Legacy International equips emerging leaders to transform their values and vision into sustainable success.
MISSION and VISION

Legacy International equips emerging leaders to transform their values and vision into sustainable success.

We strive to leave a lasting Legacy of:

• Sustainable citizen participation in local problem solving
• Increased capacity in non-governmental organizations
• Increased cross-sectoral collaboration
• Constructive opportunities for the next generation
• New vision and skills among community leadership
• Hope, tolerance, and community engagement
Message from our Founder

Dear friends and supporters:

Once again it is my pleasure to inform you about Legacy International’s global reach. We are constantly inspired and humbled by the work we are permitted to do and the people we serve. Our mission is to serve the diverse global citizens who are seeking the knowledge, means and support to improve not only their lives, but the lives of others.

We are all faced with challenges, some of which have been around for decades. Whether in the area of health and education, environment, employment, diversity and tolerance, sustainable development, or governance, the motivated people we train and work with have the desire to refine their skills in addressing these and other issues. They give us hope every day. I can’t repeat enough how honored we are to “Help these individuals to help themselves and others.”

Our “legacy” comes to life in the work and stories of our alumni, people like Thinzar Shunlei Yi of Myanmar who is focused on youth development and dialogue through her work in the National Youth Congress; Garrett Brumfield, an advocate for people with disabilities, who travelled to Cyprus with our American Youth Leadership Program (AYLP); and Professional Fellow Chiheb Bouchnak from Tunisia, who is dedicated to developing new ways for members of Parliament to stay in touch and listen to their constituents. These are just three examples of the hundreds of exceptional individuals whose successes we are proud to be a part of.

In these two years, Legacy successfully conducted a total of 16 programs, directly serving over 697 individuals from 19 countries; and indirectly serving more than 13,220 additional people through participant projects. In 2015 and 2016 Legacy added several new and exciting programs to our portfolio, including the Emerging Young Leaders Award Program, the American Youth Leadership Program, and the Yemen Youth Leadership Program. We also continued to work with emerging leaders in the Middle East and North Africa through the Professional Fellows and TechGirls programs, and maintained our commitment to young American leaders at the 38th and 39th annual Global Youth Village, and our 10th and 11th years implementing Arabic Language Institute.

Every Monday and Friday we gather our staff for a brief conference to review and discuss the coming week. We always take a few minutes to discuss what we are grateful for, and affirm our commitment to a more peaceful and equitable future. I am thankful for all of our staff and to be a part of this work. Together with our amazing alumni, partners, and donors, Legacy works diligently to serve the highly motivated and courageous individuals who seek to benefit their communities and lead their countries into a peaceful, healthy, and economically sustainable future.

J.E. Rash
Founder/President
Legacy International
The Emerging Young Leaders Award Program recognized young people worldwide for their efforts to create positive social change in challenging environments. Young people were nominated by their embassies, and ten were chosen by the U.S. State Department to receive this prestigious award. They traveled to the U.S. for professional development workshops, and met with U.S. peers tackling similar issues. They discovered new models and methods for improving their work and enjoyed year-long mentoring.

Thinzar Shunlei Yi (Burma/Myanmar) focused on youth development and dialogue. She is the coordinator of Burma/Myanmar National Youth Congress and the Yangon Youth Network. In 2014, she helped organize the ASEAN Youth Forum, and held a highly successful U.N. International Youth Day celebration, reaching thousands of young people and raising awareness on mental health issues.

In 2016, Shunlei represented Burma/Myanmar at the One Young World Conference in Ottawa, Canada. There she gave a moving speech at the Peace and Security Plenary session to Presidents, Nobel Prize winners, global business leaders, U.N. leaders and other inspiring global youth leaders.

