

Down the street and...



# The TELOS Report



The official TELOS International information source for our partners:  
*Helping make the world whole... one person and one relationship at a time!*

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Tel•os (tél-os, Gk  
τελο ) – “to achieve  
one’s ultimate aim,  
purpose or goal in life...  
to be complete, mature  
and whole.”

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## Out of Africa... A progress report!

*From Africa we have received news that what began with two persons in the fall of 2000 and then a team of four people summer of 2001 has multiplied to positively impact some 3000 people in Central Africa.*

He barely escaped with his life. Eight of his students were slaughtered, as were family members and friends. David, a devout Christian and Quaker, became involved in the reconciliation movement.

The two: David Niyonzima and Rand Michael meet Fall 2000 at George Fox Portland Center.



**David Niyonzima** (center), Founder and Executive Director of THARS (Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Services) of Central Africa plus **Phyllis and Rand Michael** (left and right respectively), Founders of TELOS international, inc. March 2005 when David visited the Michaels and shared with them his report of what has been done and will be done in Central Africa as a result of the TELOS and THARS partnership.

By God’s Grace, David extended forgiveness to the perpetrators of the atrocities in which over a million people were massacred. The reconciliation movement had accomplished much in 4-5 years but David noticed something was missing: *effective listening*. He saw how essential listening is to heal-

The four: a TELOS team visits Central Africa Summer 2001 to train 30 listeners. And now, from those initially trained, over 800 others trained to listen and over 2000 people served through being able to tell their stories and experience progress in their personal and relational healing.

ing, to forgiveness, to reconciliation. His vision was to train people in how to effectively listen. This vision included a movement of trained listeners as well

David, from Burundi, had endured the massacres and tortures of Central Africa.

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## Out of Africa...

as strategically located listening centers which would be staffed with trained care givers—*listeners*. To realize his dream, David came to George Fox University (GFU) to earn a degree in counseling.

Was it merely coincidence that Rand Michael teaches at GFU? Was it merely coincidence that when Rand and Phyllis Michael had spent time in the Balkans during and after the Kosovar crisis (1999) that they developed a listening resource in response to the needs expressed to them by the Kosovors and the Albanians? The Michaels developed a strategy for training teachers so there is a multiplying movement of listeners.

After David shared his vision, Rand told David about CORE Caring and the training strategy. After looking over a copy of the curriculum, David lowered

his head and wept, saying softly: “This is an answer to prayer.”

In the summer of 2001, Rand led a TELOS training team comprised of **Luis Carriere** (Everett, WA), **Mindy Gelder** (Portland, OR), and **Katy Trautman** (Corvallis, OR) to Bujumbura, Burundi. The team trained over thirty key people from Congo, Rwanda, and Burundi. These were commissioned to diligently use their new skills in their personal lives and in their various arenas of service and ministry. The plan was for a TELOS team to return summer of 2002 and join forces with their African brothers and sisters to train others in the listening and care

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*“After looking over a copy of the curriculum, David lowered his head and wept...”*

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giving skills.

Summer 2002 a TELOS team comprised of **Glenn Koppang**-aka “Kope” (Corvallis, OR), **Glenn Anderson**-aka “Andy” (Portland, OR) plus **Phyllis** and **Rand Michael** returned to Burundi. Kope, Andy, and Phyllis each joined a team of three Africans which yielded three teams of four members each. Kope and Andy’s teams “went up country,” to Gitega and Ngozi, respectively. Phyllis and her team stayed in the capitol, Bujumbura. For those not on a training team, Rand led a course entitled “Case Studies in CORE Caring” in which the participants and Rand together reflected on and worked with cases and situations the listeners had encountered during the year from summer 2001 to summer 2002.

Andy, Kope, and Phyllis found that their African brothers and sisters had so thoroughly mastered the skills and

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## Comments from the President...

By **Rand Michael, D.Min., Co-Founder and President, TELOS International, Inc.**

I am humbled....

I am humbled by fellow clinicians who have a burden for and a calling to bring mental health training and services to people in underserved areas of the world.

I am humbled by these clinicians sacrificing their time, their energy and their finances in order to share in the healing, growth, and equipping of their brothers and sisters in various parts of our global village.

I am humbled as I listen to these clinician-trainers, their vision, their compassion, their eagerness, their sense of mission.

I am humbled by the dedication of our TELOS staff members, **Mike Ward**—Administrative Director, and **Sherry Brinkley**, our Treasurer.

I am humbled by our TELOS board members who undertake their conversation in board meetings with utmost seriousness about the importance of the ministry we are doing...while at the same time we are able to laugh, learn, and grow.

I am humbled by the prayers of those who intercede for us, our associates, our staff, those that we serve.

I am humbled by those who support this important ministry financially.

Humbly,  
Rand Michael



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their use that the TELOS representatives were mainly “cheerleaders” and on occasion, consultants.

The three teams, comprised of teacher/trainers/listeners from Burundi, Congo, and Rwanda, trained some 80 people to be more effective listeners in their own lives and in the lives of others.

