

# 2016

UPH Annual Report

**OUR MISSION** is to inspire the children and youth of Honduras to reach their potential by equipping them with the skills necessary for life management, academic achievement, spiritual growth, and leadership rooted in the Christian faith.

"SEE,  
I AM  
DOING  
A NEW  
THING!  
NOW IT

SPRINGS UP,

DO YOU NOT  
PERCEIVE IT?  
I AM MAKING A WAY  
IN THE WILDERNESS  
AND STREAMS IN

THE  
WASTELAND." 3:19  
*Isaiah*

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

"The righteous [...] will grow like a cedar of Lebanon" - Psalm 92:12

I was recently reading about the cedar tree, and how it grows. Did you know for the first couple of years it shows no visible signs of growth above ground, but below ground a vast network of roots is spreading, searching for sources of water deep beneath the earth's surface? After that, the growth occurs at a much quicker rate and a cedar tree can grow anywhere between 50 and 100 feet.

The same can be said for UrbanPromise Honduras in 2016. Perhaps on the surface there has not been a great deal of change, but below the surface, UPH has been sprouting... spreading its roots; a far less glorious process but an infinitely more valuable one, which provides stability and paves the way for future expansion.

2016 was a year in which our germination connected us with our local community like never before, creating new relationships with local churches and having pastors visit our programs. It was encouraging for us to receive their affirmation and admiration, and to be welcomed into their group. I remember one pastor turning and looking at our Program Supervisor, who commented, "Wow...you are doing *our* job! This is what the Church should be doing!"

It was an honor to hear these words. The local church was here long before UPH, but they were able to see that we were part of the same body.

What a blessing to see the seed of UPH fall in good soil. We are so thankful for our donors, our community and all of UPH's friends and supporters who have helped UPH become rooted throughout the past seven years.

*Hugh Stacey*



MESSAGE  
FROM THE PRESIDENT OF  
LATIN AMERICAN MINISTRIES

As we reflect on the work of UrbanPromise Honduras during 2016, we give thanks for the theme of new life that continues to blossom. This year we celebrate the addition of more Honduran staff, some of whom even grew up in the programs of UPH. Indigenous leadership is now taking our programs to new heights and giving it a uniquely local flavor. It is encouraging to see this leadership pipeline at work, with youth maturing and wanting to re-invest in the children of their neighborhoods. The fruit speaks to the many years of hard work as our staff pour their heart and soul into the community of Copán.

This theme of new life is not only taking root in Honduras, but beyond our walls as well. Over the last decade, UPH has helped inspire the expansion of UrbanPromise to new cities and countries. Specifically, over the last couple of years we have developed relationships with leaders from Dominican Republic, Haiti and Puerto Rico, all of whom are interested in replicating our model of youth ministry. How encouraging to see these new communities of faith, hope and love emerging across Latin America!

We are dedicated to the town of Copán Ruinas, but also see ourselves as part of a bigger picture. We look forward to seeing how UPH can be a source of inspiration to leaders throughout Latin America who feel called to support vulnerable children and youth in their communities.

We will be eager to share how this overarching vision for Latin America develops over the course of 2017!

With gratitude for the present & excitement for the future,

*Blair Quinius*



GER•MI•NATE

/'jərmə,nāt/  
verb

to begin to grow  
and put out shoots

to develop

to emerge,  
sprout, bud,  
spore,  
spring  
up/  
forth

*Did you know*

...that a former UPH intern,  
who served twice as  
Summer Staff, began  
UrbanPromise



2016  
-2017

*February*  
+ 3

Londin Velásquez takes on  
new role as Supervisor of  
Children & Youth Programs.

Tania Guerra ascends from  
Assistant Director to Director of  
Camp Hope.

Lucinda Ardon (former UPH youth) is  
hired on full-time as Assistant Director  
of Camp Hope.

- 1

Kris Schnepf, our UrbanTrekks  
founder & Director leaves to direct  
UrbanTrekks in the USA.

Luis Ortiz, UrbanTrekks Assistant  
Director, born and raised in Copán  
Ruinas, takes the reins of UT Honduras.

+ 1

*August*

*January*

+ 1

Marissa Thornberry  
is hired onto staff full-time as  
Assistant Director of  
UrbanTrekks and Director of

# 2016 AT A GLANCE

AFTER SCHOOL  
PROGRAM

*Camp  
Agape*

Director: Marcia Mayorga  
Assistant Director: Claudia Esquivel  
Neighborhood: San Pedrito Abajo

*Camp  
Hope*

Director: Tania Guerra  
Assistant Director:  
Lucinda Ardon  
Neighborhood:  
Nueva  
Esperanza

