

## *Initiatives of Change*

*making a world of difference, starting with yourself*

*Initiatives of Change* is an international network open to people of all cultures, nationalities, religions and beliefs, who work towards change, locally and globally, by starting with change in their own lives.

### *Initiatives of Change affirms that:*

- in this era of globalization, **an individual can be a powerful agent for positive change in society;**
- in this age of overabundant information yet appalling human need, **listening in silence – for God's leading, to the inner voice, or to conscience – is an essential source of inner freedom, discernment and direction;**
- in this age where pressures on our life and time lead us to live on the surface of our being, **change on a personal and global scale starts with a process of deepening self-knowledge;**
- in this climate of moral relativism, **unchanging values of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love offer a practical framework of principles by which to measure our individual and collective behaviour;**
- in this time when profits and results are made paramount, **genuine care for and by individuals is at the heart of any effort toward lasting change in society;**
- in this time of communal tensions, **all people should be valued equally; every person has a story to tell and a part to play;**
- in this time when cycles of hatred and resentment are perpetuated, **acknowledgement of past wrongs, restoration and forgiveness are means by which the human spirit is liberated and the wounds of history are healed;**
- in a society that is quick to assign blame, **honest conversations and readiness to accept our own responsibility can unite people for action across barriers that have historically divided them;**
- in a world marked by divisions and self-interest, **communities of dedicated people can unite to serve as models of a more just and compassionate society.**

### *Current initiatives are aimed at:*

- Healing the wounds of history where cultures and civilisations meet;
- Strengthening the moral and spiritual foundations of democracy;
- Encouraging care and responsibility in family life and personal relationships;
- Bringing hope in cities and communities;
- Tackling the roots causes of poverty and corruption;
- Strengthening moral commitment in economic life;
- Forging networks among people from different faiths and cultures.

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