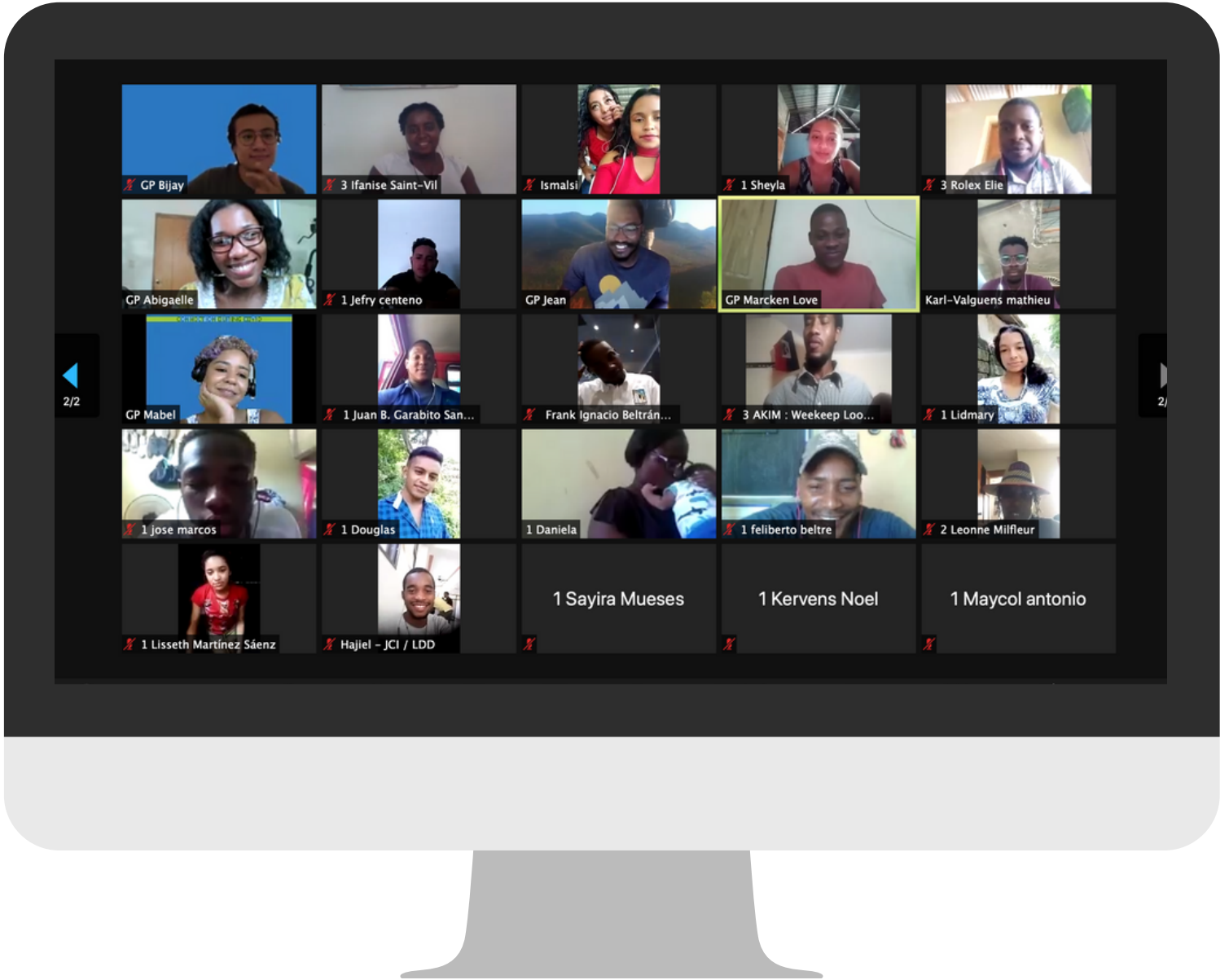




Global Potential

Empowering youth. Inspiring change.



IMPACT REPORT

PROGRAM YEARS 2019-2021



Global Potential

Empowering youth. Inspiring change.



A NOTE FROM THE BOARD

For over 15 years, Global Potential has empowered youth and communities to energize each other through education, international service work, and cultural exchange. GP youth develop strong social, life, and job skills, global awareness, and social entrepreneurship skills. GP youth perform better than their peers when finishing schooling, getting into college, and receiving scholarships.

