



**Obra Partnership  
Caribbean Learning and Launch Event**

**12 – 14 April 2010  
Kingston, Jamaica**

*Hosted by:*

International Youth Foundation

*and*

The Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica

*In partnership with:*

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

**Meeting Location**

The Knutsford Court Hotel  
16 Chelsea Avenue  
Kingston, Jamaica  
Tel: (876) 929-1000  
Fax: (876) 960-7373  
Email: sales@knutsfordcourt.com  
www.knutsfordcourt.com

**Meeting Registration**

Register at: [https://www.regonline.com/jamaica\\_2010\\_youthworkobra\\_launch\\_event](https://www.regonline.com/jamaica_2010_youthworkobra_launch_event)



## Agenda – Day 1

**Monday, 12 April 2010**

---

7:30–8:30 am **Registration and Coffee** (Blue Mountain Suite, 1<sup>st</sup> floor off lobby)

8:30–9:15 am **Welcoming Remarks**

*This session will officially welcome participants, frame discussions for the three-day event, and situate Obra within the larger Summit of the Americas context and commitment by President Obama and other heads of state in the hemisphere*

- Kate Raftery, Vice President of Learning and Citizenship, International Youth Foundation
- Joseph Matalon, President, Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica
- Karen Hilliard, Mission Director, USAID/Jamaica
- Alphansus Davis, Senior Education Advisor, Ministry of Education, Jamaica

9:15–10:00 am **The Socioeconomic Context of Latin America and the Caribbean**

*This session will provide an general overview of key social and economic factors across the Latin American and Caribbean region*

- Gerard Johnson, IDB Jamaica's Country Representative
- Moderator: Peter Shiras, Executive Vice President, IYF

10:00–10:30 am **Break**

10:30–11:30 am **Overview of At-Risk Youth Challenges in the LAC Region**

*This panel will delve into the most critical issues and challenges facing at risk youth across Latin America and the Caribbean, particularly related to education and employment*

- Robert Fuderich, UNICEF Representative
- Frank La Rue, President, Instituto Demos, Guatemala
- Claudette Richardson-Pious, Executive Director, Children First
- Moderator: Ebony Bostic, Regional Education Team Leader, Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, USAID/ Washington

11:30–12:30 pm **Sub-Regional Working Groups**

*Participants (including youth) will divide into working groups to brainstorm about the most salient issues facing at risk youth in Jamaica, Peru and Guatemala – as well as throughout the Caribbean, Central American and South American regions. Groups will identify and prioritize those issues that can be most effectively addressed through multi-sectoral Obra partnerships, and talk about how partners can best make a commitment to actionable items as part of their ongoing work with youth*

Facilitators:

- Caribbean 1: Kate Raftery and Claire Spence



- Caribbean 2: Ebony Bostic and Peter Shiras
- Central America: Scott LeFevre and Felicia Wilson
- South America: Dani Roziewski and Karen Towers

12:30–1:30 pm **Lunch**

1:45–3:00 pm **Youth Panel**

*Youth speakers from the region will “groundtruth” the issues and challenges identified by the morning’s panels, and highlight the priorities and needs of at risk youth in their sub-regions*

- Gassette Miles, Youth Entrepreneur, Jamaica
- Antonio Godoy, Computer Software Trainer, Grupo Ceiba, Guatemala
- Alvaro Henzler, Co-Founder and Executive Director, EnseñaPerú
- Kumera Genet, Latin American Youth Center, Washington, DC
- Moderator: Gregory Simms, Jamaican Youth Leader

3:00–3:30 pm **Overview of *Obra* Program**

*This session gives an overview of the youth-oriented US commitments made at the Summit of the Americas in Trinidad and Tobago a year ago, how the State Department and USAID translated that into substantive programmatic parameters, and the major elements of the *Obra* Program per IYF’s design, including objectives, priorities and expectations.*

- Ebony Bostic, Regional Education Team Leader, Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, USAID/Washington
- Scott LeFevre, *Obra* Program Director, IYF
- Q&A session

3:30–3:40 pm **Review of agenda and conference logistics**

3:40–4:00 pm **Break**

4:00–5:00 pm **Drafting a Vision Statement of *Obra***

*As a starting point, the moderator will present key *Obra* terms and concepts, e.g. Who are vulnerable, marginalized or at risk youth? What is the relationship between education and training?*

*Participants will divide into working groups to discuss their understanding of the terms, areas lacking clarity, sub-regional differences, etc. Working groups will then report out on their discussions, and the larger group will reach consensus on a shared *Obra* vision and definition of concepts.*

Overall facilitator: Kate Raftery, VP of Learning and Citizenship, IYF

Working group facilitators:

- Caribbean 1: Petula Nash, Claire Spence
- Caribbean 2: Peter Shiras and Ebony Bostic
- Central America: Scott LeFevre, Felicia Wilson
- South America: Dani Roziewski and Karen Towers

