

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE REPORT

HUMAN SERVICES PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
DAYTON, OHIO, MONTGOMERY COUNTY



**MANDELA
WASHINGTON
FELLOWSHIP**
FOR YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS

Presented by
Jocelyne Salama Sacerdoce
2016 Mandela Washington Fellow

2016 Mandela Washington Fellowship Program

The Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders began in 2014 and is the flagship program of President Obama's Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI). In 2016, the Fellowship has empowered 1,000 young leaders from Sub-Saharan Africa through academic coursework, leadership training, and networking.

U.S.-based activities

- ▶ **Academic and Leadership Institutes June 17-July 31:** Each Mandela Washington Fellow participated in a six-week academic and leadership Institute at a U.S. university or college in one of three tracks: Business and Entrepreneurship, Civic Leadership, or Public Management. In 2016 a pilot Institute on Energy was added.
- ▶ **Presidential Summit August 1-3:** Fellows visit Washington, D.C. for a Presidential Summit featuring a town hall meeting with President Barack Obama. Fellows participate in networking and panel discussions with U.S. leaders from the public, private, and non-profit sectors.
- ▶ **Professional Development Experience August 8-September 16:** One hundred (100) Fellows were selected to remain in the United States to participate in a six-week Professional Development Experience with non-governmental organizations, private companies, and governmental agencies relating to their professional interests and goals.

Jocelyne Salama Sacerdoce



Jocelyne Salama Sacerdoce is a rape survivor who now fights for girl's rights in the Kivu region of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

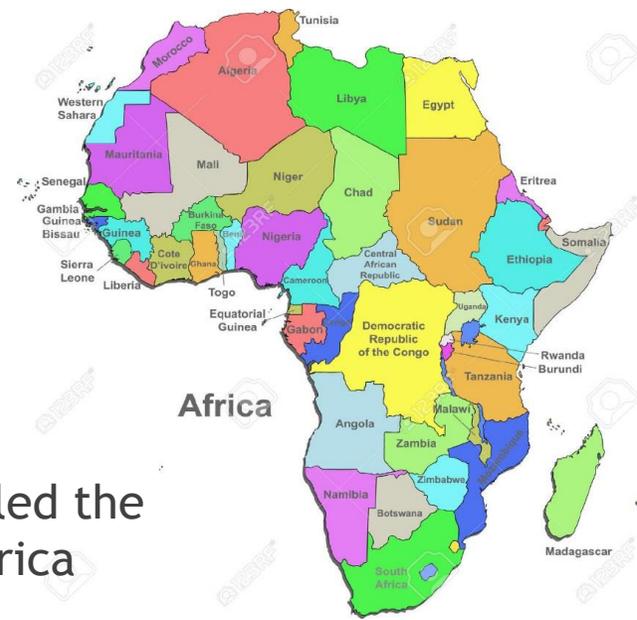
- ▶ More than five years of experience in various fields in the community-development sector, and human rights in particular.
- ▶ A university degree in Computer Science and Project Management from ISIG (Institut Supérieur d'Informatique et de Gestion (Higher Institute of Computers & Management)) University.
- ▶ Founder and president of a network of girl activists called Club des Défenseurs des Droits de la Fille (Club to Advocate for Girls Rights). These clubs are held in ten different schools where the girls are educated about their rights and are encouraged to talk about the difficulties they face and to look for solutions together.
- ▶ Work full-time as a designer crafting women's clothing and accessories with a portion of the proceeds going to support the young girls I work with by paying their school fees and providing food for those who are homeless.
- ▶ Trained a group of 20 women to work with my design business and also as hair stylists. It costs approximately costs \$7,000 (US dollars) each year to send 150 girls to school and approximately \$3,000 to feed the 300 girls I encounter within a year.
- ▶ My vision is to end the culture of rape by involving those who were victims and empowering them to change the way society thinks about women and girls.

CAREER GOALS

- ▶ Work on methods to combat and to end sexual violence.
- ▶ Provide mentorship for young girls, especially rape survivors.
- ▶ Advocate for educational opportunities for girls.

Facts about the Democratic Republic of the Congo

- ▶ The Democratic Republic of the Congo (formerly called the Republic of Zaire) is a country situated in Central Africa and is often referred to as DR Congo or DRC.
- ▶ Major industries of the DR Congo include agriculture, clothing, foodstuffs, forestry, mining, oil refining, and textiles. Cobalt, coffee, copper, and diamonds are major exports. Congo is the largest producer of cobalt ore in the world.