Historically, GP Youth living in North America (with origins from 30 other countries) have also had life-changing opportunities to travel to live in a rural village in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, or Nicaragua, and learn from the local community while engaging in service-learning programming. After the trip, the youth would use their new skills and confidence to implement or join projects that help their own urban neighborhoods! We also had select Fellows from each partner country participate in 'lateral' exchanges (Haiti->DR; DR-->Nicaragua, etc), and all told more than 500 youth traveled transformatively with us across borders.

When the COVID-19 global pandemic began in March of 2020, GP began to pivot its mission to primarily provide spaces of reflection and idea-sharing. Smaller, short-term initiatives were also kept alive throughout this time in some of our partnering communities abroad. Our work retained the power and spirit of 'local leadership & impact' while putting our international travel on hold. We continued to find creative ways to connect youth across different marginalized urban and rural communities to each other, as well as to positive sources of mentorship, inspiration, tools for local changemaking, and networks of support.

In a world dismayed and fatigued by so many horrific challenges, increasingly aware of the fragility of our planet and of the peace that holds nations together, we again turn to youth in some of the historically most excluded communities to share and build dreams and visions of a better planet. We have seen this mutual benefit impact more than 5,500 youth directly, and more than 50,000 community members indirectly. With the help of our donor community (you!) we hope to be able to continue this important work and deliver on the promise of a better tomorrow, informed by and built by the hard work of those who understand the needs and opportunities best, firsthand, and at the frontlines of our changing world.



Jean Ulysse
President & Alumnus



Frank Cohn
President Emeritus



Rachelle Gaspard
Secretary & Alumna



Samy Enecia
Director & Alumnus



Graciela Rodríguez C
Director & Alumna



Adam Michaels
Founding Board President



Sarah G. Vázquez
Treasurer



Since its founding in 2007, Global Potential and local community leaders from different parts of the world have co-organized a **Youth Leadership Conference** using an **Open Space** approach and **Design Thinking** activities. Historically, the GP Youth Leadership Conference has been an **exciting** culmination of the program year when participants from different communities are able to **connect** with new places and **exchange ideas** across cultures, language barriers, and borders.

These conferences are energetic spaces of friendship, inspiration, and youth power. Many alumni have testified to the significant impact GP Conference has had on their lives and how this space continues to influence how they interact in this increasingly interconnected world.

In 2019, our Youth Leadership Conference program was held in three of our partner communities, Nicaragua, The Dominican Republic, and Haiti. These conferences were fully organized and facilitated by local alumni and former staff volunteers and partly funded by our long-time partners, the JUMP! foundation.

In 2020, the 2020 Global Potential annual Youth Leadership conference took place entirely online for the first time ever. Over the course of two days, September 26th & 27th we witnessed participants from our North American community, our Dominican Republic communities, our Haitian communities, and our Nicaraguan communities.

During the summer of 2021, the Youth Leadership Conference was held in an entirely **virtual format** in order to respect the COVID-19 safety protocols of all of our communities in the United States, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, and Haiti. Almost all participants attended on their cell phones!

2019 CONFERENCE OVERVIEW



In 2019 we held conferences in **3** of our international communities; Haiti, Nicaragua, and The Dominican Republic. Each of these conferences was coordinated and facilitated by local GP alumni! In total, we worked with over **150 participants** and **34 alumni leaders** during the summer. Our open space sessions covered topics such as **teenage pregnancy**, **current political** issues, and **bullying** along with others.

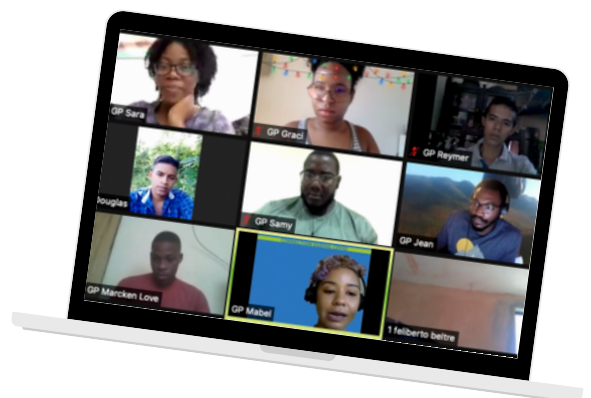
2020 CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