To implement his dream, David formed THARS—Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Services. Drawing from the cadre of listeners trained in the summers of 2001 and 2002, David developed a team of 21 men and women who are specially gifted in caring through listening as well as effective in training others. These 21 are serving in 21 listening centers scattered throughout Burundi, helping people process their past and current trauma as well as

their daily concerns, problems, and challenges. These 21 listener-trainers have trained 800 key leaders and city/town/village elders throughout the country to be listeners in their own relationships and to be alert for people who have need for healing through listening. These 800 serve as the link between the people in their communities and the listening centers, bringing people in need to the centers. At the centers, people are working through and healing from abuse, rape, and torture as well as marital, family, and personal problems.

David has now secured permission from the government of Burundi to train health care providers throughout Burundi to become effective listeners, because listening *heals*. The curriculum for the training: *CORE Caring*.

## CHINA: An “open windows” update

1.3 Billion People...individuals, couples, families in great need...few, if any counseling resources. What to do? Like Alice was told: “*Don’t just do something! Stand there!*” Or was it the other way around? I get confused. And at times, we all can be as confused and as immobilized as Alice! We can feel overwhelmed and think, “*What’s the use?*”

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*“...Father [has] orchestrated... training marriage and family counselors in China.”*

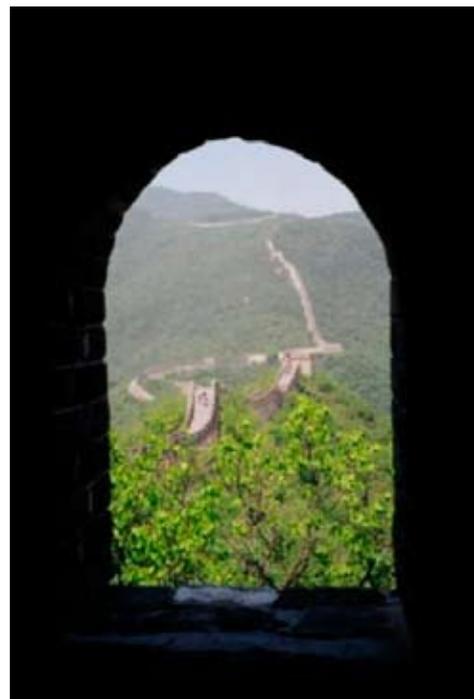
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However, clear nudging, leading, prompting, prodding, and beckoning by Father have orchestrated TELOS international, inc. and LEAD International to partner for training marriage and family counselors in China.

The project started with less than a dozen partners... actually, less than a half-dozen! What are so few among so many? Well, let’s come at it another way. You and I...all of us...are complex miracles! We are comprised of millions, even billions of cells—how did we get our start? Yep: as a single contribution from each of our parents and then through the miracle of multiplication, *walah* (how do you spell that?), here comes a miraculous bundle we admire and cuddle—a baby.

Well, the baby has been conceived, the pregnancy is proceeding and in June 2005, we will mark the birth! In June, **Rand and Phyllis Michael** will co-teach two week-long courses in China to two different groups of “Like-Minded” Chinese (note our careful choice of words for the context). From these groups, two cohorts of 20 each will be chosen to participate in a three-year training program in marriage and family counseling. More details will be given in future TELOS Reports.

Funding? Funding? How is the project possible? It costs money....a lot of money! Well, again, Father’s guidance and supply! He has prompted some of the Family’s more monetarily endowed siblings (just like in all our families, some members have more money than others!!!) to generously share their funds to help underwrite the project.



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# Open Windows...

Via Geneva Global, an organization whose ministry is grant brokering for various

"Family" "services" throughout the world, Father has led the **First Fruit Foundation** and an **anonymous donor** to underwrite most of the first half of the three year project. This is common practice: (1) funding half a project, with a mid-point reporting and review so funding can be adjusted for the second half, and (2) funding the international portion of a project but expecting the US organization to raise its own funding for the US side of the operations.

*"This is an amazing supply by Father and our deepest appreciation is expressed..."*

The combined funding for the first half of the project for in-country (China) costs: \$96,000! This is an amazing supply by Father and our deepest appreciation is expressed to

Geneva, to First Fruit, "Anonymous," and to Father!

However, along with this generous funding, we still need financial resourcing for additional services and resources in China as well as for the administrative and coordination costs from our side here in the US. How much? A minimum of \$30,000! We do not have it—but Father and Family together have! So we wait in anticipation of what Father will do.

Will you:

1. Celebrate with us for the generous funding from Father, First Fruit, and "Anonymous"?
2. Pray for the students, the teachers, the program, and those who will be touched and helped by the counselors being trained?
3. Pray for the additional funding needed... and even adding you own contribution so you can help train "Like Minded" Chinese marriage and family counselors who will impact hundreds for hope and healing?

We look forward to keeping you informed of what is being accomplished, just on the other side of the Pacific, where some of our Family siblings live, work, and serve!



Left to right: March 2005—**Rand Michael**, TELOS Co-Founder & President, **Mike Ward**, TELOS Administrative Director, **Phyllis Michael**, TELOS Co-Founder, and **Sherry Brinkley**, TELOS Treasurer. Discussing the grants received for the training of marriage and family therapists in China. The grants were from First Fruit and from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.