- In 2016, 10 young leaders from Afghanistan, Burma/Myanmar, France, Georgia, Honduras, Indonesia, Kenya, Malta, Palestinian Territories, and Tunisia were honored with this prestigious award by the U.S. Department of State.
- Participants traveled to Austin, TX; Bedford, VA; Chicago, IL; and Washington, D.C. building new networks and gaining support for their work.
- Their projects have impacted thousands of people around the world.
Since 1979, Legacy International has hosted the Global Youth Village (GYV) on its 80-acre campus, fostering dialogue, friendship, and cultural awareness between youth from over 107 countries around the world. Throughout our history, we have also hosted youths from countries going through rapid transitions.

In the summer of 2015, 26 high school students from Yemen joined the Global Youth Village (GYV). They were unable to return home after spending an academic year in the U.S. (supported by the U.S. Department of State) because of the outbreak of civil war. As refugees concerned about families and friends back home and their future, they needed a secure place to be.

Kody Leibowitz of the local TV station WSET Channel 13 interviewed two of the students, Samer and Ali. Samer’s family fled their home in April, 2015. “These days, they are running out of food and water,” said Samer. As the war in Yemen intensified, so did the legal tug of war for these students. “My country is in a war and it’s dangerous for me to go back,” said Ali. “I don’t know if I’m going to survive or not [if I return].” After the program, Samer went back to New Mexico for his senior year in high school. He wants to study business or sports medicine. Ali finished high school and enrolled in community college in Washington State, where he is interested in geology and psychology.

In 2016, two large groups of students from Algeria and Egypt attended the GYV for leadership and dialogue training. U.S. peers in both summers were deeply impacted and gained greater appreciation for the cultures of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).

• 177 youths attended the program in 2015 and 2016.
• Each participant received over 25 hours of dialogue and conflict reduction training based on Legacy’s LivingSidebySide® curriculum.
• Countries represented in 2015: Yemen, Hungary, India, Japan, Vietnam, Guatemala, China, Nepal, U.S.
• Countries represented in 2016: Saudi Arabia, Japan, Algeria, Egypt, Australia, Serbia, U.S.
A Legacy of Technology

TechGirls, an on-going international exchange program, was launched by the U.S. State Department in 2012. Young women ages 15-17 from across the MENA region enjoyed a 3-week summer leadership and tech training program in the U.S. They met tech professionals, participated in hack-a-thons, and completed a tech bootcamp. Our main partners were iD Tech Camps and American University.

“Our team was honored to host the 2015 TechGirls at Yahoo’s office. What an impressive group of young women! I had the pleasure of kicking off the day with an overview of Yahoo and our efforts to make the world’s daily habits inspiring and entertaining. Two of my colleagues from the Public Policy team – including Nicole Alexander Mortier, Yahoo Director of U.S. Government Relations, and April Boyd, Senior Director of Federal Government Affairs – spoke about Yahoo’s approach to privacy, security, and patent reform and explained why these issues are fundamental for all tech companies, regardless of size. “It’s not often that you get to be part of a group of 35 women who all are passionate and committed to pursuing careers in the tech industry. It was truly an incredible experience.” Margot Littlehale, Manager, Corporate Communications for Yahoo’s Washington, D.C. office.

As part of the program, each participant committed to developing a community-based tech project that they continued upon return home. These projects ranged from developing a robotics project to helping people with disabilities, conducting a donation drive to benefit local causes, to building their own mobile app.

- Countries represented were: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Territories, Tunisia, and the U.S.
- The TechGirls created follow-on projects in technology that they delivered upon returning home. The projects served over 4,000 people.
- TechGirls is an initiative of the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and administered by Legacy International.
A **Legacy of Inclusion**

**American Youth Leadership**, a leadership training and exchange program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, focused on environment and climate change in Cyprus. The participants explored sustainable management of resources and careers in science and technology, while working cooperatively with Cypriot peers to promote environmental stewardship of the planet.

In 2015, Garrett Brumfield, an advocate for people with disabilities, travelled with the American Youth Leadership Program (AYLP) to Cyprus. This program included an equal number of youths with disabilities and those without disabilities.

Garrett is used to being challenged, and noted, “It was a life-changing event. I went out of my comfort zone.” He found that while it was hard at times to get around on the island, he was inspired to promote awareness for accessibility. When he was asked, “What did you take away from the trip?” he replied, “I want to be an international advocate for the disabled. I want people to see [that] you can travel. Even if everything isn’t smooth, it works out.”