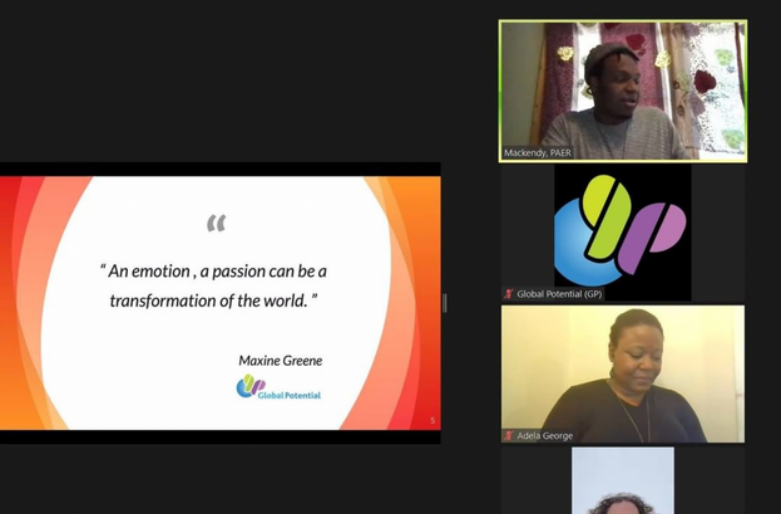
This conference was the first GP held where alumni from all our communities worldwide could join online. This was a unique opportunity for **71 GP alumni** to meet and get to know each other. There were three main discussion topics, 1) **Managing emotions and stress during the pandemic**, 2) **Health and economic impact brought on by COVID-19** and 3) **Youth Leadership during the pandemic**. All three topics connected back to how **COVID-19** had personally been affecting them, their communities, and their respective nations.



2021 CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

104 alumni from **6** Global Potential communities were registered for the 2020 Youth Leadership Conference, **Emotional and mental health** was a popular issue. Participants saw a rise in the **bullying** of people with COVID-19, a decrease in their respective nations' **economies**, and a greater **appreciation** for their hobbies. They also gained a greater awareness of the importance of rest for physical and emotional well-being. The experience of COVID-19 has been very different in all of our partnering communities, the fear of contagion and the lack of clarity for the future were expressed by many if not all students.





Join us on Facebook

UNITE! ALUMNI NETWORK

On the internet, globally!

We are proud to say that after **15 years** the Global Potential team is composed entirely of program alumni and former staff. The UNITE! Alumni Network was created to facilitate a space for alumni, facilitators, and staff from current and past programming to come together and develop their global awareness and advocacy skills through organic fellowshiping and open-space discussions. It is a space for all of our global community to fellowship, network, and have fun! These events took place primarily virtually to observe COVID safety protocols for all our communities.

Global Potential Live

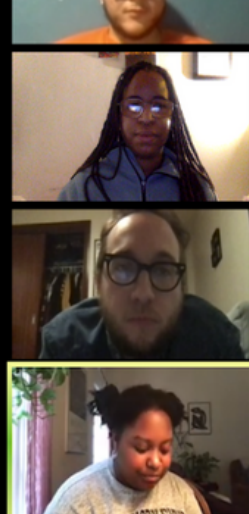
In 2021 we hosted a digital talk show titled GP live on Facebook with senior alumni and volunteer staff, Mackendy Blanc, and Bijay our expert tech host. We went live once a month on our Facebook page with alumni and former staff members and hosted interviews with other alumni and GP community members. The GP Live shows were insightful and engaging.

Social media

GP alumni are from all over the world. Our socials are how we stay connected and share upcoming events, opportunities, and more. While we primarily use our WhatsApp alumni chat we are also active on five social media accounts. These numbers reflect our following on our main GP pages. Some countries and communities also have sub-GP social media pages where they can interact with local alumni and students.

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Instagram | 507 followers |
| Facebook | 3,296 followers |
| Linkedin | 959 followers |
| Youtube | 67 Subscribers |
| Twitter | 1,406 followers |

- Never stop growing and changing!
- Lucky enough to look deeply and feel a sense of purpose
- Out here trying!
- (Writer!, Healer)
- What awareness do I have about myself?
-



