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

PROJECT SITES
Dear friends and supporters:

Another year has passed and we are entering our 4th decade of service to humanity, seeking more and more relevant and effective ways to meet the vast challenges that we face individually and collectively, nationally and internationally. There is a renewed enthusiasm at Legacy International, a recommitment to affirm positive change based on Universal Values. I welcome the new staff with their creative ideas and energy, our new partnerships, and our developing new global mission: The Global Transformation Corps (GTC). www.gtcorps.com.

This new endeavor will utilize our vast network of alumni as well as our many colleagues and partners to train and help to accelerate the vision of successful ventureurs, and promote sustainable ways to address the many challenges we face locally and globally. To that end, we train and support the transformative leaders who are committed to tolerance, social cohesion, socially responsible enterprises and peaceful societies. Whether in the area of entrepreneurship, health and education, environment, tolerance, women’s empowerment, sustainable development, or good governance, we are creating a positive Legacy every day. I am constantly inspired by the highly skilled and motivated young leaders we train and work with. Helping them to refine their skills and, through our networks, realize their vision and achieve their goals gives me hope every day for a better, more equitable, more tolerant, more unified world.

Working with the United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Division over the past few decades has afforded us a unique and privileged view of the vision and the capabilities of young professionals, students, and leaders from around the world. In them, I see hope for a better world. Yet as I said last year, “We are all faced with challenges locally, nationally and globally. We see the rise of intolerance and the loss of social cohesion.” We at Legacy International continue to renew our mandate to promote mutual respect based on universal values, and to build and strengthen communities around the world, by helping others to help themselves (and others).

In 2018, Legacy successfully conducted programs directly serving over 298 participants from more than 19 different countries. In this same year, we indirectly served more than 7,541 additional people through participant projects. Legacy continued to implement the prestigious Emerging Youth Leaders Award Program, and repeated a new program focusing on Social Cohesion in communities in the U.K. We also continued to work with emerging leaders in the Middle East through the Professional Fellows Program, the Saudi Young Leaders Exchange Program and TechGirls programs, and maintained our commitment to young American leaders at the 40th annual Global Youth Village.

Daily I am uplifted and inspired when I see how our “Legacy” comes to life in the work and stories of these alumni and the others we serve in our self-generated programs. I hope you enjoy the stories of the brave, talented, and visionary young leaders highlighted in this report. As we move into our 41st year, I also look forward to sharing with you many more exciting developments in our work. Look for new announcements soon. I invite you to explore ways in which you might get a ‘taste’ of the transformative work of Legacy International and get to know young leaders from around the world. Please go to our websites, meet the staff and participants, see if you have some time to join in our endeavor to leave a legacy of health, peace, understanding, creativity, mutual respect, success and service.

Our long-term relationship with the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs has enabled us and hundreds of thousands of individuals around the world to advance in their careers and provide services and products that will continue to bring progress and opportunities to their fellow citizens. Private funders have supported our ongoing relationships with the alumni of our trainings and built a stronger foundation for developing new opportunities globally to scale up and out our work through our Teams of Excellence (global leaders and experts who are available to Legacy International).

Again I wish to thank our incredible devoted, inspiring and talented staff for their diligent work but also their deep personal commitment to this work. I want to thank the families who provide homestays, the providers of internships, fellow educators, and donors for being part of this great work. Together with our amazing alumni, partners, and donors, Legacy works diligently to serve those who seek to benefit their communities and lead their countries into a peaceful, healthy, and economically sustainable future.

J.E. Rash, President and Founder
Legacy International
The Professional Fellows Program (PFP) for Economic Empowerment, Middle East & North Africa is a two-way exchange program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and designed to promote mutual understanding, enhance leadership and professional skills, and build lasting, sustainable partnerships between mid-level emerging leaders committed to strengthening their communities through social entrepreneurship and workforce development.

PFP Fellows are placed in intensive fellowships in non-profit organizations, private sector businesses, and government offices for an individually tailored professional development experience. Najla (PFP 2018) from Libya, along with a group of women techies, launched their own nonprofit, She Codes. Their objective is to empower women and children with coding skills, to bridge the gender gap in the industry, and to inspire women proactivity and self-reliance throughout Libya.

