

STRENGTHENING GLOBAL COMMUNITIES



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

YMCA OF THE USA

Advancing Global Social Equity

November 2021

ymca.net/world-service

2021 YMCA MOVEMENT STRENGTHENING AND WORLD SERVICE REPORT



Migrant Youth and YMCA Los Angeles visiting staff learning about Immigrants' Human Rights by playing the Human Rights Lottery. Tijuana, September 2021.

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Thank You to World Service Supporters

PASS IT ON

Feel free to share this report with others who may find it useful.

QUESTIONS?

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YMCA of the USA

A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

Despite a difficult two years, YMCAs around the world have been rebounding and redoubling their efforts to serve as a platform for young people to take social action on pressing global issues. Thanks to critical support from World Service, YMCAs were better positioned to overcome the economic crises caused by COVID-19 and work towards a bolder vision, prioritizing community wellbeing, a sustainable planet, and a just world for all.

2021 Movement Strengthening and World Service Impact

Movement Strengthening is the intentional multilateral process to **strategically advance global social equity** by building the capacity of Ys in the US and abroad to serve diverse and changing communities. It is a multi-faceted process, linked to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, that involves mobilizing technical and financial support for greater local impact. In 2021, local US Ys and Y-USA provided financial and technical support valued at **\$2.5 million** to build the institutional capacity of **57 national YMCA movements** abroad and area alliances, engaging multiple US Ys that also benefitted in the process. This report highlights some of the ways that YMCAs around the world are responding to the multiple crises of 2021 in partnership with the U.S. YMCA Movement.

EQUIPPING YOUNG PEOPLE FOR THE FUTURE OF WORK THROUGH YOUTH-LED SOLUTIONS

Building off the Youth-Led Solutions Summit on Climate Action in October 2020, the World YMCA organized a summit on the Future of Work, aiming to empower young people to identify their unique employment pathway. Over 1,400 youth from over 100 countries participated in the three-day summit. Afterwards, groups of young people applied for funding to implement their ideas and address youth employment and entrepreneurship. Y-USA helped mobilize over \$200,000 of seed grants and technical support for the solutions. Applications include projects such as designing more equitable internship opportunities for youth, supporting undocumented college students as they pursue careers, increasing access to camp and outdoor leadership employment to young people of color, and making YMCA employment more accessible for young people with disabilities.



YMCA ETHIOPIA STEPS UP DURING CIVIL UNREST

In 2021, Ethiopia found itself engulfed in a deadly internal unrest that placed more than 2 million people at high risk of hunger. While maintaining its focus on its core programs of youth development and promoting healthy living, YMCA Ethiopia mobilized multiple local and international partners (including YMCA World Service) to attend to the emergency needs of the population in the country's Tigray region.

In addition to hosting nearly 2,000 internally displaced persons at its facilities, YMCA Ethiopia delivered supplies of food, clean water, clothing, and medicine to 2,800 individuals made vulnerable due to the civil conflict.



YMCA HOMES FOR MIGRANT YOUTH IMPACT



Founded in 1991, the YMCA Homes for Migrant Youth (or Casas YMCA) provide vital services to unaccompanied migrant youth who are deported from the US to Mexico. To date, the YMCA Homes have served more than 73,000 migrant youth with temporary safe shelter, balanced nutrition, clothing, medical assistance, psychological counseling,

legal aid, life skills, recreational activities, and family reunification services. Of the total migrant youth served, 80 percent are reunited with their family and 20 percent make alternative life plans. YMCAs in the United States have historically supported the YMCA Homes for Migrant Youth. Since August 2021, a cohort of U.S. YMCAs and community partners are re-organizing under the YMCA Border Initiative Coalition to raise support for the YMCA Homes by engaging US communities.

NATIONAL DIVERSITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Thank you to the International Diversity & Inclusion (IDI) committee of the YMCA of the USA national board for their stewardship of World Service funds and support for the Y's global social equity work.

Sarah Brayton (Chair)
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Jimmy Chow
Hugh Fitzpatrick
Colleen Leung

"YMCA World Service is one of the most sustainable campaigns in the global YMCA movement. Your gift to YMCA World Service is a gift of solidarity and dignity with no borders."

