



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



COLOMBIA  
YMCA

# CHANGING THE WORLD FOR GOOD

YMCA World Service Campaign



MEXICO YMCA  
EARTHQUAKE  
RECOVERY

## Every young person has the potential to change the world.

At the Y, we believe in the unlimited potential of young people to use their ideas, passion and voice for the greater good. **YMCAs in 119 countries share a commitment to empower youth** – from childhood to young adulthood – with the support they need to become changemakers who create a better future for all. This support is critical because in many communities worldwide, young people do not have access to the basic resources and opportunities they need to thrive, such as quality health services, education, employment and opportunities to learn outdoors. The Y is there to fill the gaps and help youth develop into the next generation of leaders who will transform their communities for the better.

But this transformational impact is not possible without the generosity of friends like you. In many parts of the world YMCAs operate in challenging social, economic and political environments and **YMCA of the USA's World Service Campaign** raises critical resources to strengthen their capacity to reach more children, teens and young adults in need. This support is the critical difference to help young people thrive and realize their great potential as changemakers to build a better world.

## Invest in youth today to empower the leaders of tomorrow.



# GIVE AND CHANGE THE WORLD



## LEARN MORE:

[ymca.net/world-service](http://ymca.net/world-service)



## GIVE:

<https://donate.ymca.net>



## CONNECT:

800 872 9622

## Our commitment to you:

**Your gift to YMCA World Service creates opportunities for young people** to overcome obstacles and create change that will last generations. YMCA World Service funds are overseen by the YMCA of the USA International Group and put to use locally by YMCA staff and volunteers who are trusted leaders with a deep understanding of community need and the relationships to produce impactful, sustainable solutions.



# EMPOWERING YOUTH TO LEAD SOCIAL CHANGE

For 175 years, YMCAs have nurtured the power and potential of young people to lead change in their own communities and beyond. **Your World Service gift supports YMCA programs like these**, which provide youth with the tools and opportunities to take action on critical social issues and create positive social change for all.



The **Africa Alliance of YMCAs' Subject2Citizen change model** helps young people who have been historically disenfranchised to understand their rights, become civically engaged and promote social justice. Through the program, more than one million youth across twenty African nations are taking the lead to effect societal change in areas such as workforce development, youth justice, transformative masculinity, social inclusion and environmental action.



Through the **YMCA's Roots for Reconciliation program**, young people from the neighboring countries of Georgia, Armenia, Russia, Ukraine and Azerbaijan are taking an active role in bridging social divides caused by decades of violence and war. Using a peer-to-peer model, youth teach each other critical skills and techniques to promote cross-cultural understanding in an effort to end the cycle of prejudice and work towards a more peaceful future for all.



Armed conflict between paramilitary factions divided the people of Colombia for more than 50 years, severely impacting the well-being and security of millions. In the wake of an historic national peace agreement, the **Colombia YMCA's Paza a la Paz** ("Pass the Peace") program empowers youth from marginalized communities to help restore stability and become leaders of social change through community organizing and volunteer efforts, such as teaching English and computer skills to adults.



In Nicaragua, indigenous peoples have historically been pressured to suppress their culture in order to successfully integrate into mainstream society. The **Nicaragua YMCA is empowering indigenous youth** from the Sutiaba community to reclaim their cultural identity and overcome discrimination. The youth lead programs that promote social inclusion, civic engagement and community health, including a project to build wells and latrines to ensure clean water and sanitation.



East and Southern Africa is the region in the world most affected by HIV, accounting for half of new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths worldwide. The **Ethiopia YMCA educates youth on reproductive health issues** and trains them to promote HIV/AIDS prevention to peers using a variety of engagement techniques including theatre performance, dance and music. Over 20,000 youth have been reached through this innovative peer-to-peer prevention campaign.



Support YMCA World Service and empower youth to change the world for good!

