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MCW Journeys Invites Africa Travel Specialists to Partner on a New Community-Based Tourism Initiative

NEW YORK, NY, January 17, 2014 — MCW announced today the launch of a new travel initiative called “MCW Journeys,” a unique volunteer, philanthropic and learning experience in Africa. This project presents local tourism specialists in Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia with the opportunity to develop a new community-based, immersive travel experience that showcases the diverse offerings of each destination and features MCW’s community centers.

“MCW Journeys shows the positive impact travel can have on both global and local communities,” says Khalid Elachi, MCW’s Chief Operating Officer. “It’s a unique combination of our youth empowerment and community development programs, offering participants the chance to share their experience and knowledge with the youth who participate in our programs through travel, cultural immersion and volunteering. At the same time, it allows us to partner with local tour operators, hotels, airlines, restaurants and transportation businesses to develop a new community-based tourism project that benefits the local community by contributing to the local economy.”

Drawing on MCW’s vision of “Local Change through Global Exchange,” MCW Journeys offers travelers looking for a new type of travel experience the opportunity to visit and explore the countries where MCW has community centers: Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia. Each country visit centers around an MCW center, where travelers will be introduced to the center’s vocational training, social and micro-enterprise projects. They will also meet MCW’s local community partners and program participants and have the opportunity to connect with businesses, civil society and government. The trip also highlights each destination’s tourism attractions, such as the island of Zanzibar in Tanzania and Victoria Falls in Zambia.

“In August, we will kick off MCW Journeys with a three-week trip to Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia” says Zoi Calomiris, the MCW Journey’s coordinator. “After August, we hope to offer more opportunities for travelers inside and outside of the MCW community of supporters to visit and volunteer at our centers.”

To learn more about MCW Journeys and partnership opportunities contact MCW Journeys Coordinator, Zoi Calomiris, at journeys@mcwglobal.org or visit www.mcwglobal.org.

About MCW (Miracle Corners of the World)

MCW (Miracle Corners of the World) is a non-profit organization founded in 1999 with the vision "Local Change through Global Exchange.®" Our mission is to empower youth to become positive agents of change in their communities. Based in New York, with partner organizations in Africa (i.e. Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Zambia), MCW offers the following programs: Global Youth Development, Community Development and Oral Healthcare, as well as Partner Initiatives (e.g. Pediatric AIDS Treatment for Africa). MCW's core values include integrity, compassion, accountability, responsibility and excellence.