5:00–5:30 pm **Wrap-up summary of the day’s discussions**

- Peter Shiras, Executive Vice President, IYF

## Agenda – Day 2

**Tuesday, 13 April 2010**

---

8:00–8:30 am **Coffee**

8:30–9:15 am **Welcome and Overview of the Day's Agenda**

- Hon. Olivia Grange, Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, Jamaica
- Introduction by Peter Shiras, Executive Vice President, IYF

9:15–10:45 am **The Foundations for Multi-Sectoral Partnerships**

*This panel will generally discuss the power and effectiveness of public-private partnerships, and specifically analyze the interests, strengths and incentives of various partners from the public, private and nonprofit sectors*

- Winsome Leslie, Operations Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank
- Peter Shiras, Executive Vice President, IYF
- Linda Rimer, Regional Director, Latin America and Caribbean Junior Achievement
- Saffrey Brown, General Manager, Jamaica National Building Society
- Moderator: Scott LeFevre, Obra Program Director, IYF

10:45–11:15am **Break**

11:15–12:15 pm **Group Discussion**

*Participants will share their knowledge of successful partnership experiences in the LAC region, identify key elements contributing to their success, and highlight challenges/issues/roadblocks that have arisen*

Overall facilitator: Scott LeFevre, Obra Director, IYF

Working group facilitators:

- Caribbean 1: Petula Nash and Claire Spence
- Caribbean 2: Peter Shiras and Ebony Bostic
- Central America: Kate Raftery and Felicia Wilson
- South America: Dani Roziewski and Karen Towers

12:15–1:15 pm **Lunch**

1:30–2:30 pm **Nuts and Bolts of Youth of the Americas Partnerships**

*This will be a practical session about the operational and programmatic issues involved in forming multi-sectoral alliances and mobilizing issue-centered partnerships in the sub-regions. Issues will include:*

- Identification and engagement of target country partners that have experience and expertise working on priority at risk youth issues
- The work plan development process, members' contribution to the overall effort
- Partnership management, development and governance issues
- Identification and involvement of resource country partners

- Kate Raftery, Vice President of Learning and Citizenship, IYF
- Scott LeFevre, Obra Program Director, IYF

2:30 – 5:00 pm **Sub Regional Partnership Work**

Activities to include:

- *Brainstorming on Partnership Commitments*
- *Drafting Annual Work Plan*
- *Finalize sub regional vision statement*

Group facilitators:

- Caribbean: PSOJ, Kate Raftery, Claire Spence
- Caribbean: Peter Shiras and Ebony Bostic
- Central America: Scott LeFevre and Felicia Wilson
- South America: Dani Roziewski and Karen Towers

5:00 – 5:30 pm **Final Remarks and Next Steps**

7:00 pm **Working Dinner: IYF staff and Regional Representatives**

---

## Agenda – Day 3

**Wednesday, 14 April 2010**

---

- 8:00–8:45 am     **Check-in and Coffee for Launch Event**
- 9:00–9:15 am     **Welcoming Remarks and Introductions**
- Karen Hilliard, Mission Director, USAID/Jamaica
  - Kate Raftery, Vice President of Learning and Citizenship, International Youth Foundation
  - Isiah Parnell, U.S. Embassy Chargé d'Affaires
- 9:15–9:45 am     ***Obra and the Summit of the Americas***
- Presenters will address how Obra responds to the call for hemispheric partnership contained in the Declaration of Commitment signed by President Obama and other Heads of State at the 2009 Summit of the Americas, as well as the urgency of addressing at risk youth issues more effectively for the good of the region*
- Karen Hilliard, Mission Director, USAID/Jamaica
  - Joan Neil, OAS Representative in Jamaica
  - John Dickson, Director of the Office of Public Diplomacy, U.S. Department of State
- 9:45 – 10:00 am   **Keynote Address by the Honorable Bruce Golding, Prime Minister of Jamaica**
- 10:00–10:30 am   **Vision for Our Partnerships**
- Representatives from the partnerships will share their vision for the power and productivity of these partnerships for the Region*
- 10:30–10:45 am   **Wrap-up and Closing Remarks**
- Kate Raftery, Vice President of Learning and Citizenship, IYF
- 10:45–11:15 am   **Cultural Presentation by Youth**
- 11:15–12:00 pm   **Networking**
- 12:30–2:00 pm     **Lunch**
- 2:00–5:00 pm     **Capacity Building Session**
- This session will provide the opportunity for participants to review their current messaging and rethink how to make their outreach more powerful and effective resulting in a more positive youth image being developed.*
- Moderator: Sheila Kinkade, Marketing Manager, IYF
- 5:00 – 5:30 pm     **Closing Remarks**
- 6:00–7:30 pm     **Cocktail Reception (Grand Caribbean Suite, downstairs)**
-