



# AP Monthly Letter November



Theme: Make a difference beyond the 100th  
Slogan: Be healthy!

2021-22 Area President OHNO Ben Tsutomu (Kobe Port/JWR)

The effects of the pandemic are slowly diminishing. Y's activities have gradually become more active; the path of 100 years of YMI is going strong and we can feel that we are moving forward every day. With pride and courage, let's continue to move forward.



## <Announcements>

### 1, The revised Area Constitution & Guidelines were approved by the Y's Men International.

The revised Area Constitution & Guidelines, which was voted on by the club presidents of the Area in July and August, was reviewed by the Constitution Review Committee and approved by the International Council. From now on, the new Constitution & Guidelines will govern the activities in the Area.

### 2. The International Awards have been announced.

As you may have already been informed, the awards for the 2020-2021 year have been announced. For more information, please visit the YMI website. <https://www.ysmen.org/awards-announcement-2020-21/>

## <Schedule>

### Saturday, November 6

#### English version of Speech Contest: Theme "About SDGs" will be held

The Kitakyushu Club, which concluded an IBC in June this year, and the Lumbini Club in Nepal will co-host a speech contest in English.



### Friday, November 12, 8:30 p.m. - (Japan time)

#### QCM①

The 2nd Area Council Meeting will be held. We will discuss topics that have not yet been decided at the last ACM as well as new topics.

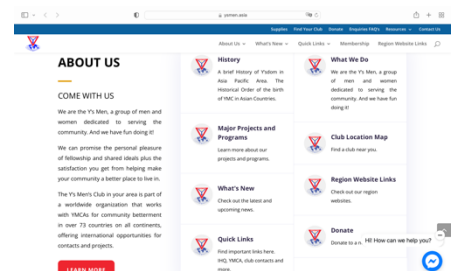
### Saturday, November 13, 4:30 p.m. - (Japan time)

#### ASD Workshop ②: Information on CS, TOF, RBM and BE will be shared.

### Monday, November 8:00p.m., - (Japan time)

#### Area Website Forum

A briefing session will be held on the progress of the new area website currently under construction.



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**No Closed Door Can Keep You From Your Destiny**  
**ASD-CE Mark LIN**



Genesis 16

16:1 Now Sarai, Abram’s wife, had borne him no children.

Genesis 17

17: 15 God also said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah.

17:16 I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her.”

17:17 Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself, “Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?”

17:19 Then God said, “Yes, but your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him.

John 10:9 I am the door: by me if any man enters in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

The door that God promised Sarai and Abraham to have descendants was closed for more than ten years. God had promised to open this door. But Sarai used her own way to open the door and give her slave Hagar to Abraham as a concubine, when Hagar gave birth to Ishmael, Sarai regretted, tortured and expelled Hagar and child. In fact, the door Sarai opened was not the door that God wanted to open. They didn’t believe in God’s promise, thinking that they were past childbearing age and could no longer conceive and have children, but God is faithful and omnipotent, and will help them open the door to accomplish His promise.

When God opens doors in our lives don’t try to close it. No one can close an open door that God has for you. We shall have confidence in the Lord. If it is God’s will it will be done, remember He always has a plan. Watch out as well for doors that God closes.

Some doors are not God’s will for you to enter and God closes it to protect you. God knows everything and He knows if you’re on a path that leads to danger.

Pray to God continuously to know His will. Rely on the Spirit. The Holy Spirit will tell you if something is God’s will. Allow the Spirit to guide your life.

When God opens a door He will never cause you to compromise or contradict His Word. Many times God will confirm His will through His Word and through others such as godly counsel.

Usually you know it’s an open door from God when you have to rely on Him. Some people try to do things in the arm of the flesh, but when it’s God’s will we must ask Him to bless the work of our hands.

We must ask Him to strengthen us and help us daily. If God doesn’t make a way there will be no way. Seek first God’s Kingdom. Open doors will strengthen your prayer life and faith.

