

REPORT TO COMMUNITY

FISCAL YEAR 2011



**CELEBRATING 10 YEARS
OF EMPOWERING YOUNG LEADERS**



GLOBAL VISIONARIES STARTED IN 1996 as the brainchild of Jason Foster, former student of social studies teacher, Joe Fontana. GV Seattle began in 1999 and thanks to the hard work of parents, community and youth volunteers, incorporated as a

Washington based not for profit in 2002. As our community celebrates its 10th year as a 501(c)(3) organization, let's highlight one accomplishment from each of the past ten years...

10 years ago... Chris Fontana left his teaching position following 13 years of service in public schools. He became Executive Director, starting GV Seattle in his laundry room. Five days in, the tragedy of September 11 traumatized our world. After much contemplation, we decided it was more important than ever to provide youth with global education to address the backlash of xenophobia gripping our nation. Today, the GV team consists of 8 full-time and 15 part-time employees, a Board of Directors, 40 Youth Board leaders, and dozens of faithful parent volunteers and interns. We are one organization in two countries committed to four areas: youth leadership, social justice, environmental sustainability, and international cooperation.

8 years ago... GV provided its first scholarship of \$1,600. Since then, we have steadily increased our scholarship fund, reaching \$115,000 in 2011. GV is committed to bringing together a richly diverse group of youth in which 50% of our participants come from low-income families.

6 years ago... GV began partnering with Seattle based *Earthcorps* and the city of *Pastores*, Guatemala to provide experiential environmental education, to reduce our carbon footprint from air travel, and to create local and global ecological sustainability. GV began protecting local habitat and reforesting land surrounding invaluable watersheds. To date, GV has planted 17,000 trees in Guatemala and volunteered over 4,700 hours in Seattle removing invasive species and planting native plants and trees.

4 years ago... "After all those hours of hard work today, all ten of you have made a combined profit of \$3.50". When the first GV Coffee Work Team made this realization after picking coffee beans in the hot sun, GV participants enthusiastically supported a direct trade business model developed by their Guatemalan counterparts. These savvy Guatemalan youth entrepreneurs dreamt of starting a coffee roasting and exporting company, *Espresso de Esperanza*. By purchasing 16,000 bags of coffee to date, the GV community participates in a global economic model that is three times more profitable for farmers and the youth roasters than fair trade.

2 years ago... Guatemalan teens gain leadership skills and since 2002, have increased their involvement in all areas. A number of these Guatemalan students have become leaders for the U.S. work-groups when they are in the country. They set up work sites in national forests, arrange school construction logistics, and work alongside the U.S. students. With her new found skills, Sandra Ordoñez was accepted for six months training through *Earthcorps* and stayed an additional nine months as Assistant Program Manager in our Seattle office. This year, we plan to bring more young leaders to Seattle from Guatemala.



9 years ago... GV hired its first Guatemalan staff person, Aurelio Hernandez, who started as part-time and became full-time in 2005. We now have three full-time and six part-time Guatemalan staff as well as an office in *San Miguel Escobar*, a village outside of Antigua. GV is awaiting non-profit status from the Guatemalan government to widen financial support for our Guatemalan youth program and for development projects.

7 years ago... In collaboration with the communities of *El Hato*, *Cerro del Niño* and *Segunda Cruz*, GV built the first two school rooms. In 2012, GV will finish building its 19th school room. A classroom costs GV approximately \$12,000 to build. Costs are kept low by leveraging the sweat equity of our teen volunteers and community members. Today, 350 Guatemalan children per year, previously without access to formal education, can now attend school.

5 years ago... Youth Board leaders began a year long in-depth study and practice of social justice facilitation and as a result, replaced outside professional facilitators. To date, over 250 Youth Board leaders have collectively contributed to create an organizational culture in which youth can co-lead every programmatic and organizational piece of GV. On March 3, 2012, they will lead an organizational wide event and fundraiser "*Come to the Table*", a series of dinner party fundraisers across Seattle.

3 years ago... "As I continue to develop and reflect on my experiences it is almost impossible for me to speak about my life without the inclusion of GV--one of the many homes that I was raised in. Here I learned to be a leader, humility, social responsibility, confidence, and above all to love the work I do with others." Marita Phelps spoke these words at our 10th Annual Auction. She is one of our 969 U.S. alumni of the first year Leadership Program which includes the cultural Immersion experience in Guatemala. She entered Howard University in fall of 2008.

1 year ago... GV launched our inaugural *Experience Guatemala Trip*--a world-class tour to Guatemala for all ages. Combining the well respected travel experience of Rick Steves with Global Visionaries' in-depth understanding of Guatemala, this tour is designed to blend the best of both worlds - exciting sightseeing and meaningful learning. This year's group is spending Thanksgiving in Guatemala. GV plans to offer two *Experience Guatemala Trips* in 2012.

