



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE

CENTER FOR SPORT, PEACE,
AND SOCIETY

FIVE YEARS

OF SPORT FOR SOCIAL CHANGE | 2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Pictured:
Pamela Akplogan of Benin

CHXNGE

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS





Although stories of division, hate, intolerance, and natural disaster have dominated headlines for most of recent memory, another reality is present: Sport has the power to rebuild communities and strengthen the bonds that connect us to others. Through the often untold stories of change—like that of legendary coach Pat Summitt who helped rebuild women’s basketball in war-torn Iraq or JP Maunes’ Filipino dragon boat team comprised of persons with physical disabilities who won gold against their non-disabled counterparts—sport is perhaps the most powerful tool to promote equality and inclusion around the world. **Empowering global leaders in sports to make a positive social impact in their communities is the heartbeat of our work.**

At the inaugural Laureus World Sports Awards in 2000, former South African president and anti-apartheid revolutionary Nelson Mandela said, “Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where once there was only despair.” At the Center for Sport, Peace, and Society, we’re committed to expanding this message and using sport to bring people together.

To do this, **we engage in scholarly research, deliver community-based curriculum, and expand the footprint of solidarity through mentorship and international exchanges.** Since our founding in 2012, we’ve worked with nearly 6,000 women and girls, persons

with disabilities, youth, refugees, university students, and student-athletes.

We believe in what’s possible: a world where gender, mobility, race, religion, and sexuality don’t define individuals but instead are celebrated qualities that enhance the beauty of life and our shared humanity. **In a society that often feels confined to our differences, we work diligently to create a more peaceful, equitable, and inclusive world.**

Specifically in 2016-2017, we hosted two installments of the U.S. Department of State Global Sports Mentoring Program—one focused on empowering persons with disabilities and another on empowering women—led a student-athlete leadership academy and service-learning immersion experience to Vietnam, and premiered the documentary film, “Pat: A Legacy of Love,” in Knoxville, Tennessee.

But, this report is much more than that. For the past five years, we’ve developed partnerships with executives at top, U.S.-based organizations; inspired

social entrepreneurs and advocates to implement their vision for change; delivered culturally-grounded curriculum and keynote speeches worldwide; created our own unique model of empowerment for social change and innovation; and contributed to the movement to create a better, more inclusive world for all. We want to celebrate these accomplishments, which is why this report provides a comprehensive look at our work, its impact, and our vision for the future.

With our foundation in sport for development, peace, and empowerment, we fulfill a unique niche in the world of non-profit programming and scholarly research and welcome you to join us as we work to change the world.

sarah hillyer *Ashleigh Huffman*

Sarah Hillyer, PhD
Ashleigh Huffman, PhD
Co-Directors
Center for Sport, Peace, and Society

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CENTER FOR SPORT, PEACE, & SOCIETY

ABOUT US

ONE RESEARCH



Through scholarly research, writing, and evaluation, we contribute to sport for development and peace literature and deliver keynote speeches at conferences worldwide. Since its founding in 2012, leaders of the Center for Sport, Peace, and Society (CSPS) have published 16 academic articles, presented more than 50 times at national and international conferences, delivered three commencement and international keynote addresses, and developed a unique model of empowerment: the Theory of Empowerment for Social Change.

We teach on topics such as women in sport, service-learning, and sport for social change and leadership, all of which are global in nature and rooted in experiential learning. In addition, we also help lead a student-athlete leadership development program; deliver sport and social innovation trainings across the world, which includes invitations from U.S. Embassies abroad; and engage youth and adult participants in our culturally-grounded “Better World” curriculum through international workshops and sport and life-skills sessions.

TWO TEACHING AND TRAINING



THREE MENTORING



Since 2012, we’ve implemented the U.S. Department of State Global Sports Mentoring Program (GSMP), an initiative that brings international leaders to the U.S. for a five-week, immersive mentorship. Through seven installments of the GSMP, we’ve trained and empowered 113 participants to make a positive impact on underserved populations through sport in their local communities. We’ve also partnered with 51 host organizations and developed relationships with hundreds of public and private organizations around the world.

As part of our commitment to promoting equality and inclusion worldwide, we travel the globe to support program alumni, U.S. Embassies, and program partners through sports-based clinics in local communities that promote the values of equality and inclusion. Within the past five years, we’ve trained more than 4,000 coaches, educators, social entrepreneurs, and executives during conferences, roundtable discussions, and educational sessions in 72 countries.

