

# GOD'S TRANSFORMING POWER IN COLOMBIA

# Removing Barriers Through Leadership Training

Prepared for Christian Brothers Moving & Storage Presented by May Thomsen





### Help Youth in Colombia

#### The Pandemic Worsens a Crisis

Churches in the Medellín and Urabá communities in Colombia have noticed a negative dependence on technology and a lack of rising leaders among youth. Young people often turn to the media for their sense of worth, and the constantly changing and challenging circumstances brought on by the pandemic have only made matters worse. Church staff are observing how young people are increasingly connected online, but disconnected from pursuing their life purpose.

God's love for children compels us to make a difference. Partnering with local churches in Colombia, this crucial non-formal education intervention will bring hope, equipping youth to escape the hardships of extreme poverty and rise as leaders in their communities.

#### The Opportunity to Provide Training

Compassion Colombia and these Frontline Church Partners have developed a plan to provide leadership training for 150+ youth who have shown initiative in wanting to grow in their leadership and service to their church and the community, but lack the financial means and technical resources to do so.

#### Intervention Summary





Location: Colombia

Beneficiaries: 152 youth, ages 15-20

Proposed Implementation Timeline: 20 months



### A Better Future for Colombia

All young people deserve to discover and develop their God-given gifts and talents, to pursue their dreams and work toward their goals. But for millions of children living in poverty, dreams of a better future are all they have. Poverty robs them of the opportunity to finish school, attend university, or learn the skills that would allow them to earn a good income. Youth Development opportunities help equip youth ages 12 and up with the skills and resources they need to make their dreams of a better future an attainable reality.

Due to the severity of the pandemic in Colombia, many youth have been isolated and disconnected from their communities. There has been a lack of opportunity for youth to grow in their leadership and service. With support from the Colombia National office, churches are hoping to bring positive changes to their communities by empowering youth to identify needs and bring social change through self-identified service projects.

#### **Implementation Plan**

• All 152 students will participate in spiritual leadership training for two months.

- Students will also participate in two different youth leadership camps.
- After completing training, students will form groups and identify available resources to meet needs within their communities.
- Students will form implementation plans to address community needs, and present them to their churches.
- Church staff will monitor and evaluate the project implementation of each student group, providing resources and support when needed. Youth will work on identifying the social impact of their plans.

#### **Anticipated Outcomes**

This intervention is designed to cultivate critical thinking and communication skills, encouraging youth to become leaders in their communities and to develop innovative ways to problem-solve and initiate social change. Compassion's Frontline Church Partners, in coordination with the national country office, have carefully planned and considered all aspects of budgeting for this critical intervention. Below is a summary of the overall need for this important effort.

Budget Items	Total Expense	Local Contribution	Amount Requested
Spiritual leadership training	\$3,431.77	\$1,054.10	\$2,377.67
Technical support staff	\$1,782.26	\$395.29	\$1,386.97
Leadership camp lodging and materials	\$5,611.29	\$1,054.10	\$4,557.19
Service projects and materials	\$10,692.56	\$2,767.01	\$7,925.55
Celebration ceremony	\$659.80	\$263.52	\$396.28
Total	\$22,177.68	\$5,534.02	\$16,643.66

\*This budget covers all program, administration and fundraising costs commensurate with Compassion's corporate guidelines.







## Serving Together

Thank you for your choice to support this powerful opportunity to provide leadership training for youth in Colombia. Because of your vital help, Compassion and the local church can equip youth for a brighter future, helping them break the chains of poverty forever.

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