



# Youth With A Mission (YWAM) Saint Lucia

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## Overview Document

*(Vision • Mission • Current Work • Future Plans • Context & Partnership)*

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# TABLE OF CONTENT

TABLE OF CONTENT .....	1
1. Introduction .....	2
YWAM Global.....	2
YWAM Saint Lucia .....	2
2. About Saint Lucia .....	3
Key Facts .....	3
Challenges (felt-needs vs. real-needs).....	3
Opportunities .....	4
3. YWAM Saint Lucia .....	5
Vision & Mission .....	5
Current Ministries / Programs .....	5
Future Goals & Development Plans .....	7
Current Challenges & Needs.....	8
4. How To Get Involved .....	8
• Contact & Follow Us:.....	9
5. Why YWAM in Saint Lucia — Connecting Mission to Nation .....	10
Closing Note.....	11

# 1. Introduction

## YWAM Global

Youth With A Mission (YWAM) is an international, inter-denominational Christian mission organization founded in 1960. Its core calling is summarized in its motto as: **"To know God and to make Him known."**

Over the decades, YWAM has established hundreds of base-locations across the world, engaging in evangelism, discipleship, mercy ministry, training, and community transformation.

YWAM is a global movement of young people—and people of all ages, including families—exists to equip and send disciples of Jesus into every sphere of society, culture, and the nations. It is a highly decentralized organization, relying on local and regional circles of elders for accountability.

## YWAM Saint Lucia

Registered in 2011, YWAM Saint Lucia began its ministry effectively in 2013 with the first Discipleship Training School (DTS) organized on the island (following a summer program in 2012).

The ministry was pioneered by the WEKA FOTSO family and their then-young son Asaph – passionate about seeing the next generation changed and equipped to reach the unreached. Our heart focus is **Kids and youth discipleship**, with a holistic vision.

YWAM Saint Lucia is uniquely positioned to serve the Caribbean and the YWAM family through its focused calling to disciple children and youth, restore and strengthen families, and equip the next generation with life and vocational

skills. YWAM Saint Lucia seeks to raise up whole individuals who know God, walk in purpose, and will impact their nation and beyond.

## 2. About Saint Lucia

### Key Facts

The island of Saint Lucia is a vibrant nation in the Eastern Caribbean, characterized by its beautiful landscapes, rich culture, • • Eastern Caribbean island known for natural beauty and culture fruits of its Mix heritage: Arawak, Carib, European ( English French), Indian and African and strategic position in the region.

Many time nominated as top Honey destination in the region. In 2025 with its GDP per Capita estimated at \$14,814.20 and a population a little less than 200K people Saint Lucia will be classify as Middle-Income in the Caribbean region.

According to the latest estimates, youth (ages 15-29) form a strategic portion of the population, and employment and training data reveal significant opportunities and challenges.

### Challenges (felt-needs vs. real-needs)

**Felt needs:** Many people rightly express the need for *money considering the increasing cost of living, jobs for the youths, and fewer acts of violence.*

**Real needs:** Underlying those expressed needs are deeper issues:

- A need for stable families and strong family bonds. over 60 % of adolescent live in single parents home.
- A need for identity and purpose – young people needing to know who they are in Christ and what they are called to.
- A need for appropriate skills training and vocational preparation, so that youth can integrate into society with purpose, not simply “get a job” but hold meaningful, sustainable work.
- A need for character and leadership development, healthy values, and transforming influence rather than just economic change.

### **Further realities:**

- The overall unemployment rate in Saint Lucia has fallen to **10.8%** in 2024. [Saint Lucia - Ministry of Finance+1](#)
- However, youth unemployment remains much higher: for ages 15-24 the rate was about 29.0% in 2024. [MacroTrends+1](#)
- Approximately 25.0% of youth were not in employment, education or training (NEET) as of 2023. [npc.govt.lc+1](#)

These figures point to both challenge and opportunity, particularly in youth-transition contexts.

### **Opportunities**

- Saint Lucia enjoys religious freedom and openness; the gospel can be shared publicly, including within schools.

- Youth presence: A younger generation looking for purpose offers fertile ground for discipleship, leadership development and transformation initiatives.
- Community mores: As an island nation with strong communal and family values, lifting up families and children has outsized effect.
- Strategic Caribbean position with cultural diversity for outreach with regional impact.

### **3. YWAM Saint Lucia**

#### **Vision & Mission**

##### **Vision:**

"We envision a future where individuals of all ages—especially children and youth—in Saint Lucia and the Caribbean experience restored identity and thriving family, growing with purpose and character in resilient communities, are equipped to make meaningful contributions at home and beyond."

##### **Mission:**

"To equip and empower the people – especially children and youth—through values-based training, mentoring, and community engagement, fostering restored identity, strong families values, and purposeful living that will impacts in Saint Lucia, the Caribbean, and beyond."

#### **Current Ministries / Programs**

The ministry is active in several key areas:

- **Kids Clubs** – Each week children from selected communities and children in transit homes gather for after-school programmes: games/ recreation, leadership and character-building, grounded in biblical foundation.
- **Juvenile Detention Centre ministry** – Weekly activities at the juvenile detention centre to develop character and leadership skills among teen boys at risk.
- **Public School Outreach** – Weekly Religious Knowledge Class sessions in numerous public schools, aimed at character development and discipleship where appropriate.
- **Youth Discipleship** – Annual **summer programs and camps** for local and international youth, with follow-up gatherings throughout the year to develop godly character and strong disciples.
- **Short-term Teams & Outreach** – Hosting short-term mission teams locally. but also organizing local outreach that empowers locals and youth to serve beyond their context or culture of comfort.
- **Inductive Bible Study** – Weekly sessions to equip believers in the art of Scripture study and application in personal life.
- **Workshops & Conferences** – Occasional workshops and conferences on topics such as education, marriage & family, missions, discipleship and evangelism.