- A total of 32 youths and 9 adult chaperones traveled from the U.S. to Cyprus as part of AYLP in 2015 and 2016.
- 50% of the participants identified as persons with disabilities.
- Over 2,500 individuals were impacted by follow-on projects developed by the participants and delivered upon their return to the U.S.
The Professional Fellows Program (PFP) linked community leaders from the United States and four countries in North Africa. It was a two-way citizen exchange program designed as a capacity-building and professional development initiative that serves civil society development.

Professional Fellow Chiheb from Tunisia is dedicated to developing new ways for members of Parliament to stay in touch and listen to their constituents. He believes that building trust and transparency leads to stronger, more representative governments and reduces corruption. His CiviCRM (Constituent Relationship Management) project made it easier for MPs to engage constituents, understand their needs, and effectively serve them. Through these efforts, Tunisians are better able to see what government is doing.

Interaction between elected officials and their constituents is key to implementing a genuine democracy where politicians are accountable to their constituents and have popular legitimacy. However, in an emerging democracy like Tunisia, political parties’ interaction with their partisans is a challenge. Research conducted by The University of Maryland in January 2016 confirmed that 4 out of 5 Tunisians don’t trust the political parties. In response, a number of local and international NGOs are working on addressing this problem by advocating for better communication and interaction between political parties and citizens. In Tunisia, over 60% of the population is active on the Internet, and 5.7 out of 11.8 million have an active Facebook account. Chiheb believes that implementing a CRM system for Tunisian MPs and political parties will have a significant positive impact, not only on the relationship between political parties and citizens, but on politics in general in Tunisia.

- In 2015 and 2016, 92 professional fellows and 13 U.S. mentors participated in the program.
- Professional Fellows came from four countries in North Africa (Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia) to the U.S., and the U.S. mentors traveled to those countries during an outbound trip.
- Follow-on projects in 2015 and 2016 have served over 12,000 people.
- PFP is an initiative of the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and administered by Legacy International
The Saudi Young Leaders Exchange Program (SYLEP) provided Saudi university students with training in civic engagement, social responsibility, entrepreneurship and leadership. Razwa (SYLEP 2016) created a project called Save Our Energy to improve energy consumption and reduce waste in Saudi Arabia.

“Saudi Arabia is nine times over the average in energy usage. Air conditioning consumption in Saudi Arabia takes 70% of the electricity and more than 70% of the buildings in Saudi Arabia do not have thermal insulation. I want to improve energy consumption and reduce waste by educating the about energy-saving methods and help architectural students design energy efficient buildings.”

Legacy International arranged a dynamic three-week immersion program in the U.S.A where Saudi students engaged in stimulating trainings and experiences while interacting with dozens of U.S. citizens (volunteers, host families, and community leaders). They gained skills in leadership, creative program design, critical thinking, and community engagement while deepening their respect and appreciation for diversity. SYLEP participants built an entrepreneurial profile through the development of workplace and personal effectiveness competencies, in addition to polishing the soft skills necessary for career success. SYLEP is sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. In 2015 and 2016 our partners were Global Pittsburgh, Virginia Commonwealth University, and Virginia Tech.

- Participants travelled to host cities for community-based programming in community engagement and volunteering, job readiness, and entrepreneurship. In 2015 and 2016, host cities were Blacksburg, VA; Pittsburgh, PA; and Richmond, VA.
- Over 3000 people have been served through follow-on projects implemented in Saudi Arabia.
- SYLEP is an initiative of the U.S. Department of State and administered by Legacy International.
Participants from 13 countries-2015

- 8 programs
- 335 participants
- 223 people engaged in host families
- 145 volunteers
- 11,480 people served through participant projects
- 12,183 total number of people impacted

Participants from 19 countries-2016

- 8 programs
- 295 participants
- 226 people engaged in host families
- 176 volunteers
- 13,220 people served through participant projects
- 13,193 total number of people impacted
16 Programs Administered in 2015-16

1  The Emerging Young Leaders Award Program
Funding: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Exchange
The Emerging Young Leaders Award Program recognized young people worldwide for their efforts to create positive social change in challenging environments. Young people were nominated by their embassies, and 10 were chosen by the U.S. State Department to receive this prestigious award. As part of winning the award, they traveled to the U.S. for professional development workshops and met with U.S. peers tackling similar issues. They discovered new models and methods for improving their work and enjoyed year-long mentoring.