47  
KIDS

47  
KIDS

17 FIRST  
GRADERS

8 SIXTH  
GRADERS

7 FIFTH  
GRADERS

7 FOURTH  
GRADERS

25 SECOND  
GRADERS

30  
THIRD  
GRADERS

57

37

6

successfully  
moved onto  
Secondary  
Education

VACATION  
CAMPS

*Peace  
Agape*



Grace  
Worship  
Hope  
Joy



1000+ hours of homework help



50 gallons of clean water consumed per week

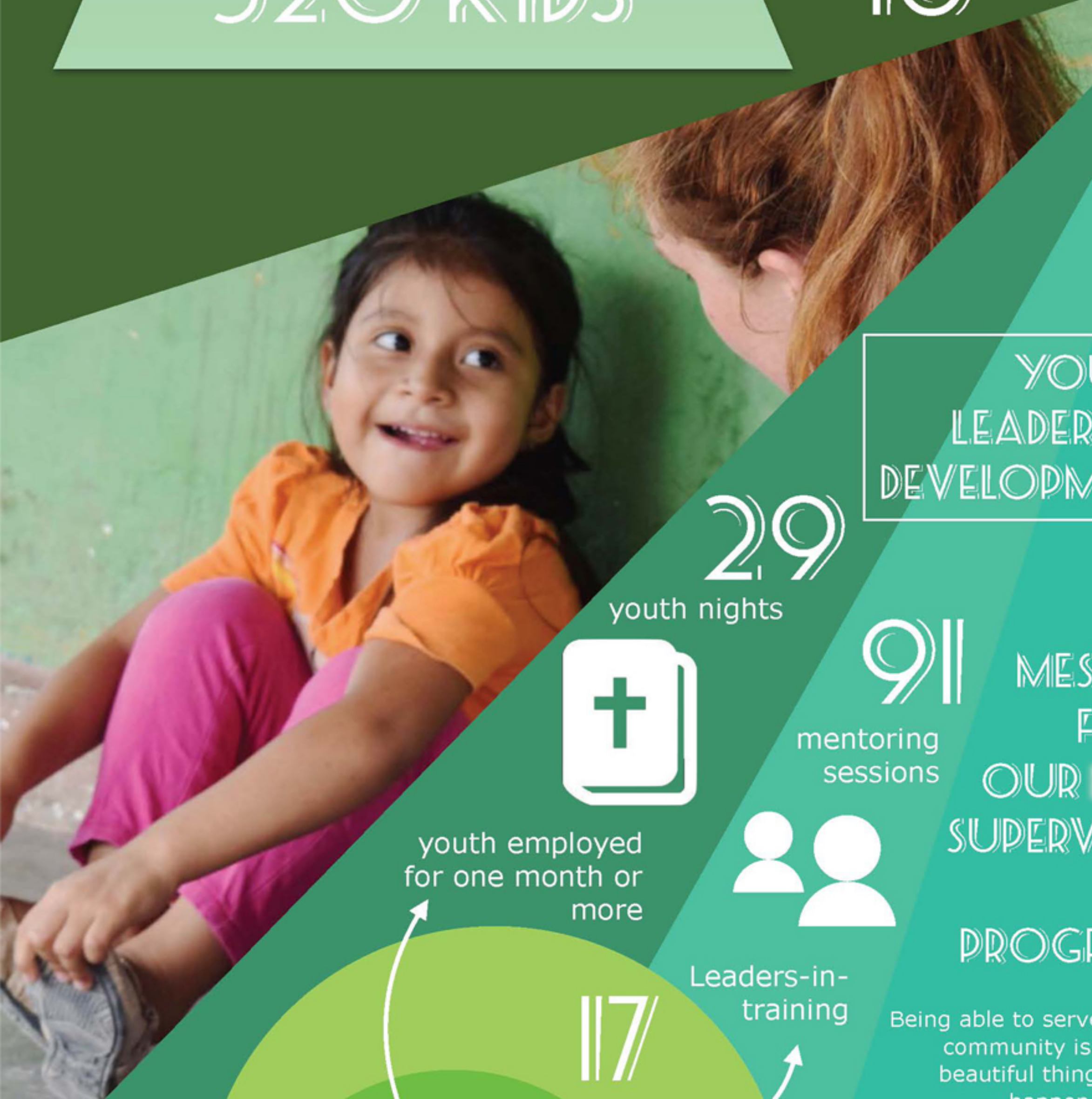


7

49 paid leaders



16 leaders-in-training (LJAs)



YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

29 youth nights



17 youth employed for one month or more

17

91 mentoring sessions



Leaders-in-training

MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW SUPERVISOR OF PROGRAMS

Being able to serve my own community is the most beautiful thing that has happened to me

happened to me.