- **Community Outreach** – Mentoring and coaching and partnership offered to various organization including churches in the community where needed. We have for example - assisted the Salvation Army with **soup kitchen for the homeless** in Castries. - we offer or facilitate training and workshop in or with some local churches and organization . - we organized **Prayer Stations** and **evangelism outreach** Working alongside group, individuals, families and youth to build character, resilience and purpose.
- **Trainings:** offer of facilitate training register with the YWAM UofN networks, this Include ywam DTS that we have offer in the past year but also part time Trining like the MDTS or other.
- **Intercession :** we weekly take some time to pray or fast seeking God directions and standing in the gap for those in need near and beyond

## Future Goals & Development Plans

- Acquire a **property/campus** to develop multiple ministry aspects: office space, children's/play area, youth discipleship base, hospitality for missionaries, camping site etc.
- Establish a **skills / vocational training centre** for youth to equip them for meaningful integration into society. This can be done by establishing small pilot project with sustainable and self interconnected systems such as Hydroponic / Aquaponic system, renewable energy system incorporating a Training workshop in various domain (wood, metal, electricity, art etc...)



- Establish a **half-way home** for children or youths at risk and in transition.
- Establish a **playground and multi-sport centre** for kids to develop in a safe, healthy, and conducive environment.
- Expand or develop further **youth programs including DTS** (Discipleship Training School), deeper follow-up frameworks, and regional outreach.

## Current Challenges & Needs

- Need for more **full-time staff** and support for volunteers in key roles.
- Housing/Space or accommodation: A campus or office facility that is conducive for kids' activities, with space for play, accessible location, and at least 5-6 rooms and/or 2 to 3 apartments for volunteer hospitality, offices, workshops. but also potential retreat centre.
- Funding & Support: Monthly rent for office, salary/support for full-time staff, operational costs.
- Volunteer involvement and sustainable partner relationships to maintain consistency and growth.

## 4. How To Get Involved

There are multiple avenues to join in and partner with YWAM Saint Lucia:

- **Prayer** – Join us in prayer for children, youth, families, the ministry team and the future vision.
- **Volunteering** – Come serve: weekly programs, outreach sites, team hosting, mentoring, discipleship.

- **Visiting** – Short-term mission trips, team experiences, discovery visits to the island and ministry sites.
- **Advocacy** – Talk about the ministry, share on social media, help us connect with potential donors and partners.
- **Giving / Financial Support** –
  - General ministry giving: via the donation page on our website (tax-exemption options available) at <https://www.ywamsl.org/donate-page#OnlineFinancialDonation>
  - Direct bank wire:
    - Account Number: **95010 200 4433**
    - Bank: **Republic Bank EC Limited (6 Wm. Peter Boulevard, Castries, Saint Lucia** / postal address P.O. Box 301, Castries)
    - SWIFT CODE: **RBNKLCLC** (for overseas donations)
    - Transit Number: **50105**
    - For intermediary banks and more details: <https://www.ywamsl.org/donate-page#DirectWireDetailstoSaintLucia>
  - To support a full-time volunteer: details available at <https://www.ywamsl.org/About#OurFullTimeStaffVolunteers>
- **Contact & Follow Us:**
  - Website: [ywamSL.org](http://ywamSL.org)
  - Email: [ywamsaintlucia@gmail.com](mailto:ywamsaintlucia@gmail.com) or [Communication@ywamSL.org](mailto:Communication@ywamSL.org)
  - Facebook: [@ywamSL](https://www.facebook.com/ywamSL)

- WhatsApp Group: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/JPAFGbTV30m4pnnwr9BgXj>
- WhatsApp Channel: <https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VaFUFSp65yD64NFCtv0o>
- Telephone & WhatsApp: +1 (758) 286-2967

## **5. Why YWAM in Saint Lucia – Connecting Mission to Nation**

The presence of YWAM Saint Lucia is rooted in more than just responding to “a need”; it is a strategic and passionate response to the unique context of the nation and region.

- The unique challenges facing youth : violence, drug, unemployment and a generational opportunity for transformation, restoration and discipleship/mentorship.
- The expressed felt-need for jobs, income and safety is real – but without the deeper layers of discipleship, identity, skills and community, the risk remains of “a life without purpose,” or youth drifting to the many short cup and its consequences.
- By focusing on kids and youth – along with family restoration, leadership formation and vocational skills – YWAM aim to bridging the gap between felt-need and real-need.
- Saint Lucia’s relative openness to the gospel at the moment. should not make us undermine the great need for real discipleship. its location and reach in the Caribbean, and its social contours make it an ideal base for mission-oriented youth and community work.
- By establishing permanent infrastructure (campus, vocational centre, half-way home, sports/playground) YWAM Saint Lucia is not just responding to problems but investing in the next generation’s transformation into agents of change, impacting families, communities, and the region. preparing the next waves to complete mission task

- For local and international supporters, volunteers, donors and partners, the call is clear: join with us in shaping a future where young lives are anchored in Christ, equipped for life, and ready to serve.

## **Closing Note**

Thank you for partnering, praying, giving, serving or simply caring about what God is doing through YWAM Saint Lucia. As we move forward with faith and intentionality, we invite you to stand with us – for children, youth, families, the nation and beyond.