This year... This year, GV directly served 330 Guatemalan and U.S. youth leaders, up from 44 students in 2001. Since its inception, GV has directly served over 2,300 young leaders through our programs.

2011 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Leadership Program

GV educated and trained richly diverse cohorts of youth participants in volunteer service, cross-cultural and leadership training, philanthropic fundraising, and social action in the Puget Sound, Northern Colorado and Northern California. This year-long program culminates in a 15 day language/cultural immersion and volunteer experience in Guatemala in which U.S. and Guatemalan participants collaborate in reforestation, school construction projects as well as volunteer in *Obras Sociales* hospital and work with local coffee farmers. Locally, participants volunteer in habitat protection, organic farming and interning at GV. Participants become global citizens and explore what it means to be an active ally and leader in creating social equality locally and globally.

GV Guatemala Leadership Program

This program for Guatemalan youth includes leadership, social justice, cross-cultural training, and an inquiry into the history between the U.S. and Guatemala. Participants team with U.S. counterparts to form four international work teams. They carry out their senior projects under the guidance of GV Guatemala staff. Two senior project teams have won first and second place in state wide project competitions.

Intensive Leadership Program

A condensed version of our year-long program, the Intensive Leadership Program is designed for students who are not be able to participate in the full year leadership program due to various constraints.

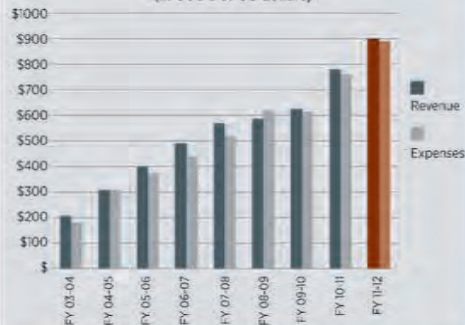
Global Leadership Class

Global Leadership is an innovative approach to high school social studies that focuses on social and environmental justice through service learning and hands-on leadership skills building. Students gain world history credit, but more importantly, become engaged leaders in local and global issues. Seattle based *Facing the Future* provides cutting edge curriculum in sustainability.

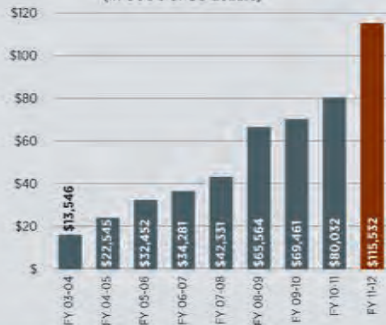
Youth Board

Once participants graduate from their first year, they can apply to be Youth Board Leaders—an opportunity to deepen their commitment to the values they learned and to gain advanced leadership skills including organizing, facilitating, mentoring, speaking publicly, strategic planning, and coordinating programs. Youth Board is the platform upon which youth become social entrepreneurs and change agents in their schools, families, and communities.

YEARLY REVENUE & EXPENSES
(in 000's of US dollars)



SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTED
(in 000's of US dollars)



FY 10-11	(in 000's of US dollars)
REVENUE	
Contributions & Grants	\$153.5
Events	\$168.5
Gross Program Fees	\$546.5
Scholarships Granted	(\$80)
Net Program Fees	\$466.5
TOTAL REVENUE	\$788.5
EXPENSES	
Payroll	\$277.4
Seattle Operations	\$137.1
Guatemala Operations	\$355.3
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$769.8
Profit/Loss	\$18.7

Our mission: Empowering young people to become global leaders in creating a just and sustainable future.

The 21st Century presents humanity with unprecedented overlapping environmental and social justice challenges. Water and food shortages, loss of biodiversity, global warming, international conflict, and economic and health disparities all demand interdisciplinary, systemic solutions. GV students learn and know that every action they take has a ripple effect on society and the world as a whole.

Through experiential and integrated education, GV students develop a deep appreciation for the intrinsic connectedness of socio-environmental actions and consequences, and they acquire the skills and experience needed to address these global challenges at their core.

GV offers both the tools and the vehicle for youth to

change their own behaviors, activate the political will of their generation, and channel their energy toward positive change. GV students bridge demographic lines, raise their voices, shape the debate, and suggest alternative solutions. Through GV, the potential for youth to make an impact as social entrepreneurs and advocates becomes a current reality.

Global Visionaries is grateful to corporate and foundation sponsors and to the thousands of individuals who have contributed their time, talent and money.

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