FOUR GLOBAL EXCHANGES



WHO WE ARE

We are a university-based social enterprise committed to peace-building, inclusion, and the empowerment of underserved populations worldwide.

WHAT WE DO

We help global leaders develop innovative solutions to socio-political challenges using sport. We work to create a more peaceful, equitable, and inclusive world.

HOW WE DO IT

Using a train-the-trainers model, we leverage the power of sport and education to develop leaders who use their vision for change to directly impact local communities.

WHO WE WORK WITH

The primary beneficiaries of our work are women and girls, persons with disabilities, youth, refugees, and student-athletes.

HOW WE BEGAN

Although our directors have worked in the field of sport for development and peace for more than 20 years, the Center for Sport, Peace, and Society was officially founded in the summer of 2012. Soon after, the Center was awarded the inaugural “Empowering Women and Girls Through Sports” cooperative agreement through the U.S. Department of State. Since then, we’ve been awarded more than \$5.5 million to promote equality and inclusion among underserved populations worldwide.

HOW WE WORK

Whether it’s the classroom, locker room, or boardroom, our mission remains the same: empowering global sports leaders to make a positive social impact.



PITCH PERFECT

Since her participation in the 2015 GSMP, Carla Bustamante has helped organize Hermosillo's first conference on the empowerment of women through sport, implemented the "Reporter for a Day" youth journalism program with the Naranjeros Baseball Club, launched a digital campaign to bring awareness to violence against women, and helped host a follow-on exchange with the U.S. Department of State.

CENTER FOR SPORT, PEACE, & SOCIETY ABOUT GSMP



The GSMP was launched in 2012 by the U.S. Department of State and ESPN. Since its founding, the Center for Sport, Peace, & Society (CSPS) has served as the cooperative partner.



The GSMP aims to empower underserved populations through sport-based mentorship and includes two key pillars: Empower Women (fall) and Sport for Community (spring).



In 2013, GSMP was named one of the 10 best diplomatic achievements in the world. In 2017, GSMP was also featured as the DOS's key initiative to address UN Global Goal 5: Gender Equality.

HOW GSMP WORKS

FIRST NOMINATION



U.S. Embassies around the world nominate individuals with leadership skills, experience in the sports sector, and a drive to make change in their home countries. GSMP participants, or emerging leaders as we call them, are then selected by our team and the DOS and matched with mentors from U.S.-based organizations.

During an immersive, three-week mentorship, emerging leaders cultivate leadership and business skills from top-executives at host organizations like Google, ESPN, Disney, and the USOC. Experiences in an American sports environment provide opportunities for personal and professional growth and help expand their vision for change.

THIRD ACTION PLAN



During their mentorship, emerging leaders also craft strategic plans to put into action upon return to their home countries with the common goal of creating sports opportunities for underserved populations. At the conclusion of the GSMP, emerging leaders present their action plan to peers, mentors, partners, and the DOS.

Emerging leaders then return to their home countries to implement their initiatives, share lessons learned with others, transform communities by providing access to sport where none previously existed, and become ambassadors for sport as a tool for positive social change.

FOURTH CREATE CHANGE



ACTION PLAN THEMES

CONFLICT & DISASTER RELIEF

Initiatives that serve individuals in post-conflict or post-natural disaster areas through sport. For example, Olga Dolinina uses table hockey to promote stress relief and peacebuilding among youth affected by military conflict in east and south Ukraine.

DISABILITY RIGHTS

Initiatives that aim to advance rights and sport participation rates among persons with disabilities. For example, Yerlan Suleimenov helped pass legislation in Kazakhstan that recognized the National Paralympic and Olympic Committees as equivalent.

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Initiatives that found new organizations or promote the development of skills needed for economic participation. For example, Cecilia Vales founded a non-profit organization in Mexico that aims to break cycles of poverty for girls through English-language acquisition and participation in soccer.

GENDER EQUALITY

Initiatives that promote women's equality and empowerment through sports. For example, Australia's Chyloe Kurdas helped launch the first professional football league for women in the world.

TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION

Initiatives that use technology as a primary means to achieve social advancement through sport. For example, Maira Liguori is working to develop a mobile app that connects women in Brazil to local sports opportunities.

UNDERSERVED & MARGINALIZED POPULATIONS

Initiatives that serve socially and economically marginalized populations through sport. For example, Dima Alardah uses physical activity and education as tools for social development among youth in Jordanian refugee camps.



