with her day at school. "Oh! I like it much better", she said. "There are no exams there, and at the end you go to heaven instead of the High School."

Taken from Mason P, "Out of the Mouths of Babes", Mill Hill, London, 1999

Being connected: Health

Childhood is considered to be the most important phase in life regarding its impact on the quality of health, well-being, learning and behavior across the life span. It is a period of great opportunity, but also of great vulnerability to negative influences.

According to the World Health Organization some of the key challenges to children and adolescent health in Europe are:

- Unhealthy diets and beverages: they are a concern in almost all European countries and contribute to the growing childhood obesity epidemic.
- Injuries and violence: they constitute an important burden on children with too little done for the prevention, management and rehabilitation.
- Psychosocial development and mental health : there is a need of programs supporting parenting skills
- Physical environment: children should have access to supplies of clean water, to hygiene and sanitation.

With over 150 years of experience

in the area of health promotion and with a health message, whose benefits are daily confirmed by science, our Church is uniquely positioned to help children with their physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual development.

<http://www.secretsofwellness.org/index.php/countries/english/item/439-healthy-children-happy-children>

As parents and members let us assist children to form good health habits by being role models and by proactively promoting a healthy lifestyle in our churches and communities. Our churches could become Centres of Influence caring for children's health.

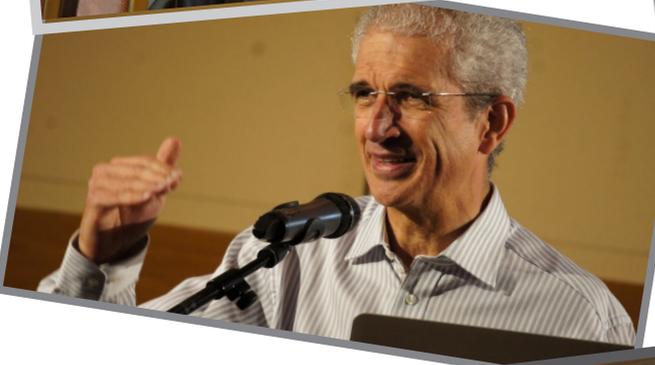
"Youth is the time to acquire knowledge for daily practice through life ... to establish good habits, to gain the power of self-control. Youth is the sowing time, and the seed sown determines the harvest, both for this life and the life to come". Diet&Health, E.G.W, p112.

Why not begin early with health?



Valérie Dufour
Health Ministries Director







**Worldwide
International
Convention**

IN A NUTSHELL

- What: **Worldwide International Convention for Children's, Family, and Women's Ministries**
- When: **May 10-13, 2017**
- Where: **Budapest, Hungary**
- Organizer: **CHM / FM / WM of the General Conference**
- Registration: <http://gcchildmin.org/resources/budapest.html>

**May 10-13, 2017
KEEP THE DATE!**

Crafts idea: Autumn Placemat

What you need

- Sheet of brown card
- Two shades of orange paper



Activity

Fold the card in half lengthways. Cut long lines in the card about 2 cm apart and about 2 cm from the edge of the card. Open the card. Cut the paper into strips about 2 cm wide. Take a strip of paper and pass it under the card and then up through the first slit, down through the second and back up through the third and so on until you reach the other side of the card. Push it up so it sits as close to the top of the brown card as it can reach. Repeat with a different coloured strip of paper, starting the other way, down through the first slit and up through the second and so on. Repeat until the card is full. All done! Tipp: Laminating will protect your mat.

Upcoming events

October 7-9
CHM Field Training Course
"Learning Disabilities"
Valle Grande (EN), Sicily, Italy

October 14-16
KID Training Course
Porto, Portugal

October 28-November 1
"Restart" Meeting
for Youth and CHM Directors
Florence, Italy

November 3-8
EUD Year-End Committee
Abufeira, Portugal

November
(Different dates)
Children's Week of Prayer
Please think already of possibilities to involve children in this special event
Contact your publishing house for the readings - they should have received the material by now

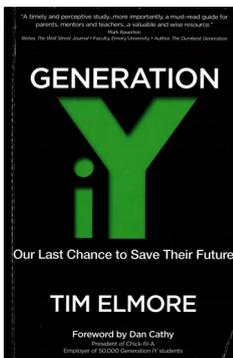
2017

May 10-13
Worldwide International Convention for Children's, Family and Women's Ministries
Budapest, Hungary

Elmore, T.: Generation iY

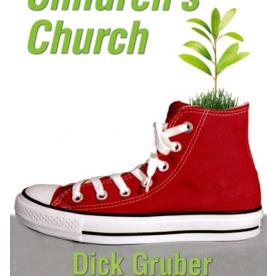
This landmark book paints a compelling- and sobering - picture of what could happen to our society if we don't change the way we relate to today's teens and young adults. research-based and solution-based, it moves beyond sounding an alarm to outlining practical strategies for:

- Guide "struck" adolescents and at-risk boys to adulthood
- Correct crippling parenting styles
- Repair damage from (unintentional) lies we've told kids
- Guide them toward real success
- Adopt education strategies that engage an "i" generation
- Pull youth out of their "digital" ghetto into the real world



Last but not least: books worth reading

Cultivating a **Cutting-Edge Children's Church**



In this book, Gruber has reviewed and updated the core of his first book, adding more insights, more information, and more inspiration for children's leaders of today and for those of the future. This book will help the children's church leader develop a life-changing service in which boys and girls will be inspired to worship, develop ministry gifts, and respond to the work of God's Holy Spirit. Gruber's herat for children and those who serve them is evident on every page of this writing.

Fromm, J. & Vidler, M.: Millennials with Kids

Stories about pampered Millennials lazing away in their parent's homes have circulated for years. But when you look beyond anecdotes, hard evidence paints another picture: They are practical, diverse, and full of surprises. (...)

Millennials with Kids teases out the shifting attitudes, habits, and desires of this massive generation transitioning to parenthood. Packed with original research collected in large-scale demographic studies, along with case studies and interviews, this is the first book to spotlight this changing market and offer insights on how to execute the strategies that work today.



Marketing to This Powerful and Surprisingly Different Generation of Parents

JEFF FROMM & MARISSA VIDLER