-Carlos Sanvee, Secretary General, World YMCA

UBUNTU: RACIAL HEALING THROUGH CROSS CULTURAL CONVERSATIONS WITH YMCA COLOMBIA

Over five virtual sessions during the months of October and November, the Colombia Coalition of YMCAs hosted a dialogue series to discuss the impact of anti-Black racism in the US and Colombia. With interactive activities and guest speakers from both within and outside the Y, participants explored how racism affects individuals and the YMCA. By the end of the series, attendees left with a deeper understanding of racism's impact and critical resources to advance anti-racism within their home YMCAs.



TAKING CLIMATE ACTION THROUGH OVERNIGHT CAMP

With support from YMCA World Service and its partner the Frost Valley YMCA, YMCA Kosovo is building Camp Pjetershan, the first overnight camp in the West Balkans. This project evolved to invest in young people by creating a residential center which can be used by children and young people in Kosovo to develop life skills, promote civic engagement, engage in peacebuilding, and address pressing social issues. While the camp does not officially open until 2022, the YMCA has already been providing a space for young people to take climate action by developing a "Green Area" at camp, which includes environmental education, a tree nursery, and climate action advocacy in Kosovo and beyond. YMCA Kosovo youth volunteers shared their work in climate action as part of the YMCA youth delegation at the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, Scotland.



YMCA WORLD SERVICE

Thank you to all the World Service supporters, volunteer leaders and YMCA Alumni, who contribute more than \$1.2 million annually to strengthen the capacity and impact of YMCAs worldwide.

A special thanks to all the members of the YMCA Global Legacy Society, whose planned gifts will carry on the global mission of the YMCA movement for generations to come!

For more information on YMCA World Service or global planned giving, please contact mary.tikalsky@ymca.net

YMCA of the USA is a registered 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization chartered by the state of Illinois. Tax ID: 36-3258696.

**2020 Movement Strengthening Report
Areas of Impact and Type of Support per Country**

	Areas of Impact					Types of Support				
	Str. Plan and Governance	Leadership Dev.	Financial Sustainability	Program Dev. & Mgmt.	Communica-tions	World Service	Y-to-Y Partnerships	Coalitions	Tech. Assistance	Grants & Str. Alliances
Africa: 12										
Africa Alliance of YMCAs										
YMCA Ethiopia										
YMCA Liberia										
YMCA Madagascar										
YMCA Senegal										
YMCA Sierra Leone										
YMCA South Africa										
YMCA Togo										
YMCA Kenya										
YMCA Zambia										
YMCA Nigeria										
YMCA Cameroon										
Asia Pacific: 14										
Asia Pacific Alliance of Ys										
YMCA Australia										
YMCA Hong Kong										
YMCA India (Madurai)										
YMCA Mongolia										
YMCA China										
YMCA Philippines										
YMCA Sri Lanka										
YMCA Japan										
YMCA Taiwan										
YMCA Myanmar (Loikaw)										
YMCA Cambodia										
YMCA Korea										
YMCA Thailand (Chiang Mai)										
Europe: 14										
YMCA Europe										
YMCA Belarus										
YMCA England & Wales										
YMCA France										
YMCA Georgia										
YMCA Germany										
YMCA Kosovo										
YMCA Armenia										
YMCA Portugal										
YMCA Romania										
YMCA Russia										
YMCA Scotland										
YMCA Spain										
YMCA Ukraine										
LACA: 13										
LACA										
YMCA Argentina										
YMCA Bahamas										
YMCA Brazil										
YMCA Cayman Islands										
YMCA Chile										
YMCA Colombia										
YMCA Haiti										
YMCA Honduras										
YMCA Mexico										
YMCA Nicaragua										
YMCA Peru										
YMCA Uruguay										
Middle East: 2										
East Jerusalem YMCA										
YMCA Lebanon										
World Alliance of YMCAs: 1										
World Alliance of YMCAs										
North America: 1										
YMCA Canada										

57 COUNTRIES