

UPF UK: Youth For Peace and Development - Introduction

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The Universal Peace Federation (UPF) is an NGO in General Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and a global alliance of religious, academic, political and civic leaders and organisations to promote a world in which all people live in harmony, cooperation and co-prosperity

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YOUTH FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

A series of Youth Service Projects, which will enable 18-30 year-olds, to collaborate with their peers from a variety of ethnic, religious and social backgrounds, while developing altruism, friendship beyond difference and learning associated with effective community service.

Background

Over the last 30 years the Religious Youth Service, latterly part of UPF International, organised worldwide over 250 service projects through which young people engaged in experiential learning and bridge-building across differences of ethnicity, culture and faith. Projects have taken place in London, Birmingham, Bristol and Northern Ireland. Youth UPF UK have won recognition and encouragement for the outstanding contribution of 18-30 year olds to peace and development through annual Young Achievers Awards in Parliament, organised Youth Leadership Seminars, explored youth engagement in politics and provided opportunities to hear from and question opinion leaders.

The Goals of Youth for Peace and Development

1. Offer opportunities which foster altruism, facilitate friendship beyond difference and build community cohesion
2. Develop and apply best practice models of leadership and peacebuilding skills through experiential and reflective learning
3. Provide youth from diverse backgrounds opportunities to address unconscious bias and explore alternatives to prejudice and conflict

Objectives for 2021 -2022

Work with Patrons, Partners and Activists to:

- Prepare and then actualise **national service-learning projects** in London and Birmingham in early 2022. These to unite educators, mentors, local participants and representatives from cities planning future projects in a 5/6 day residential setting including orientation, practical projects and reflective learning.
- Prepare and deliver several **city-level service projects** during the remainder of 2022
- Plan **events in Parliament** to award participants and raise awareness of the value of service-learning

Download YPAD Project Outline ([Link](#))