VIRTUAL PROGRAMING

New York City, USA

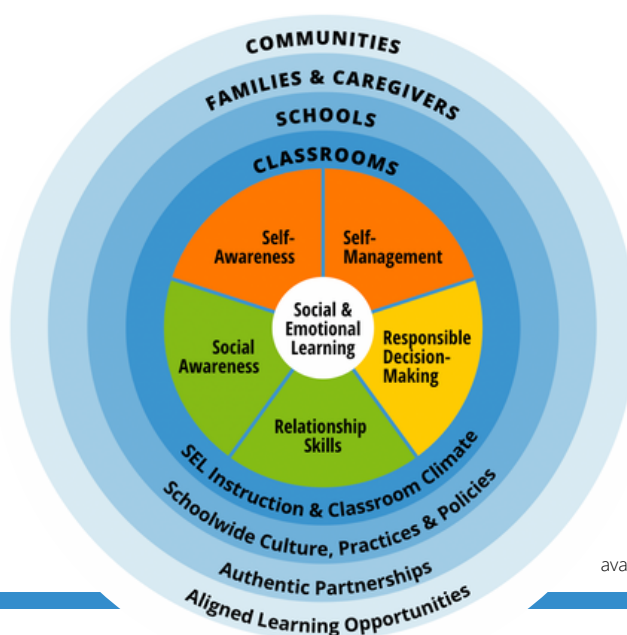
Virtual social & emotional learning club

Engage youth through leadership-focused programming | Developing social-emotional competencies | Introduce youth to experiential education practices

During the fall of 2020 Global Potential NYC offered a free five-part Social and Emotional (SEL) workshop for public school students in New York City. Each workshop focused on one specific SEL competency: **Self Management, Self-awareness, Responsible Decision Making, Social Awareness, and Relationship Skills.**

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Total # of Participants | 5 Students |
| Duration | 6 weeks |
| Schools partnered with | 4 NYC Public Schools |
| Boroughs represented | 2 |

The six-week program, like GP's other activities, served to increase confidence, motivate participants to take action, and encourage resourcefulness. Global Potential engaged four public high schools across two boroughs in New York City.



CASEL Wheel available at CASEL.org

VIRTUAL PROGRAMING

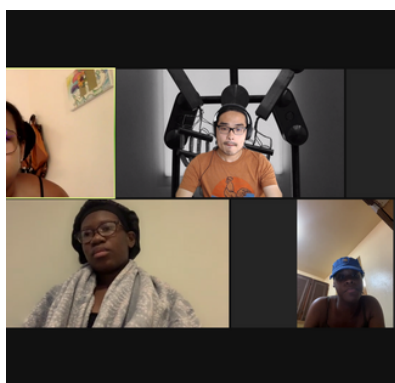
New York City, USA



CESL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

In partnership with Brooklyn LAB charter school

Leadership & Civic Efficacy | Social Actions | Resource Identification & Mobilization

The Civic Engagement & Service Learning (CESL) program built on GP's 12 year legacy to open spaces to empower youth as social justice agents and activists. The program offered an experiential curriculum to cultivate positive identity, **civic efficacy**, and **leadership skills**, driven by **mentorship**. Participants were involved with two community-engaged projects, structured by service-learning and a design thinking process. We focused on leadership and civic efficacy by empowering participants to enact individual and collective positive change.



| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Duration of Program | 6 weeks, 10 hours per week |
| Participants to Mentor Ratio |  |
| Number of Participants |  |
| Location | New York City: Virtual |
| Program Focus | Community engagement; Design Thinking; Service Learning |



YOUTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Dominican Republic

Solar buddy Partnership

Beginning in 2019, Global Potential Dominican Republic and Solar Buddy have distributed over **4,000** rechargeable solar lights in communities with limited electricity! GP youth councils were instrumental in determining which communities and schools had a need for the solar lights and were able to distribute them to more than **25 schools** in the south of the island and **5 schools** in the East.

This collaborative project was executed in three phases, the first was to reach out to communities that are directly connected to GP and initiate distribution there. Phase two was to reach out to communities and youth leaders that have attended Global Potential activities in the past (youth leadership conferences, community workshops, and clinics). Lastly, in phase 3, we conducted outreach to vulnerable communities in the region who are connected to youth leaders in our networks. Throughout the distribution process, the GP team facilitated engaging activities that educated students on the importance and impact of the energy-efficient portable lights

The Dominican Republic Youth Council has **25 active youth** during workshops, and activities. The youth council board is made of 11 participants and 5 members in the youth council board with 1 delegate per community (6). Over the past 3 years, 75-80% of youth participated in GP Youth Conference.





YOUTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Nicaragua

The youth council in Nicaragua is made of **9 members**, 5 seating council members, and 1 delegate per community. Each council member (including the country coordinator) is a global potential Alumnus who has participated in more than 3 youth-led conferences throughout the years. As Nicaragua continues to deal with a deeply problematic democratic process and a political culture that stifles dialogue, access to information, and any alternative or opposing ideas, GP has continued to be one of the only sources of engagement for youth outside of a) political parties, b) the church, and c) dangerous migrant work outside of the country.

During active programming, there were **15 active youth** participating locally, in addition to leading and supporting various projects and initiatives. Although technological resources are very limited in the isolated, rural, mountainous communities we collaborate with, more than **30 youth** participated in our international virtual conferences in 2020 and in 2021. Mostly all of them joined on a cellular device. This virtual conference included GP youth in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, the USA, Canada, and Spain.



YOUTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Ayiti



Alumni Leadership

Between 2019 and 2021 the GP youth council in Haiti hosted **4** youth leadership **conferences** and **6 workshops** were created and developed by local youth to fill in the education gap among youth in the country! Throughout the covid-19 pandemic, these workshops took place on Zoom. The local GP youth council invited a series of guests to speak on ___ and ___. These topics were _____.

The 2020 conference took place over the course of **6 days**. The topics of focus were political insecurity and personal development. The conference in 2021 was held over **5 days**. During those five days, they centered their discussions on entrepreneurship and teenage crime.

Ouanaminthe (Wanamet) Conference 2022

After two years of virtual programming, the 2022 Youth Leadership conference was held in person in the region of Ouanaminthe, North East Haiti. It was organized and hosted entirely by the local youth council and focused on community development, how to promote local agriculture, and how to support local businesses in this "post-pandemic" economy. These topics were proposed by the participants during the open-space style conference.

In order to maintain covid-19 safety protocols in place, the youth decided to limit the conference to 20 participants. In total there were 17 participants who joined and were able to take the trip to Ouanaminthe (Wanamet in Kreyol).

Activities included visiting a popular tourist garden, the Botanical Garden of Wanamet. There they learned how to make compost with the staff of the Botanical Garden. As well as the importance of agriculture for Haiti's economy. The conference highlight was the opportunity for the GP Youth Council to speak on "Radyo tele Wanavizyon 88.9" a local radio station in Ouanaminthe to discuss what they learned and how they envision the future of farming.

Participants also explored a river central to Haiti's waters ways, called "Sodo Kana River." The same day the team debated on agriculture and what innovative strategies in the field can be used to develop the nation, and visited a historic site, Fort Liberte. Lastly, participants stopped at Dajabon, a historic shared marketplace bordering both the Dominican Republic and Haiti.



HAITI EMERGENCY EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

Ayiti

On **August 14, 2021**, Haiti was struck by a **magnitude 7.2 earthquake** that destroyed over 7,000 homes and damaged well over 12,000 others. GP responded. The goal was to raise \$1,000 as soon as possible to get emergency first aid, water, and food to the affected communities. With the help of our network and the power of social media, we were able to raise over **\$3,000** in emergency aid that contributed directly to the affected communities. The Global Potential **Haiti Youth Council** was instrumental in these efforts. Our Haiti youth council wonderfully coordinated the purchasing and distribution of emergency items on the ground rapidly. This project was one that was not included in GP programming but because our council was moved to action, we chose to empower them and support them in their efforts to organize relief efforts for the first time.





HAITI EMERGENCY EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

Ayiti

94 families received direct aid! **25 GP volunteers** focused on gathering donations and buying supplies in the capital. **7 Participants** traveled to the impacted zone to distribute supplies to Saut Mathurine during the month of September.

In the month of January, due to poor road conditions and local gang violence, our team was unable to return to the region to continue distributing materials. However, the team was able to collect donations and purchase school supplies like notebooks, pencils, books, and school bags; enough supplies to fit 50 suitcases!





WE HAVE POTENTIAL.

CELEBRATING STEADFAST COMMITMENT TO SOCIAL JUSTICE
AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT.

CALL TO ACTION

**Donate today and join the
youth power movement!**

Global Potential is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.
100% of your tax-deductible charitable donation goes
directly to supporting GP youth!

You may donate online or by personal check
We appreciate your generosity and thank you for your
support!

Visit www.global-potential.org/donate for more
information

Guidestar Certified



THANK YOU

GRACIAS

MESI



Global Potential