PEACEBUILDING IN ACTION

GSMP alumnae, Rabia Qadir of Pakistan and Pavithra Chandra of India, meet in Washington D.C. during the 2016 U.S. Department of State Global Sports Mentoring Program. “As soon as I arrived, I wanted to hug my sister from Pakistan,” Pavithra said. “There is so much going on between our countries right now, and a hug could do us both some good.” Rabia (left) works to address gender inequalities and empower youth through journalism and education, and Pavithra (right) works to address India’s rising rate of youth suicide through basketball participation.

FIVE YEARS OF CSPS HIGHLIGHTS



MENTORING

During the past five years, the Center for Sport, Peace, and Society has hosted seven installments of the U.S. Department of State Global Sports Mentoring Program (GSMP)—five with a focus on empowering women and girls through sport (2012-2016) and two with a focus on expanding the rights of persons with disabilities through sport (2016 & 2017). During their GSMP experiences, emerging leaders—113 in total from 63 countries—completed mentorships at 51 host organizations across the United States, crafted strategic action plans using sport to address challenges in their communities, and returned home to implement their visions for change. Since 2012, GSMP alumni have mobilized nearly 5,000 volunteers, founded 97 sport-based organizations, and engaged more than 68,000 participants in efforts to create a more equitable and inclusive world.

GSMP: EMPOWERING WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH SPORTS

As part of the GSMP, the Center has hosted 82 international participants focused specifically on empowering women and girls through sport. With the implementation of action plans from 15-18 emerging leaders each year, this international, sports diplomacy program allows new generations of girls to experience the many benefits of sport participation: increased confidence, improved health, greater employment opportunities, and enhanced academic success. Graduates of the GSMP: Empowering Women and Girls through Sports

program have founded youth sport academies in places like Amman, Jordan, Cairo, Egypt, and Mexico City, Mexico and helped launch professional sports leagues and networking organizations in Australia and New Zealand.

SPORT FOR ALL WITH GSMP: SPORT FOR COMMUNITY

In addition to hosting international women leaders as part of the GSMP, the Center has also hosted 31 participants focused specifically on expanding the rights of persons with disabilities through sport. During the two installments of GSMP: Sport for Community, a co-ed program, emerging leaders developed action plans aimed at providing sports opportunities to persons with disabilities. Research reveals these opportunities can lead to increases in self-confidence, social inclusion, economic empowerment, employment, and independence. Graduates of this program have inspired grassroots movements for inclusive sports in places like the Philippines and helped obtain governmental recognition of adaptive sports in places like Belarus.



Pictured:
Mercedes Gomez of Venezuela

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



VOLEADERS ACADEMY WITH TENNESSEE STUDENT-ATHLETES

Since 2015, the Center has led 30 student-athletes at the University of Tennessee through the VOLeaders Academy, a service learning-based leadership program that challenges participants to use their passion and influence in sport to positively influence their teams, campus, and local and global communities. In partnership with the Department of Athletics and Center for Leadership and Service, the Center co-teaches two courses for the Academy and leads the capstone experience, a 10-day international service learning exchange. In 2016, the VOLeaders visited Olympic sites and collaborated with local organizations in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and in 2017, the group hosted sport camps and visited historic sites in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The 2017 class also hosted an inclusive sports day on the Tennessee campus for persons with disabilities.

GLOBAL EXCHANGES



SUPPORTING GSMP ALUMNI ACROSS THE GLOBE

As part of a global commitment to develop equality and inclusion through sport, directors from the Center for Sport, Peace, and Society frequently travel internationally to support the work of GSMP graduates in local communities. These GSMP-inspired global exchanges, which are sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, help program leaders monitor the progress and implementation of action plans abroad and provide alumni opportunities for collaboration and troubleshooting. With GSMP mentors and U.S.-based partners often traveling alongside directors of the Center, these exchanges also give credibility to GSMP graduates and provide opportunities to celebrate their growing impact.

Since the inaugural class of GSMP graduates returned home in 2012, the Center has led five international exchanges to eight countries: the Philippines and Taiwan (March 2014), Brazil and Argentina (March 2015), Egypt and Jordan (December 2015), Mexico (August 2016), and Ecuador (November 2016). During these exchanges, directors of the Center helped GSMP graduates lead youth sports clinics; facilitated roundtable discussions and curriculum sessions; met with leaders of government and representatives from local federations; and collectively supported the work of 15 GSMP graduates abroad. Alongside seven GSMP mentors and five program partners, notably including representatives from Amy Poehler's Smart Girls, USA Soccer, and the University of Tennessee softball, activities during these exchanges served more than 3,000 youth, women, persons with disabilities, and refugees.