past & present UPH youth who graduated high school in 2016



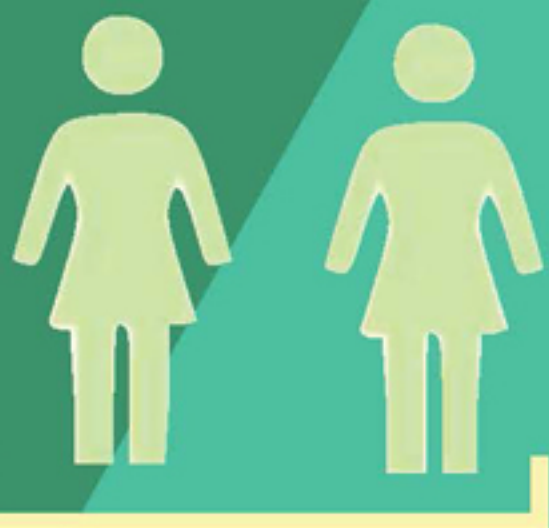
19



3

youth on UPH university scholarships

youth on UPH high school scholarships



Iris & Marlin  
Agricultural Science,  
National University  
of Agriculture,  
Olancho

Cindy  
Business Admin.,  
Honduran Christian  
University,  
Copán Ruinas

The truth is that it was difficult to understand my role at the beginning. As time has gone by, however, God has shown me my path through the amazing stories of the children and young people. These have made me realize and comprehend that my job and new role is reflected in the successes that the directors enjoy in their programs. This role has allowed UPH to have a greater presence in this community and with local organizations. I can also see how my leadership has been used in work meetings with After School and Youth Program directors to provide consistent follow-up to the challenges that present themselves in each program.

Personally, I have seen my spiritual leadership grow which helps me mentor the staff I supervise. I am so grateful to God because UrbanPromise Honduras has been a key puzzle piece in learning more about love, unity, integrity and above all how to share the true Gospel to those around me. UPH has believed and trusted in my leadership; now I want to entrust the children of the communities in which we work who will be the future leaders of this country and, perhaps, this organization.

*London Velásquez*



# Service Learning Groups

Moorestown 1st Presbyterian Church,  
New Jersey, USA

3rd Trip  
July 2016

St. Luke's Episcopal Church,  
South Carolina, USA  
3rd Consecutive Year  
June 2016



Corinne Callahan  
New Jersey, USA  
Camp Joy  
Former UPH Service Learning Group  
Member with Moorestown 1st Presbyterian

Zoe Burke  
N. Ireland, UK  
Camp Peace

Logan Fettes  
S. Carolina, USA  
Camp Peace  
Former UPH Service  
Learning Group Member  
with St. Luke's Episcopal