2 & 3  The American Youth Leadership Program
Funding: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Exchange
AYLP was a leadership training and exchange program focusing on the impact of climate change in the U.S. and Cyprus. This program was specifically designed to give youth and adults with disabilities an equal opportunity to enjoy an international exchange opportunity. 32 youths and 9 adult chaperones traveled to Cyprus and then returned home to engage 2,500 peers in community based environmental projects.

4  Yemen Summer Youth Leadership Program
Funding: U.S. Department of State
Twenty-six high school exchange students from Yemen became refugees in the United States when civil war erupted in their country. At the request of the U.S. Department of State, Legacy created a 9-week summer leadership institute that enabled the young people to enjoy high caliber training at Lynchburg College and at the Global Youth Village, while also receiving trauma counseling and life skills. After the summer, they were reassigned to communities across the United States to continue their academic studies.

5 & 6  TechGirls
Funding: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Exchange
Partners: iD Tech Camps, American University, Caravan Studios, and the Center for the of Engineering Diversity at Virginia Tech
TechGirls is an ongoing initiative of the U.S. Department of State, designed to empower young women to pursue careers in the science and technology sectors. In 2015 and 2016, 24–27 international girls and 5 U.S. girls enjoyed a three-week immersion including a tech boot camp, job shadow day, hackathons, and host family experiences.

7-8  Saudi Young Leaders Exchange Program
Funding: U.S. Department of State, U.S. Embassy/Saudi Arabia
SYLEP was multi-phased leadership experience for 41 (2015) and 42 (2016) Saudi university students (ages 20-25) and eight U.S. university students. Participants cultivated an entrepreneurial profile through development of workplace and personal effectiveness competencies, in addition to polishing the soft skills necessary for career success.
9 & 10  Global Youth Village  
Funding: Tuition, Donors, Scholarships  
Partners: U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Embassy Cairo, U.S. Embassy Algeria  
Legacy's longest-running annual program, the Global Youth Village continues to offer teen summer programs that focus on intercultural communication and community action. Morning workshops developed leadership and dialogue skills focused on living life as a peace builder, a social innovator, and a global citizen. Our 2015 program included 99 participants and 22 staff; and the 2016 program included 78 participants and 21 staff.  

11 & 12 Arabic Language Institute (ALI) – Academic Year  
Funding: U.S. Department of State, National Security Language Initiative-Youth  
Partners: American Councils for International Education, and Center for Language and Culture (Marrakesh).  
Eighteen students (academic year 2014 – 15) and twelve students (academic year 2015-16) studied in Morocco for 9 months, experiencing full cultural immersion, host-family hospitality, and travel to the Sahara desert and the seaside city of Essaouira.  

13 & 14 Arabic Language Institute (ALI) – Summer Immersion Program  
Funding: U.S. Department of State, National Security Language Initiative-Youth  
Partners: American Councils for International Education, and Center for Language and Culture (Marrakesh).  
Thirty students in 2015 and 2016 traveled to Morocco for 6 weeks of language instruction and cultural immersion. The program included community service, host-family hospitality, and travel to the Sahara desert and the seaside city of Essaouira.  

15  LivingSidebySide®  
Funding: private foundation funding; International Initiative for Impact Evaluations; United States Institute for Peace  
Partners: Center Interbilim (Kyrgyzstan)  
Following an 18-month pilot with 20 teachers and 600 students in 10 Kyrgyz schools and an evaluation by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Legacy created a 3-year plan with the Kyrgyz Ministry of Education to scale the program nationwide in secondary schools in Kyrgyzstan. We are currently seeking funding for implementation.  