HOSTING GLOBAL VISITORS THROUGH SPORTS EXCHANGES

In addition to supporting GSMP graduates abroad, the Center has hosted more than 250 international visitors—youth, coaches, and administrators—in the United States since 2012. These 10-14 day sport-based exchanges, which were sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, provided opportunities for participants to experience American sports and culture, develop leadership skills, learn best practices from organizational leaders, and take lessons learned back to their home countries. From 2012 through 2015, the Center hosted 14 groups from Belarus, Colombia, Jordan, Lithuania, Pakistan, Poland, Senegal, Ukraine, and many other countries and led activities in basketball, track and field, volleyball, and adaptive sports.



RESEARCH

During the past five years, members of the Center for Sport, Peace, and Society (CSPS) have published more than 16 scholarly research articles related to sport for development and peace (SDP). Specifically in 2017, CSPS Co-Director Dr. Ashleigh Huffman took lead on the book chapter, "Sport and Education," which outlined the Center's pedagogical approach and philosophy, the Theory of Empowerment for Social Change. In 2016, CSPS staff members also published [an article](#) on SDP programs in conflict zones in *Qualitative Research in Sport, Exercise, and Health*.

PRESENTATIONS

In addition to scholarly research, members of CSPS have given more than 50 presentations and keynote speeches at sport for social change events and conferences worldwide. In 2017, CSPS Director Dr. Sarah Hillyer and CSPS Assessments and Impact Coordinator Dr. Carolyn Spellings presented at the U.S. Soccer Symposium in Washington D.C. Co-Director Dr. Ashleigh Huffman also gave the keynote address at the 4th Annual Sport for Social Change International Conference in 2016 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

AWARDS

Since 2012, CSPS has been awarded more than \$5.5 million to support the empowerment and inclusion of underserved populations through sport worldwide. CSPS also earned the "SMART" award from Girls, Inc. in 2017, and its collaboration with Tennessee Athletics, VOLeaders Academy, earned a gold award from NASPA in 2016.

FIVE YEARS OF

GSMP IMPACT

113

EMERGING LEADERS



63

COUNTRIES

428 PARTNERSHIPS DEVELOPED



5,000 VOLUNTEERS

542 FEATURES IN RADIO TELEVISION AND ONLINE MEDIA

125+ MENTORS

163 ALUMNI-EARNED ACHIEVEMENTS



TWO MILLION

PEOPLE REACHED THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS



68,000+ PARTICIPANTS IN ACTION PLAN-INSPIRED PROGRAMMING



97 SPORT-BASED ORGANIZATIONS & WORKING GROUPS FOUNDED



EMPOWERING EGYPT

Inspired by her 2013 GSMP experience, Hayam Essam founded Girl Power Egypt in 2014, a non-profit organization that provides basketball instruction and life skills development to girls from underserved areas of Cairo. In 2015, directors from the Center for Sport, Peace, and Society traveled to Cairo for a follow-on exchange with the U.S. Department of State to support Hayam's work, along with fellow Egyptian and GSMP alumna, Yasmin Helal, founder of Educate Me. Nearly 17 million children in Egypt - more than half of all youth - live in poverty or extreme poverty.

FIVE YEARS OF CSPS IMPACT





KWA-ZULU HOOPS

Siphamandla Gumbi, a participant in the 2017 GSMP: Sport for Community, is working to develop a wheelchair basketball program in South Africa for youth with disabilities who, in addition to inaccessibility and poor living conditions, often face high crime rates, drug abuse, and youth pregnancy. During his mentorship with Doug Garner at the University of Texas–Arlington, Siphamandla trained with the school's championship-winning wheelchair basketball team, the "Movin' Mavs."



CENTER FOR SPORT, PEACE, & SOCIETY

IMPRESSION



MERCEDES GOMEZ

COUNTRY:
Venezuela

FOUNDER:
Achilles Venezuela

PROGRAM:
2016 GSMP: Sport for Community

MENTORSHIP:
Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago

I MET SO MANY PEOPLE DURING THE GSMP WHO **TOUCHED MY HEART.** THEY WERE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD AND TAUGHT ME ABOUT THE **VALUE OF CULTURE.** AND THE GSMP WAS A KEY PIECE TO HELPING ME BECOME **A BETTER AND MORE FOCUSED LEADER.** I NOW HAVE THE **TOOLS AND KNOWLEDGE** TO ORGANIZE MY IDEAS, LEAD MY TEAM, AND ADDRESS THE DIFFICULT SITUATION IN MY COUNTRY.