The Positive Life Alternatives for Egyptian Youth At-Risk of Irregular Migration conference, a forum sponsored by USAID and the UN International Organization of Migration (IOM) and facilitated by Legacy International took place in 2018 in Cairo, Egypt. The training sessions addressed the topics of hospitality, marketing, and tourism management, and were led by top professors in the fields of business, hospitality, and marketing from the Virginia Tech Office of International Research, Education, and Development (OIRED), the Virginia Tech (VT) Pamplin College of Business, along with Entwine Digital.
Since 2016, the Emerging Young Leaders Award (EYLA) recognizes youth around the world for their efforts to create positive social change, on behalf of the U.S. Department of State. As part of winning the award, the Leaders travel to the U.S. for two weeks and take part in job shadows, professional development workshops, cultural activities and exchange opportunities as well as one-on-one mentorship with professionals in their industry or working with their cause/issue of interest.

José of Panama, 2018 Emerging Young Leaders Award recipient, has promoted education as the path to economic and social equality. As one of the directors of Ayundigal; an educational platform that provides free mathematics, physics, and other science lessons through simple and entertaining videos; José has not only helped improve the quality of education in Panama, but also throughout Latin America.

TechGirls has also continued to promote capacity building. TechGirls is an international summer exchange program designed to empower and inspire young women from the United States, Central Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa to pursue careers in science and technology. Remam, a TechGirl of our 2018 program, is 16 years old and lives in Gaza.

After watching a YouTube video by Bill Gates and Mark Zuckerberg on the importance of coding, Renan resolved to learn more. Since her summer 2018 TechGirls experience, she has been involved in multiple coding programs - including the Patel Group Foundation’s Code For Palestine and Gaza Sky Geeks - where she worked on mobile app development for community improvement. Renan has created a Tech Access Program for girls between 14 and 17 years old so that those interested in coding or STEM related fields can discuss the importance of technology, learn how to access coding tutorials, and get advice from programming teachers.
For over 40 summers, Legacy has operated a one-of-a-kind summer program for international teens ages 13-18 that teaches social responsibility - the Global Youth Village (GYV). At GYV, participants establish deep friendships with people from cultures vastly different from their own. They gain practical skills and knowledge in the areas of leadership, cross cultural relations, and conflict resolution; and discover how they can make a difference both locally and globally.

GYV Alumna Diyaa, developed It’s Your Time! Youth Training Program, a two-hour program aimed at getting high schoolers, ages 14-18, involved in their communities. Diyaa is committed to helping young people, such as herself, become active citizens and helping their communities to thrive. She thinks that it is essential for teens to live their values and beliefs in their daily life.

Ece Çiftçi of Turkey, a 2018 Emerging Young Leaders Award recipient, started her path of social responsibility at the age of 14. While attending a conference, she became acutely aware of the fact that so many students lack confidence and get very little social and emotional education in schools. Her first experience delivering workshops for peers took place in Eastern Turkey with 100 children that same year. Ece then went on to study sociology and started a student club recruiting volunteers to provide trainings for more than 60,000 young people in the field of social responsibility. Ece crowned her studies, which she initiated in the field of social enterprise, by founding the company SosyalBen Academy and Counseling. SosyalBen originated in Istanbul and now involves 350 volunteers in total from its 10 domestic and 5 foreign representative offices.
The Saudi Young Leaders Exchange Program (SYLEP) is a multi-phased, networked leadership experience for 32 Saudi university students or recently-graduated students between the ages of 21-26 and 3 U.S. Cultural Ambassadors. SYLEP seeks to build leadership skills, civic responsibility, appreciation for cultural diversity, community engagement, and volunteerism.

SYLEP 2018 alumnus Ahmed, from Saudi Arabia, developed a community project at part of the leadership and volunteer engagement training he received at Legacy International in the summer of 2018. As a medical student studying to become a paramedic and first responder, he developed a community action project that aims to raise health awareness through the training of community members in First Aid and CPR.