16 Professional Fellows Program  
Funding: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Exchange  
Partners: World Learning (Algeria), AMIDEAST (Tunisia), Bridges Center for Culture & Communication (Morocco), FINBI (Egypt), U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress.  
PFP linked community leaders from the United States and four countries in North Africa. It was a two-way citizen exchange program designed as a capacity-building and professional development initiative that serves civil society development in Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco. The program involved early- to mid-career professionals with strong leadership skills, committed to making a lasting positive impact through their work in the civil society (NGO) sector. 32 young adults participated in the 2015 inbound program, and 10 U.S. advisors participated in the outbound program. In 2016, 33 fellows participated in the inbound program, and 13 U.S. advisors traveled in 2 outbound groups.
**Legacy International** is eternally grateful for all of its friends who are committed to promoting peace and citizen participation across the globe. A very big THANK YOU to all who made a donation during FY 2015 and FY 2016*.

*From October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2016*

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**CAMPAIGNS and SOCIAL MEDIA**

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Independent Charities of America
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**INDIVIDUAL DONORS, continued**

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**Up to $499**

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LEGACY International
### 2015 Income

- Government Grants: $1,995,986
- Tuition and Fees: $262,591
- Gifts: $39,143
- Miscellaneous: $1,668
- Total: $2,299,399

### 2015 Expenses

- International Programs: $2,055,236
- General and Administrative: $134,930
- Domestic Programs: $107,883
- Fundraising: $82
- Total: $2,248,131

Net Income: $51,268

### 2016 Income

- Tuition and Fees: $222,155
- Gifts: $19,479
- Miscellaneous: $352
- Total: $2,055,236

### 2016 Expenses

- International Programs: $2,699,629
- General and Administrative: $156,126
- Domestic Programs: $102,320
- Fundraising: $2,054
- Total: $2,960,129

Net Income: $54,518
In 2016, two Legacy International alumni received the prestigious Alumni Impact Award from the Department of State for their continued work following participation in the Professional Fellows Program.

**Spring 2016**
**Mohammed Arif, Morocco**
**Dates of Fellowship: Fall 2011**
**Program Theme: Public Health**

Mohammed Arif, a head nurse for the Moroccan Ministry of Health whose responsibilities encompass community health outreach and environmental health, is committed to building and strengthening public health programs and services in Morocco. His U.S. fellowship provided him greater understanding of public health issues as well as a new set of tools, resources, and knowledge to enhance health care in his community. Mr. Arif has successfully applied his fellowship experience implementing impactful projects such as the Tamazirt School Health Club, the Health Peace Hike, and the Outreach Cancer Program, which significantly reduced diarrhea in communities, promoted healthy lifestyles and increased health literacy on issues including cancer. Mohammed Arif has a passion for designing and implementing outreach prevention programs through conferences, workshops, sporting events, and trainings and is determined to find ways to overcome unequal access to healthcare services in rural Morocco.

**Fall 2016**
**Riyadh Al Balushi, Oman**
**Dates of Fellowship: Spring 2010**
**Program Theme: Legislative Process and Governance**

Riyadh Al-Balushi is a lawyer in the Ministry of Legal Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman. He credits his fellowship at the United States Congress with inspiring him to create Qanoon.om, the first online portal in Oman to make all local laws available to members of the public free of charge. His project transformed the way the public access government information in Oman, providing access to all royal decrees and ministerial decisions issued since the establishment of the modern Omani state. The portal was officially launched in September 2015 and is visited by thousands of users in Oman every month. Riyadh says that he learnt many lessons during his fellowship that were vital to the success of his project, including the importance of having strong serious project partners and the need to have a clear action plan with realistic milestones. In addition to his work on the portal, Riyadh is an advocate for creating balanced intellectual property laws that ensure that members of the public have a fair opportunity to take advantage of cultural works to exercise their fundamental rights to freedom of expression and to access knowledge.