



# Youth Social Entrepreneurship

**youth  
venture**  
DREAM IT. DO IT.

*Creating a movement of young changemakers*

September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007



# Youth Venture – Mexico (example venture)

## Jesus, Juan Carlos & team – RAPEM (Mexico City, Mexico)



**Dedicated in providing young people a non-violent form of expression.**

**Uniting gangs across territories and stopping the violence.**

# Young people are creating change everywhere



# What is social entrepreneurship?

**A social entrepreneur is a visionary who changes the pattern of how society operates**

## Why is social entrepreneurship important?

- Social entrepreneurs drive the citizen sector forward responding to new challenges and changing needs.
- Social entrepreneurs are rooted in local communities but think and act globally.

- Founded in 1980
- Pioneered concept of social entrepreneurship
- Global community of nearly 2000 Fellows.
- Active in 70 countries
- *Creating a world where everyone is a changemaker*
- Developed the concept of Youth Venture in 1996 through an understanding of Ashoka Fellows key insights on youth development

# Youth Venture Vision and Mission

## **Our global vision:**

A world of *everyone a changemaker* through a global culture of young people initiating positive, lasting change

## **Our global mission:**

Building a global movement of young people being powerful now, changemakers now. This is the foundation of an *everyone a changemaker* world – the key factor for success in every society, organization and person.

# Who are the Venturers

- Youth (age 12-24)
- Range in socio-economic demographics:
  - 31% from low-income communities
  - 33% from predominantly minority communities
- All have potential to launch social ventures, given the right support and encouragement



## What we do?

- Support socially oriented ventures with seed grants up to \$1,000
- Create a community of venturers all around the world.

## Youth Ventures are...

- New initiatives started by young people
- Youth-led
- Beneficial to the community
- Sustainable
- Supported by an adult “ally” willing to support, but not control, the venture
- Strong teams that engage about 25 people
- Led by Venturers who care and have the energy to be successful



# Impact/Outcomes

- Venturers learn they are powerful and competent. Thus, they start to lead – and become lifelong leaders
- Venturers tip the local youth culture and wear down old attitudes and barriers
- The community redefines the youth years as a time of expected initiative, competency, and contribution: multiplying the percentage of leaders in a population



- 94% feel YV increased their confidence in starting or leading social change
- 70% have a greater interest in entrepreneurship
- 77% are more involved in leadership roles
- 92% believe they are now capable of planning a venture and leading a team

# Youth Venture's current reach

- 14 countries
- 1,300 teams globally
- 25,000 young people involved



# THANK YOU!

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venture  
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[www.ashoka.org](http://www.ashoka.org)

[www.genv.net](http://www.genv.net)