JOHN REGISTER

ORGANIZATION:
USOC

TITLE:
Associate Director for Community and Veteran's Programs, U.S. Paralympics

MENTOR:
2016 & 2017 GSMP: Sport for Community

IT'S BEEN A PHENOMENAL EXPERIENCE TO SERVE AS A MENTOR. I'VE MET **TALENTED LEADERS** FROM ACROSS THE WORLD WHO ARE **WORKING TO MAKE IMPORTANT CHANGE IN THEIR COUNTRIES.** AND, I THINK **I'VE LEARNED JUST AS MUCH FROM THEM AS THEY HAVE FROM ME.** THE GSMP HAS HELPED PULL ME IN THE DIRECTION I WANT TO GO, AND I'M **EXCITED TO CONTINUE.**

THE VOLEADERS ACADEMY CHANGED MY PERSPECTIVE IMMENSELY. I GREW MORE IN ONE YEAR THAN AT ANY OTHER TIME IN MY LIFE. **I'M MORE CONFIDENT IN MY BELIEFS,** IN THE PERSON I AM, AND THE MAN I WANT TO BE. AND I MUST ACT ON WHAT I'VE LEARNED. I AM **TAKING OWNERSHIP** OF MY RESPONSIBILITIES AND WORKING TO BECOME **AN EVEN BETTER INFLUENCE** ON THOSE AROUND ME.



JOEY REILMAN

SPORT:
University of Tennessee Men's Swimming & Diving

PROGRAM:
2016-2017 VOLeaders Academy

SERVICE-LEARNING EXCHANGE:
Vietnam

WORKING AS AN ENVOY [WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND TRAVELING ALONGSIDE THE CENTER FOR SPORT, PEACE, AND SOCIETY] IN JORDAN IS A **UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY. WOMEN'S SOCCER IS EXPLODING** IN THE REGION AND LEADERS ARE COMMITTED TO **ADVANCING ACCESS TO SPORT FOR GIRLS AND WOMEN.** I'M PROUD TO ASSIST IN A **MEANINGFUL WAY** AND TO HELP **MOVE THE NEEDLE.**