When it’s an open door you know that it is God who is really at work. Once again remember that the Holy Spirit will give you an uneasy feeling if He wants you to keep a door closed. Keep on knocking on God’s door. Sometimes the door is a little cracked open and God just wants us to persevere in prayer. When the time is right, He will fully open the door.

No closed door can keep you from your destiny. You may not see how it could work out, but God is not limited by what’s limiting you. Stay in faith. He’s going to make a way where there is no way.

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**November Emphasis Month - ASF - Alexander Scholarship Fund**

**ASD-ASF Tetsuya Itamura**

The ASF Leaders Meeting with APs and ASDs-ASF was held on 23 October by Zoom under the leadership of ISD-ASF Hiro Tanaka and the ASF information was updated.



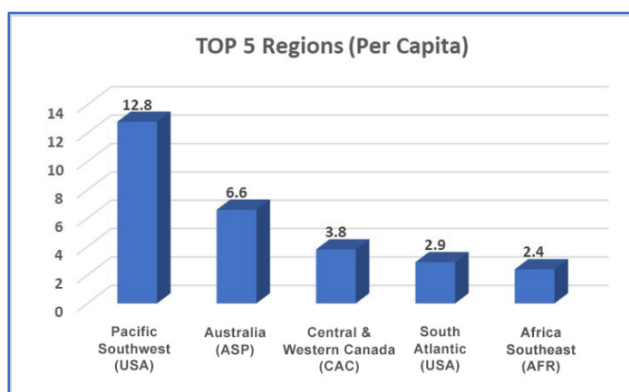
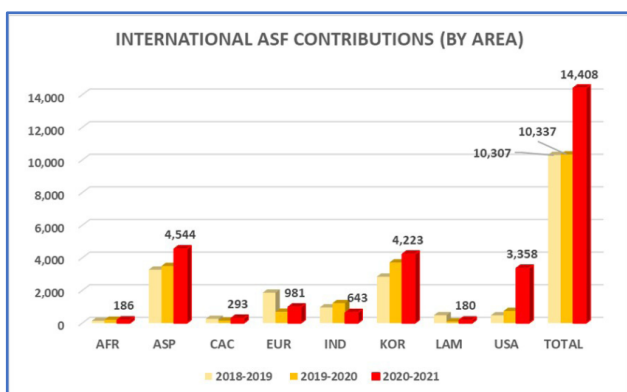
The ASF officially started in 1954 and has been giving money to develop YMCA leadership and impact potential worldwide.

In recent years, 70% of the ASF contributions collected in each Area and Region are used to support local YMCAs. The remaining 30% is sent to IHQ as the international ASF and used to support international YMCA initiatives.

On average, about CHF 10,000 has been contributed to the international ASF every year, but in 2020-2021, despite the COVID-19 disaster, over CHF 14,000 was collected.

The table shows the amounts given to the international ASF.

Last year, all the Regions in the ASP Area contributed to the international ASF, and the total amount was the highest in YMI. On a per capita basis, ASP (CHF1.3) was the 3<sup>rd</sup> place among 8 Areas, following USA (4.2) and Africa (1.9). By Region, the Australia Region (6.6) was ranked second in YMI. Thank you for your strong support.



In 2020-2021/2021-2022, the international ASF Supported YMCA’s COVID-19 ‘Solidarity Fund’, an initiative of the World YMCA to support National YMCAs worldwide in need due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with CHF 20,000.

As for the relationship between the ASP Area and the YMCA, the Area does not collect ASF, but it has been financially supporting the Advanced Studies Program of Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCA (APAY) from its operating account.

**This year, as an exciting and new fundraising initiative, YMI provides a special ASF raffle with various prizes.**

The actual amount of the contributions of 2020-2021 and the goal of 2021-2022 are as follows. I look forward to your further cooperation.