The 2018 Social Cohesion program also placed an emphasis on the importance of networked leadership. For a second year, from July 29 to August 12, 2018, Legacy International welcomed 12 young people (ages 16-18) from the U.K. for a two-week cultural exchange program in the U.S. focused on combating divisiveness in communities and building social cohesion.

Starting in Raleigh, NC and ending in Philadelphia, PA (with stops in Durham, NC; Greensboro, NC; Bedford, VA; Lynchburg, VA; Charlottesville, VA; and Washington, DC); the participants engaged in trainings, meetings, site visits, volunteer projects, and networking opportunities with individuals, organizations, and programs focusing on ways to build social cohesion.
The Global Transformation Corps (GTC) was born with one laser focused thought — the necessity to empower sustainable initiatives globally in business and social sectors. GTC mobilizes values based, next generation (NextGen) emerging leaders (20-35 years) providing the skill set and support necessary to build resilient businesses and socially impactful ventures.

GTC’s approach is two-fold: live training and coaching events for a select cohort of social entrepreneurs so they can launch and scale their ventures; and a purposeful online network of impact investors, expert coaches and NextGen entrepreneurs dedicated to shifting the world to sustainable economies.

Dr. Stephen Gomes, a global management expert with over 40 years of entrepreneurship and investment experience in 100+ countries, on the topic of GTC, said, “This initiative is focused on driving large scale change by creating a worldwide network of social entrepreneurs and innovators to join forces on creating practical, sustainable solutions to the world’s most important problems. It uses Legacy International’s and Entwine Digital’s time-tested teams and methods to train and provide social entrepreneurs with the latest values-driven management skills to empower them to successfully complete new sustainable programs.”

Dr. Ishrat Ali, a successful entrepreneur and Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation additionally noted, “The business world is undergoing a gradual shift. The very role of business is changing from a pure instrument of profit to an instrument of value creation for society. GTC works as a catalyst to speed up this process. It has time tested, value-based training expertise in leadership, social entrepreneurship, and digital transformation. It brings together a worldwide network of values-based entrepreneurs, investors, and policy professionals that foster resource exchanges for betterment of this world.”
The 2018 LivingSidebySide® (LSBS) programs have transformed attitudes and emphasizes diversity training in the classroom, school, and community in order to instill a foundation for success. The program works to utilize a strategic combination of professional development for teachers and youth workers, interactive modules for youths, and a values-based approach so that small changes could create a “safe space” and yield significant results.

Troy, a youth worker from Total Action for Progress in Roanoke, VA, attended one of Legacy’s 2018 LSBS professional development workshops and said, “It was really eye-opening for me because sometimes we become complacent in everyday life. This workshop on relationships gave me the knowledge to be more influential with kids that I work with.” Troy is applying what he gained with youth offenders in the southwest Virginia area.

Global Youth Village 2018 alumna Mackenzie learned the significance of diversity training through peacebuilding, cross cultural awareness, dialogue, leadership skill building, cultural arts, and global music activities at Legacy’s Global Youth Village. Mackenzie even created a documentary video to tell her story and the story of GYV.
The Emerging Young Leaders Award Program (2018)
Funding: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Exchange

The EYLA program recognized young people worldwide for their efforts to create social change in challenging environments. Young people were nominated by their embassies, and 10 were chosen by the U.S. Department of State to receive this award. They traveled to the U.S. for professional development workshops and met with U.S. peers addressing similar issues.

Global Youth Village
Funding: Tuition, Donors, Scholarships

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 edfocused on living life as a peace builder, a social innovator, and a global citizen.

LivingSidebySide®
Funding: Fee for Service

LivingSidebySide® (LSBS) is a values-based transformative approach to overcome prejudice and bias, promote social cohesion, and leadership. In 2018, Legacy offered day long professional development workshops for teachers and youth workers in the Roanoke, VA area. Internationally, LSBS® evaluation results were presented by the Stockholm International Research Institute in Sweden and at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

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), FINE! (Egypt), US. 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. 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. Thirty-two mid-career professionals participated in the 2018 Professional Fellows Program for Civil Society Development in Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia; along with 12 U.S. professionals.
Saudi Young Leaders Exchange Program
Funding: US Department of State, US Embassy/Saudi Arabia
Partners: U.S. Embassy Riyadh, B.R.A.V.E. Communities - Austin, TX, Global Pittsburgh - Pittsburgh, PA, WorldChicago - Chicago, IL

SYLEP is a multi-phased leadership experience for 32 Saudi and 3 U.S. (ages 19-26) university students or recent graduates. SYLEP 2018 seeks to build leadership skills, civic responsibility, appreciation for cultural diversity, community engagement and volunteerism.