Facts about the Democratic Republic of the Congo continued

- ▶ It is the second largest country in Africa comprised of 905,568 square miles and has a population of over 79 million. There are more than 240 tribes, primarily of Bantu origin.
- ▶ French is the official language, however a number of indigenous languages are still spoken such as Lingala and Swahili.
- ▶ Christianity is the majority religion, making up approximately 80% of the population. Islam and Hinduism are the minority religions comprising the remaining 20%.
- ▶ *Little Known History Fact: DR Congo played a role in World War II. The uranium used in the Manhattan Project, the top secret mission that led to the construction of the atomic bomb in World War II, came from the Shinkolobwe Mine in Katanga province.*



- ▶ Agricultural Products include coffee, sugar, palm oil, rubber, tea, quinine, cassava, palm oil, bananas, root crops, maize, fruits and wood products.



- ▶ The DR Congo earns most of its revenues from the mining sector. Recent high prices for commodities such as copper and cobalt and diamonds have fostered the country's economic growth by approximately 7% over the last two years.



- ▶ The DRC contains Africa's largest expanse of tropical forests, and is home to many species found nowhere else, including the okapi (a mammal closely related to the giraffe), bonobo (an ape), and the eastern gorilla.



Professional Development Experience

Professional Goals:

- ▶ To strengthen my skills in responding to child abuse and neglect.
- ▶ To learn how to respond to and prevent human trafficking.
- ▶ To learn how shelters are developed and operated.
- ▶ To develop skills in strategic planning, program monitoring and evaluation.
- ▶ To learn behavior modification techniques for men and boys as it pertains to sexual violence.

Professional Development Experience continued

Meetings with the following Organizations:

- ▶ County Commissioners introduction
- ▶ Catholic Social Services Refugee Resettlement program
- ▶ YWCA of Dayton, Girls Inc. Leadership meeting
- ▶ Stewards Of Children Training
- ▶ **Abolition Ohio (human trafficking)**
- ▶ **Public Health – Dayton & Montgomery County**
- ▶ Victim Witness Division of the Prosecutors Office
- ▶ Homeless Solutions
- ▶ Montgomery County Jail Women’s Support Group
- ▶ Artemis Center Support Group
- ▶ **Family Service Association**
- ▶ **Artemis Center Child Therapist**
- ▶ **Artemis Center Advocate at Children Services**

Professional Development Experience

continued

- ▶ Children Services Division Mandatory Class on Domestic Violence
- ▶ Meeting with University of Dayton Professor Natalie Hudson and Human Rights Center Director Camilo Perez-Bustillo and presentation to Human Rights class
- ▶ Ex-Offender Reentry Program
- ▶ Court of Common Pleas Drug Court (pre-trial meeting and court session) with Judge Capizzi
- ▶ Collective Impact Preparation and Training
- ▶ On-site meeting with IREX (International Research & Exchanges Board) representative to discuss status of Professional Development and Montgomery County Experience
- ▶ **Speak Out Services Founder, Bonnie Bazill-Davis, to discuss her agency's training for child abuse prevention and intervention**
- ▶ Probation Officer working with juvenile sex offenders
- ▶ **CARE House**
- ▶ Equitas (formerly AIDS Resource Center) regarding prevention programming, treatment and services

Professional Development Experience continued

Tours:

- ▶ **St. Vincent de Paul Shelter for Women and Families**
- ▶ **St. Vincent de Paul Gateway Shelter for Men**
- ▶ **Daybreak Shelter for Youth ages 10-18 teens**
- ▶ **YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter**
- ▶ Agricultural exhibits at Montgomery County Fair
- ▶ Youth Resource Center
- ▶ Equitas (formerly AIDS Resource Center)
- ▶ CARE House (children's advocacy center)

Events Attended:

- ▶ African American Cultural Festival Health Fair
- ▶ Montgomery County Fair Opening Ceremony
- ▶ Mentoring Collaborative AmeriCorps Graduation Ceremony

Final Observations

Final Observations:

- ▶ Discovered that some issues as it pertains to violence are similar from one country to the next, but there are a variety of programs designed to address and reduce these problems in the United States.
- ▶ Agencies in Montgomery County are working together in terms of how services are provided to the community. This is so important.

Upon My Return

- ▶ Present a report to the US embassy in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with the details of my Professional Development Experience.
- ▶ Create a survivors anonymous meeting.
- ▶ Hold meetings to collaborate with other organizations working to protect children and fight against rape.
- ▶ Organize a meeting with the police to gain their support.
- ▶ Subsequently, the police and I will meet with the men and boys in the community.
- ▶ Create a shelter for young girls who have been victims of rape and are homeless.

Thank You!

Do not be worried about what you want to be in your community; be worried about what you want to do for your community.

As spoken to Jocelyne Sacerdoce by President Barack Obama at the Mandela Washington Fellowship Presidential Summit