

Organization for Youth Empowerment

OYE Honduras

Along with recent events and achievements, now is a time to reflect on the long term accomplishments of Honduras' Organization for Youth Empowerment (OYE). This past week marks the fifth year anniversary of OYE. Over the past five years OYE has cultivated a strong sense of community in El Progreso, Honduras, and created lasting changes by educating and empowering youth to be positive leaders among their peers. Since its founding in 2005, OYE has expanded to sponsor 75 scholarships. 75 at risk Honduran youth will be given the tools they need to attain the education and resources necessary to be agents of change in their communities.



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Long term success of OYE can be measured by its most recent achievements. For instance, OYE Ritmo (The Radio Program) has just hosted its second successful concert with Honduran star Guillermo Anderson. Planned, organized, and executed by OYE Scholarship students this concert brought together members of the Progreso community to celebrate the culture and music of Honduras.

Additionally, last week 58 OYE scholarship students graduated from a four month long capacity building program. During the program, OYE scholars explored topics designed to educate and empower them. Over the four months students discussed what OYE meant to them personally and as an organization. They addressed challenging and important topics such as self-esteem, family/domestic issues, and what their national identity consisted of. The OYE scholars set personal goals that will contribute to their success present and future. The culmination of this capacity building program addressed the taboo issue of sexuality. On Friday, June 04, the final capacity building session was held in conjunction with Comvida, a Honduran non-profit focused on youth health, community involvement, and the prevention of aids. Everyone's hard work on this project produced 58 qualified and confident young leaders that have the responsibility to share their knowledge with the community.

OYE Honduras Website

<u>Celebrating 5 Years</u> 655 Low-income and at-risk

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and at-risk Honduran youth are involved in OYE Programs

60% of OYE Scholarships go to young women

20 Local businesses actively support OYE's empowerment efforts