CHF

	Australia	Japan East	Japan West	Philippines	SEA	Sri Lanka	Taiwan	ASP Total
Actual 2020-2021	1,035	915	1,682	60	336	11	504	4,543
(Per Capita)	6.6	1.1	1.2	0.4	0.8	0.1	1.0	1.3
Goal 2021-2022	500	1,200	1,700	200	120	?	1,600	8,120
(Per Capita)	3.2	4.8	1.2	1.3	0.3	?	3.1	2.2

(For more detail, please read [IP News 2021 November issue](#) and visit [YMI Website](#).)

## Introduction of Y'S Menettes' Activities

I am ASD-Y's Menettes Chiharu Sakamoto.( Japan West Region, Osaka-Centennial Y's Men's club )

I would like to introduce Y's Menettes activities .



### **Y's Menettes International project 2020-22 (CHF 15,000)**

#### **Sports and Informal Education as Tools of Healthy Lifestyle Promotion among Vulnerable Children in Zaporizhzhya, Ukraine**

(An Update Report of the Y's Menettes from YMI World 2020/21 No.4)

We are creating an outdoor sports playground with gym equipment in the grounds of the Regional Centre where orphans and poor children are cared for. It will be a very welcome community asset.

Viktor Serbulov of YMCA Ukraine is the Project Coordinator and has advised me that finally at the end of April the sports equipment was installed. The winter in Ukraine was a very cold one and as in the rest of the world Covid has had a huge impact. Half of Ukraine was in a red zone with very strict quarantine restrictions and Zaporizhzhya still remains in a red zone. Sadly, there has been fighting with the Russian army in an area very close to Zaporizhzhya where we have installed the equipment. Viktor has said the tension has eased some, so we pray that it remains this way. The children are now able to use the equipment which is great and it is very much appreciated in the uneasy situation they are living in. The photos Viktor has sent me show many very happy children and if you are in any doubt as to whether the Y's Menettes International Project is benefit or if it makes a difference, you only need to see these happy faces.



"The happiness we bring to these vulnerable children makes it all well worth us supporting these Y's Menettes International projects"



As this article shows, you can know how Y's Menettes project is useful.

According to Joy McNamara-International project coordinator 2018-22, this project has already completed and very successful.

This project was one of three small projects they had to choose due to low fund.

Next projects will be voted in around May 2022.

If we donate before then, they will know what size project they can take on.

Please continue to donate to the International project.

I hope Asia Pacific Area can be a good supporter.

Last term the donation from Asia Pacific Area

Australia: 3015.54CHF

Japan East: 530CHF

Japan West: 955.8CHF

Even Region has no Menettes activity, please promote for International project donation.

### **Japan West(2021-22)**

#### **Free Wigs for Children Who Have Lost Their Hair!**

This is an activity to make wigs from donated hair for children who have lost their hair due to childhood cancer and alopecia. It needs a lot of people's cooperation, usually requires 50 to 100 people's hair to make one wig. Medical wigs are custom-made to fit each individual child.

According to a reliable source, there are 600 children waiting for a medical wig. Y's Menettes of the Japan West Region would like to send wigs to children who are fighting against illnesses to bring smiles and joy to them. We hope to work on this project to encourage and support those children.

The original project has been going on since 2009 by "Tsunagami" which is organized by a medical wig company in Japan. Y's Menettes of the Japan West Region has decided to cooperate with this project. We would like to make a great impact to support the Tsunagami project as part of our social service activities.



*Cutting hair to make wig*



**Completed wigs( pictures by "Tsunagami "PP )**

### **Japan East(2021-22)**

#### **Sending picture books to YMCA facilities every year**

Every year, Y's Menettes of the Japan East Region raises fund in order to donate picture books to nursery schools and kindergartens run by YMCAs situated in the territory of Japan East Region. This service project has been going on for more than ten years. It is appreciated by not only children but also parents and staff members of YMCA facilities.

I hope I can get the other regions information of Y's Menettes.

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