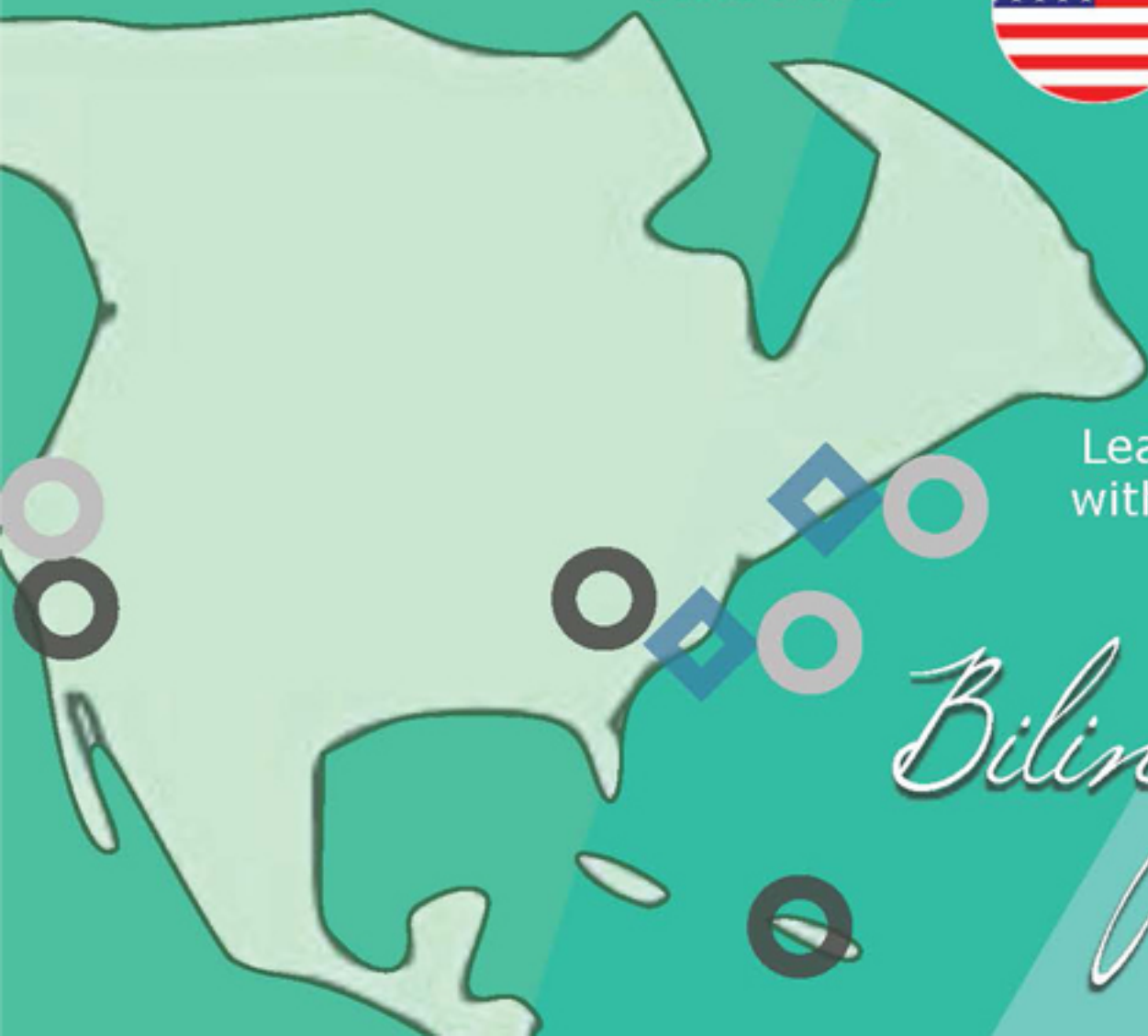


Gareth McClune  
N. Ireland, UK  
Camp Joy  
Former UrbanPromise  
Toronto Intern

# Bilingual Camps

Ciara Riddle  
California, USA

Chris Acheson  
N. Ireland, UK  
Camp Peace



Jessica Rounce  
Kentucky, USA  
2nd Year Intern  
Camp Agape  
June - July 2016

Camp Joy  
Former UrbanPromise  
Camden Intern

Camp Peace  
Former AfterSchool  
Program Intern

# AfterSchool Program

Jordan Cortes  
California, USA  
Former UrbanPromise  
Camden Intern  
Camp Agape  
January - May 2016

Rachel Macdonald  
N. Ireland, UK  
Camp Hope  
September 2015 - May 2016

Chris Acheson  
N. Ireland, UK  
Camp Agape  
January - May 2016



Ileana Ayala  
Puerto Rico  
2nd Year Intern  
Communications Intern  
June - July 2016