TechGirls
Funding: US Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Exchange Partners: iD Tech Camps at American University and the Center for the of Engineering Diversity at Virginia Tech

TechGirls is an ongoing international exchange program of the U.S. Department of State, designed to empower young girls to pursue careers in the science and technology sectors. In 2018, 32 international girls and 5 U.S. girls enjoyed a three week immersion in careers in STEM including a tech camp, job shadow day, and host family experiences.

Hotel Management for Tourism
In partnership with Virginia Tech’s Pamplin College of Business, Legacy developed and delivered a 5-day program on Tourism Management/Marketing to selected officials from the Ministry of Manpower and the Ministry of Tourism of the Republic of Egypt and the Egyptian Tourism Federation. 13 Egyptians and 2 representatives from Virginia Tech participated in Cairo, Egypt.

Egyptian Youth Leadership Program
The program supported high school youth and adult educators’ participation in an intensive, substantive three-week exchange in the United States. The activities introduced 18 young men and women and 2 adult chaperones to a comprehensive survey of civic education, community service, and youth leadership development. The students and educators participate in workshops, community service activities, meetings with community leaders, discussion groups, and opportunities for substantive interaction with each other and their American peers.

Youth Development Program (Social Cohesion)
The program supported high school youth and adult educators from the United Kingdom in an intensive, substantive three-week exchange in the United States. Twelve young men and women visited the Global Youth Village and Chicago, IL for a comprehensive survey of civic education, community service, and youth leadership development.
DONORS

Funders
Bridge Foundation
Catholic Community Services
Hummer Tuttle Foundation
International Office of Migration, United Nations
Rappahannock Area Office on Youth
Summer Search
United States Department of State/Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
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U.S. Embassy in Cairo, Egypt
U.S. Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Virginia Commission for the Arts

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Khaled Hassouna, Ph.D. — Associate Director, Office of International Research, Education, and Development; Virginia Tech.

Robert Homsy, PhD. — Retired applied mathematician and electrochemical computational fluid dynamicist with the U.S. Departments of Energy, Defense, and Intelligence communities.

Judith Larson — Montessori Educator, Senior Instructor, World Community Education Center (Bedford, VA).

Philip Louer — Entrepreneur and President, North American Gem Carvers (Blacksburg, VA)

Ed Stern — Senior Analyst (Retired), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Washington, D.C.)

Anne Elise Thomas, Ph.D. — Ethnomusicologist, Musician and Arts Consultant (Bedford, VA)

Shanti Thompson — Vice President, Training and CFO, Legacy International.

Staff

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Marlene Ginsberg — Vice President, Professional Programs
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Shanti Thompson — Vice President, Training and CFO
Leila Baz — Senior Program Officer and Human Resources Coordinator
Susan Brock — Administrative Officer
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Rachel Falkenstein — Program Coordinator
Kimberley Foster — Assistant Grants Manager
Maryna Hayes — Program Manager
Atefeh Leavitt — Senior Program Director
Kareemah Mullen — Financial Assistant
Mitra Nafissian-Rash — Senior Program Officer
Jason Scott — Director of Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Venera Ziaziidinova — Book Keeper and Accounts Payable specialist
TOTAL INCOME

$2,253,292

85.2%

Government Grants: $1,919,981
Tuition and fees: $321,156
Miscellaneous: $7,653
Donations: $4,502
FACTS AND FIGURES

TOTAL EXPENSES
$2,251,042

91.4%

5.9%

2.6%

0.1%

International Programs
$2,058,011

General and Administrative
$134,093

Domestic Programs
$57,922

Fundraising
$1,016