

## **Youth For Building Unity In The Community**

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### **Together for Tomorrow!**

Religious Youth Service set foot in Sri Lanka in 1992, heralding a new era of a peace mission enthusiastically embraced by the youth of this island nation. Since 2000 RYS Sri Lanka has organized Projects annually, reaching out to people from all walks of life, especially our younger generation, irrespective of language, ethnicity, religion or gender. Taking bold steps over the years to strengthen the peace process in the country, RYS has been at the forefront of inspiring the youth to think high, dream big and work together for a united, harmonious and peaceful world. This year's project, named 'Youth For Building Unity In The Community', is an attempt to further the aims and objectives of RYS in Sri Lanka.

### **'Youth For Building Unity In The Community'**

RYS Sri Lanka 2016 will be held in Vijayapura village of the Ampara district. Situated about 330 kms away from Colombo, this district has a population of over 600,000, inhabitants belonging to different ethnic, religious and social streams. The main income of most people in this area is from paddy cultivation. Their livelihood is dependent on the weather as it affects paddy cultivation.

The village with 270 families, is in need of completing the construction of a building for the Community Welfare Centre. Foundation work is over; walls are half-done. The project plans to concrete the floor, pave tiles, paint the walls, erect the roofing, and clean the surroundings. When this building gets finished, it can be used by hundreds of people in this less developed rural village for many community events such as funerals, social gatherings etc.

### **Welcome to Vijayapura!**

Scheduled for 2016 August 12 - 19, the project will accommodate 40 volunteers (including some international participants) from diverse cultures and religions. An internationally renowned trainer with decades of experience will serve as the educational director of the project. Participants will take part in a classic RYS leadership program, including team-building exercises, lectures and interactions, interreligious sharing, sightseeing and community service through fieldwork. Vijayapura is a scenic hamlet with lush green paddy fields, serene streams and coconut plantations. Ampara has many pristine beaches, including famous Arugambe beach, that attract tourist from all over the world. The district rich with wild life holds four wild life sanctuaries. There are remnants of once glorious Digamadulla Kingdom, its palaces and ancient monasteries scattered in the district.

### **Let Us Join Hands Together For A Better Tomorrow!**

We invite you all to be part of this exemplary voluntary service project for this tiny village community. Let us serve each other and share our resources with the lesser privileged among us.

Please confirm your participation by 25th July, 2016 with Ms. Dinesha Liyanasuriya on [dineshasunrise@gmail.com](mailto:dineshasunrise@gmail.com).