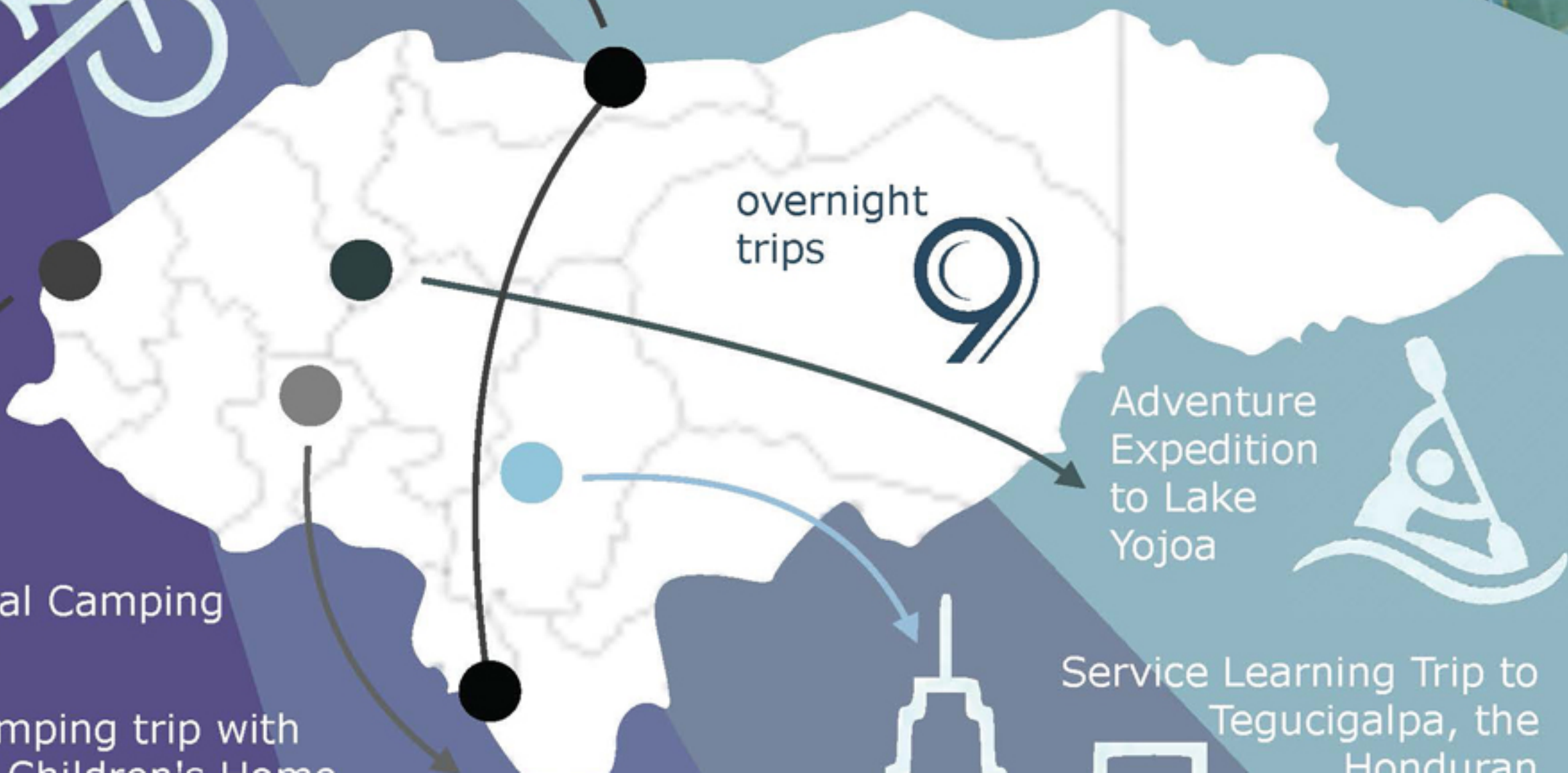


Alejandra Albornoz  
Bogotá, Colombia  
Camp Agape  
January - March 2017



## URBANTREKKERS

Coast to Coast bike ride in partnership with  
Education non-profit Transformemos  
Honduras  
Tela - San Lorenzo



4 local Camping trips

1 Camping trip with local Children's Home

Service Learning Trip to Tegucigalpa, the Honduran Capital

Adventure Expedition to Lake Yojoa

overnight trips





{ 2005 }

total youth participating

INTRODUCING.....

URBANDREAMERS



*Did you know*  
...that we hold an annual  
Soccer Tournament every  
July to celebrate  
our birthday? It  
is named 'Locos  
Por Futbol'  
(Crazy for  
Soccer)!



*Marissa Thornberry*

"I have an idea."

For some, those words come easily, bubbling out of the mouths of bold innovators with just as much effervescence as the ideas themselves had emerged. For others, like myself,—the steady, the careful, we who trust in The Way Things Are—they may be the scariest four words that could crawl off our tongues.

But after vacation camps, I enough jaw-youth that my outweighed the

By the UrbanDreamers stuttering and from UPH's spoke that infamous had been worth it. And the weight and the all the more evident. "I beginning and the end,

Last consisted of theme-based afterschool in Trekkers' activities,



finishing my second summer working in UPH's bilingual couldn't hold those words back anymore. I had seen dropping creative talent go unnoticed among Copán's desire to somehow support and encourage these artists fear of having my ambitions rejected.

time I came back to Copán in February 2016 to start the pilot program, I felt sure that all the shaking and sweating as I sat across Executive Director and phrase six months earlier now, over a year later, worth of those words is have an idea" is the the seed and the fruit, of UrbanDreamers.

HAVE

AN

IDEA

year's pilot program group projects, individual art challenges, training for art teachers in UPH's camps, and an open exhibit, as well as art projects rooftop garden and expeditions. Through these we've seen young artists encouraged in the most literal sense of the word, developing the courage to use their gifts in innovative ways. Some of last year's Dreamers are now working toward a music career, while others are developing ideas for businesses and nonprofits.

Now that UrbanDreamers is functioning as a full-time program within UrbanTrekkers, that seed of courage and creativity is being nourished in a context where it can be

creativity is being nurtured in a context where it can be most effective. As Trekkers and Dreamers partner in the mutual goal of experiential learning, embracing challenges, taking risks, and getting outside of our comfort zones, we are working to transform others while also being continually transformed by our own vision. In Dreamers, as in Trekkers, we refuse to raise a generation that worships the status quo. We want a world full of young people who wonder, who question, who seek what is best rather than what is easy or accepted.



TOGETHER

WE ARE WORKING  
TOWARD A WORLD  
THAT HAS  
THE  
COURAGE  
TO

total youth participating

43

DREAM."



LIVES OF  
PROMISE



Hector

We dare you to think of Hector without a big smile breaking forth. Always the joker with a permanent

"My dreams include graduating high school with a diploma in computer science and going to university. I also



Always the joker with a permanent Cheshire-cat grin, Hector offers friendship from your first encounter with him. Hector demonstrates a maturity beyond his years, possesses a strong analytical mind and is an agent of unity and reconciliation wherever he goes.

Hector has risen through the ranks over the years, participating in our programs as a child in Camp Hope, Leader-in-training (LJA), Vacation Camp Science Teacher & current After School Program Science Teacher. He has also trekked and cycled with UrbanTrekks and is an active participant of the UrbanDreamers program.

*...searched and going to university, I also hope to be used by God so that others find salvation in Him."*

from kid to leader



UPH staff that have helped Hector grow in leadership and his walk with God have been Fausto, our former LJA director, and Cinthia Valdez, our current Youth Director. Hector comments that through weekly devotionals with Fausto and through invites to church from Cinthia, he has grown in his faith, and was even baptized this past January!