LEARN MORE:  
[ymca.net/world-service](http://ymca.net/world-service)

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**"World Service brings to life the Y's commitment to the young people of the world, who carry with them our hopes and dreams for a brighter future."**

– Kevin Washington, President and CEO, YMCA of the USA



# CREATING A BETTER WORLD FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Every day in 119 countries, YMCAs identify and address the critical social issues preventing youth from reaching their full potential. The YMCA World Service Campaign funds work in six key areas to ensure more youth can access support and resources to thrive.



World Service helps strengthen YMCAs around the world to be better equipped to deliver responsive, innovative and sustainable programs. Through World Service support, the **Philippines YMCA** is helping more than 100,000 people to create a better future through life-enriching initiatives such as health education, job training and youth development programs.

**“The YMCA Rizal Youth Leadership Training Institute taught me how to stand on my own and become a strong and effective leader. I overcame my fear as a youth in society and I am inspired to be a catalyst for community change.”**

—Angielyn, Program Participant, PHILIPPINES YMCA

The ability to earn an income is critical to family and community stability. The **East Jerusalem YMCA** provides young people with the training and seed funding to start their own business. The income generated helps to sustain families and is reinvested in the community.

**“I thought I would always be fully dependent on my family and government assistance. The opportunity to run my small business has had a great impact on the way I view myself. I am providing for my family and I feel more confident, and proud that I am contributing to the happiness of my community.”**

—Fadia, Program Participant, EAST JERUSALEM YMCA

The Y uses recreation, camping and environmental programs to help youth build confidence, develop leadership skills, protect the environment and advocate for sustainable social change. The **Kosovo YMCA** is nurturing a generation of peacemakers focused on a more inclusive society for all.

**“The YMCA gave me the chance to develop skills to be a leader and help build my country up after the war. At the YMCA, I find myself as a part of something bigger to help other young people, my community and the world.”**

—Adhurim, Youth Leader, KOSOVO YMCA

To help young people thrive and reach their full potential, YMCAs are committed to improving their health and well-being in spirit, mind and body. In a country with one of the highest rates of HIV infection, the **South Africa YMCA** is responding with prevention and care programs.

**“I was losing weight and was nervous but went to the free health clinic of the Cape Flats YMCA to get tested for HIV. I tested positive. I learned everything I could about HIV from them to take care of myself. The Y welcomed me and changed my life.”**

—Mario, Volunteer Leader, SOUTH AFRICA YMCA

The Y is a place where young people can belong, use their voice for positive social change and become community leaders. Programs at the **Haiti YMCA** prepare young people to learn about their potential and effectively lead change through community action.

**“The young leaders at our YMCA community centers are very motivated and are responsible for planning activities to improve the community. Whether debating the importance of literacy or planting trees, these Y leaders are influencing Haiti’s future.”**

—Gwenaël, CEO, HAITI YMCA

Ys provide young people with access to a quality education, which is key to escape poverty. The **Peru YMCA** helps working children of economically vulnerable families transition out of a life of dangerous child labor, equipping them and their parents with skills to build a better future.

**“There is a strong connection between educational access and key social issues like poverty, substance abuse and child labor. We are strengthening our communities for all by improving the academic success and long-term development of youth.”**

—Zulma, Center Coordinator, PERU YMCA

YMCA MISSION: TO PUT CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES INTO PRACTICE THROUGH PROGRAMS THAT BUILD HEALTHY SPIRIT, MIND AND BODY FOR ALL.





# MAKING A GIFT TO WORLD SERVICE IS EASY:



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**Phone:**

800 872 9622



**Online:**

<https://donate.ymca.net>

For more information about YMCA World Service including planned giving, call **800 872 9622** or visit **[ymca.net/world-service](https://ymca.net/world-service)**. All World Service contributions are administered by **YMCA of the USA, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization** chartered by the state of Illinois. All **contributions are tax-deductible** to the extent allowed by law and are acknowledged in writing.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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