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By STAFF REPORTER

US NGO supports youth housing project

MEMBERS from a US-based NGO, Miracle Corners of the World Inc. (MCW), will be in Tanzania next week to participate in the opening ceremony of the MCW Youth Housing & Community Village in Songea on Monday afternoon, and to launch other humanitarian youth development and healthcare projects.

MCW, founded and run primarily by young people, is a non-profit organisation that promotes "local change through global exchange," according to its co-founder and

Executive Director Edward Bergman.

According to a statement issued yesterday in Dar es Salaam, it supports global development through youth education, outreach and community development by working in close partnership with community members, educational institutions, governments and NGOs worldwide.

It said in Songea, MCW has recently completed the first phase of construction of the

new youth village, with 12 houses, a medical clinic and a community centre on 51 acres of land provided by the local government.

The statement quoted the Songea District Commissioner Abeid Mwinyimsa, saying: "This project provides a unique opportunity for the youth of Songea to engage in education and development activities that lead to positive change," he said.

He pointed out the importance of "global

exchange" and the need to continue to work in partnership with youth from around the world.

Bergman said that the village also provides a platform for employment creation, job training, and education for young people. "It is a prime example of how 'local change through global exchange' can make a difference in people's lives."

All the funds for construction were raised last year in New York at a

fundraising dinner at New York University where former NYC Mayor David Dinkins delivered the keynote address. Tanzanian Ambassador to the United Nations Dr Augustine Mahiga also attended the event.

In addition to the opening ceremony, MCW will also host its fourth annual dental outreach programme in Songea, a rural village in the southwest quadrant of Tanzania, a region of the world with limited access to oral

healthcare.

In partnership with a professional dental team from New York University's College of Dentistry, and with the support of product donations from Henry Schein Cares, the global corporate citizenship programme of healthcare products and services distributor, Henry Schein, Inc., the eight members of the dental outreach team will work with Songean health officials to provide free dental treatment to an estimated 500 young patients in the newly established medical clinic.