*"Before UPH I didn't believe in myself or that I had talents; I have discovered my strengths like speaking in public and teaching classes."*

*Cindy*



It could be said that UPH is in Cindy's DNA; her maturity, innate leadership and strong work ethic make her stand out with local parents and foreign visitors alike, and these characteristics have even won her Leader of the Year in Camp Agape two years running!

Cindy's work in UPH has been varied and extensive: she has taught classes in Spanish, art, health and Bible in Vacation Camps and After School Programs. She has also served as Youth Captain in Camp Gracia and this year she applied and was selected as Assistant Director for Camp Agape Vacation Camp!

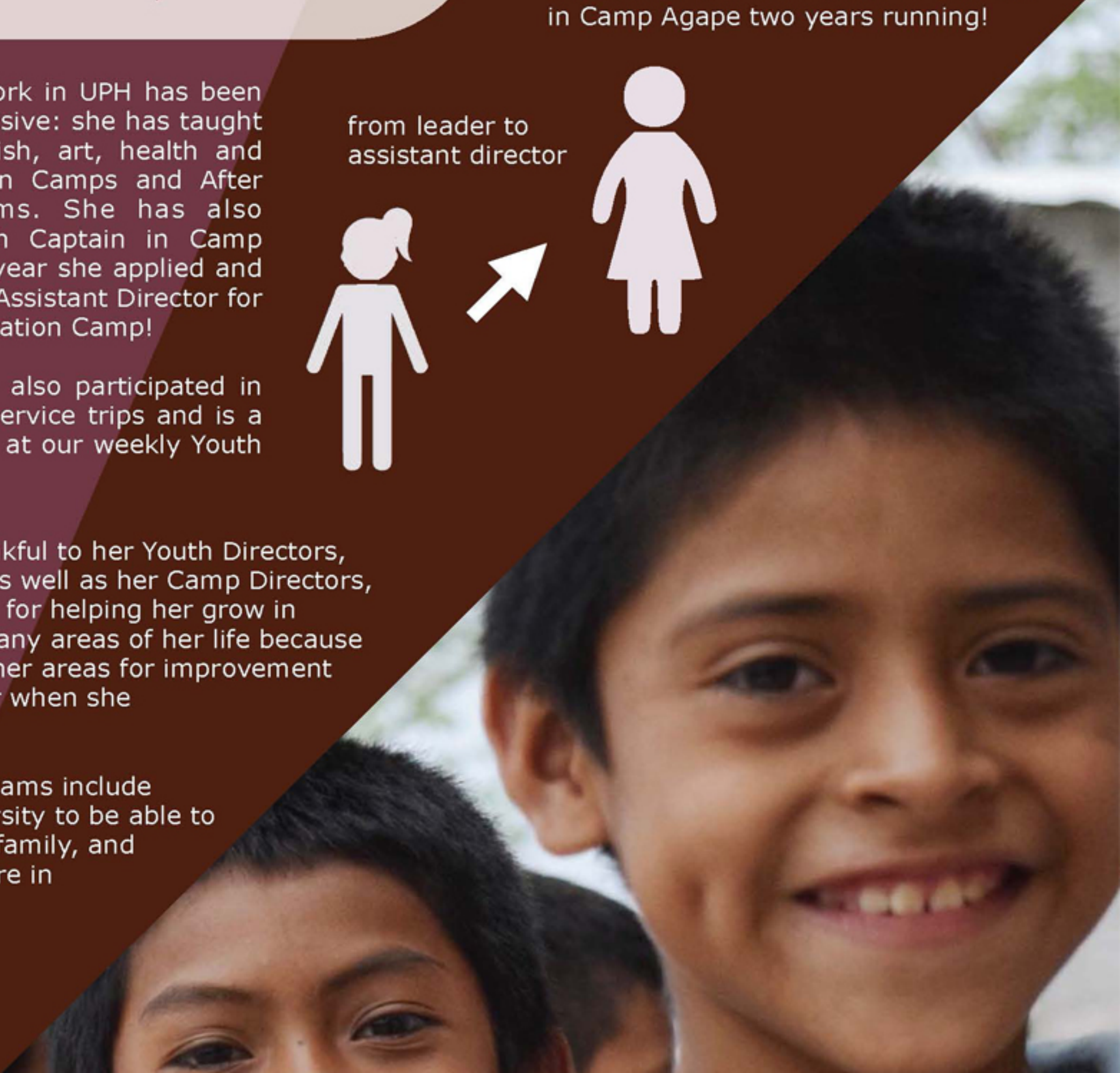
from leader to assistant director



Cindy has also participated in many Trekkers service trips and is a faithful attendee at our weekly Youth Nights.

She is thankful to her Youth Directors, Cinthia & Dioni, as well as her Camp Directors, Marcia & Claudia, for helping her grow in leadership and many areas of her life because they highlighted her areas for improvement and corrected her when she made mistakes.

Cindy's dreams include graduating university to be able to help support her family, and growing even more in leadership.



# CAMPAIGNS & EVENTS

## Mother's Day



International • March 2016  
'If 100 individuals donated any amount in honor of their mother, UPH would receive a \$5,000 matching grant.'  
Amount raised: \$8,037



## Summer Camps

International • May - July 2016 • **#PieOurStaff**  
'For every \$60 donated to our Summer Camps, our donors could choose a staff member to pie in the face.'  
Amount raised: \$8,405



## Paddle For Promise

International • July 2016 • **#Paddle4Lucinda**  
'Our Director of Communications & a former Summer staff member paddled 50 miles down the Delaware River to raise new staff member Lucinda's salary.'  
Amount raised: \$5,110



## Giving Tuesday

International • November 2016 • **#StandUp**  
'For the annual international day of giving we asked our community to stand up for our youth by investing in their leadership development.'  
Amount raised: \$24,347

## Leap 2016

Local • February 2016 • **#SALTO2016**  
'Taking advantage of an extra 24 hours on February 29th we held a community fun day in the central park with activities for kids, food for sale & a talent show.'  
Amount raised: Costs covered



## Christian Concert

Local • May 2016  
For the first time ever we hired a Honduran pastor/singer, Milton Valle, to perform live in town and sold tickets locally.



## A Night of Promise

Local • November 2016  
'In November we held a gala evening with dinner and testimonies to raise funds and thank local supporters.'  
Amount raised: Children sponsored for our public school Vacation Camps



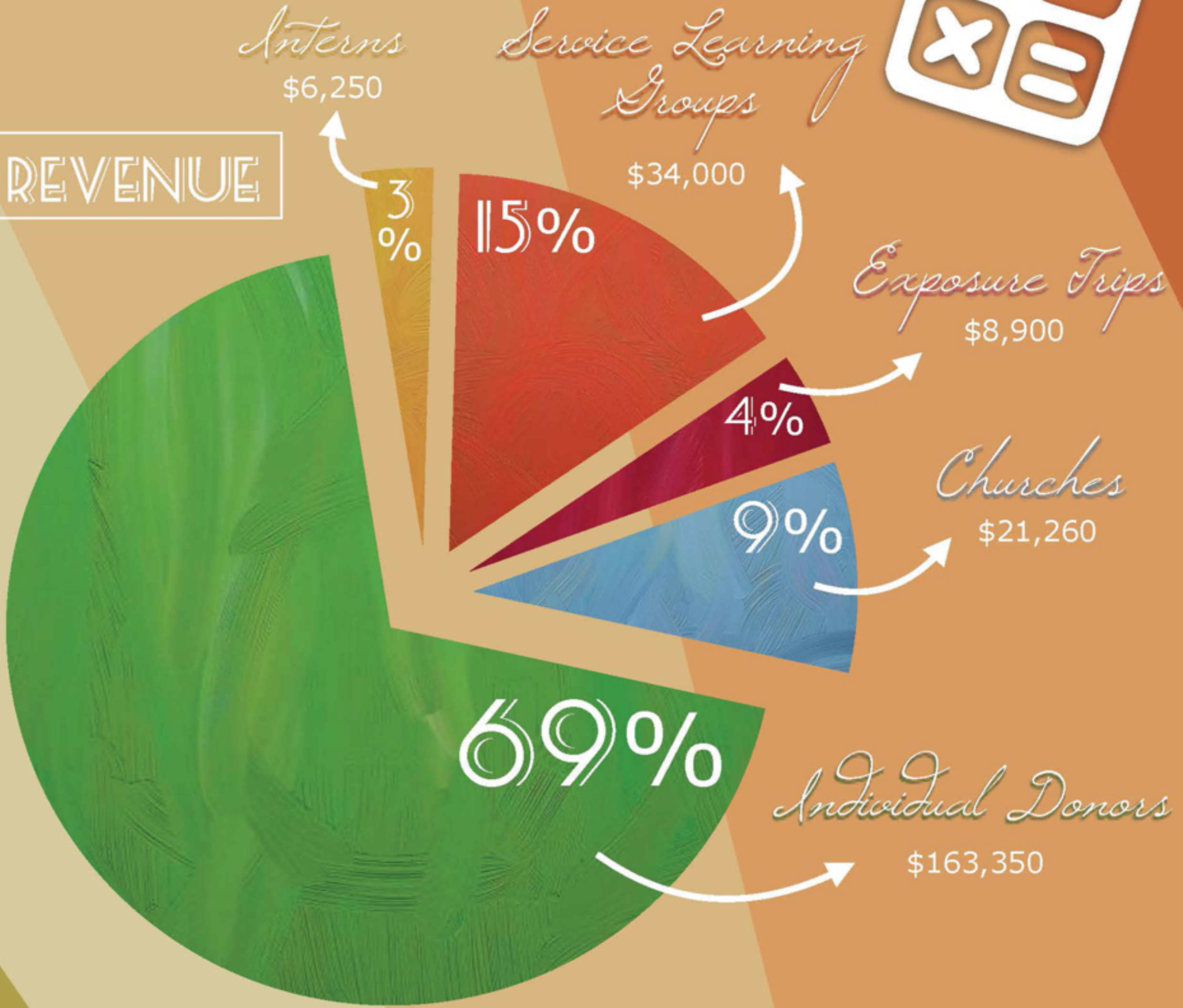
INTERNATIONAL

LOCAL

# 2016 IN NUMBERS

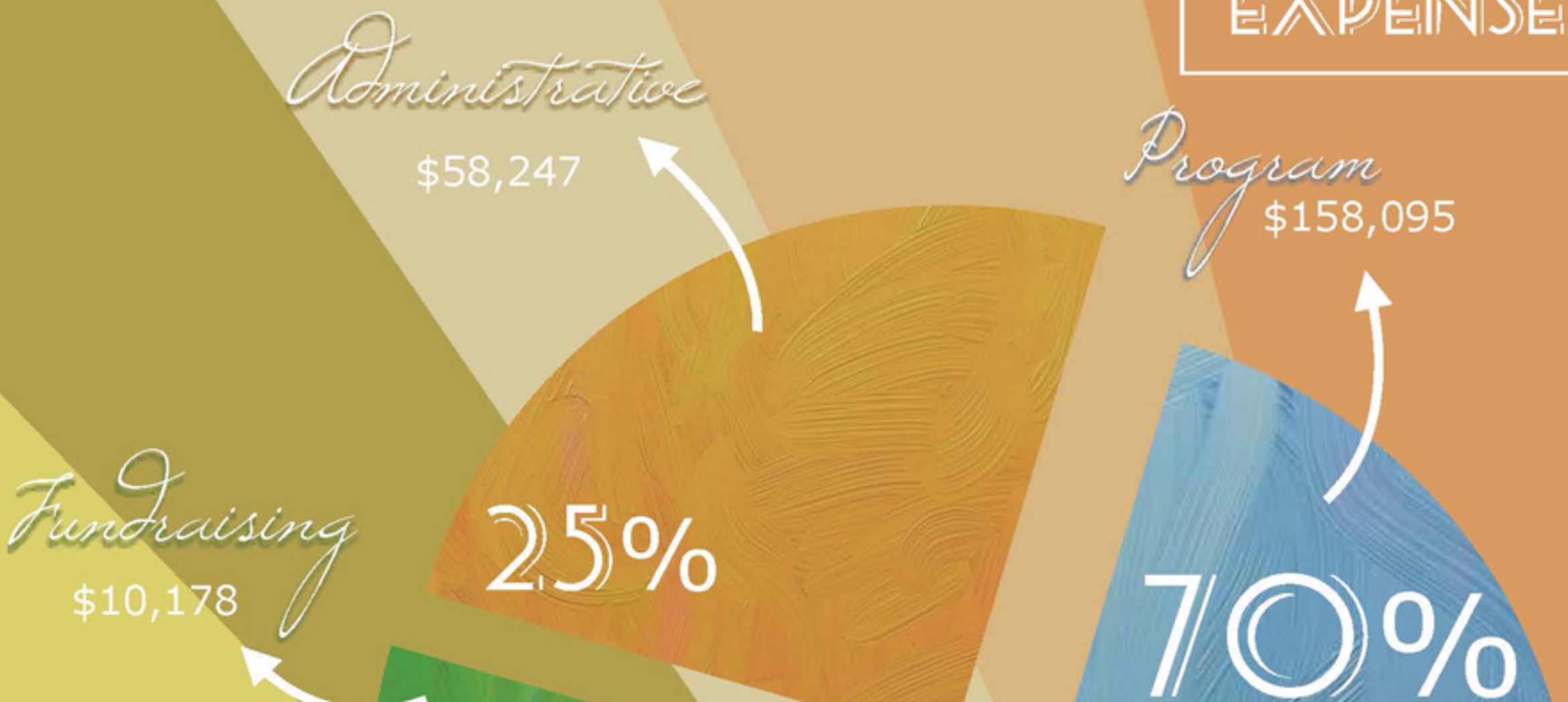


## REVENUE



Total Revenue: \$233,760

## EXPENSES



5%

Total Expenses:  
\$225,890



*Did you know*

...our staff team is  
comprised of 10  
Hondurans, 2  
Brits & 1 US  
American?



*Follow along to be the  
first to hear news  
from Copán!*



JOIN OUR COMMUNITY

SUPPORT A MISSIONARY

*from \$10/month*



SPONSOR A CAMP

*\$35/month*



EMPLOY A YOUTH

*\$45/month*



**THANK YOU !!**

With each passing year we are so thankful to God and our wide community of supporters and advocates for their constant and humbling generosity. With heartfelt sincerity we can say that this important work of inspiring the children and young people of Honduras to reach their God-given potential, offering them a place to belong, and investing in their academic, emotional & spiritual development would not be possible without each and every donation.

*With love,*