MARY HARVEY

TITLE:
Sport Development & Sustainability Executive

EXPERIENCE:
Former U.S. Women's National Soccer Team player and FIFA executive

ROLE:
GSMP Envoy



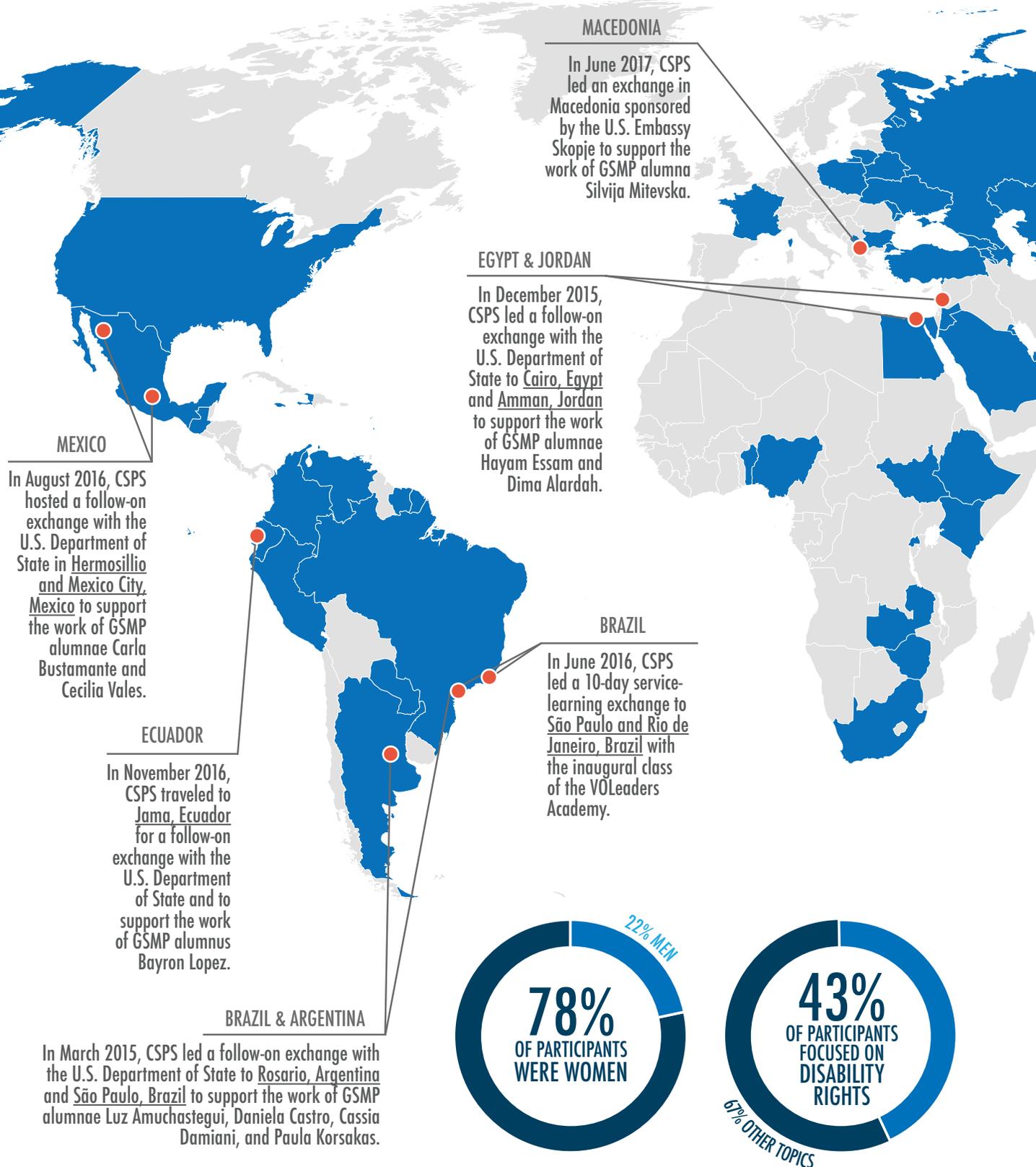
CHALLENGES & CHANGES

In 2015, directors of the Center for Sport, Peace, and Society traveled to Rosario, Argentina for a follow-on exchange with the U.S. Department of State and to support the work of 2013 GSMP alumna, Luz Amuchastegui. In Rosario, 45% of the children living in poverty drop out of school, a reality that Luz and others at the El De Safio Foundation –meaning “the challenge”–work to address through education, sports, music, art, and job training.



CSPS GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

GSMP PARTICIPANT COUNTRIES, VOLEADER IMMERSION EXPERIENCES, & OUTBOUND EXCHANGES
2012-2017



ON THE PAGE:

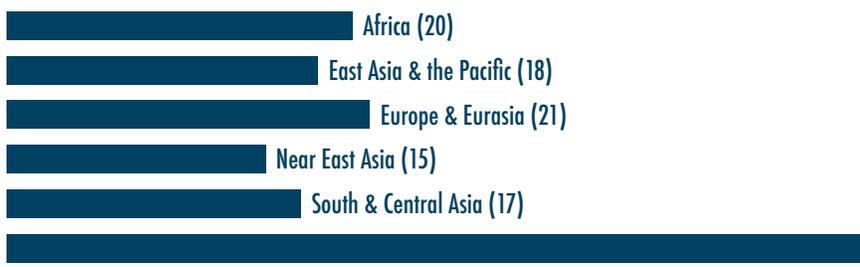
As two key initiatives with the Center for Sport, Peace, and Society, we highlight the global footprint of the U.S. Department of State Global Sports Mentoring Program and the VOLeaders Academy. In five years, we've hosted and educated 143 emerging leaders and VOLeaders and led exchanges to 10 countries, many more than once.



VIETNAM
 In July 2017, CSPS led a 12-day service-learning exchange to Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi, Vietnam with the VOLeaders Academy and partnered with GSMP alumna Nga Le.

TAIWAN & THE PHILIPPINES
 In March 2014, CSPS led a follow-on exchange with the U.S. Department of State to Taipei, Taiwan and Tacloban, Philippines to support the work of GSMP alumnae Yu-Hsien Tseng and Geraldine Bernardo.

GSMP PARTICIPANTS & VOLEADERS BY REGION



- ARGENTINA*
- ARMENIA
- AUSTRALIA
- AZERBAIJAN
- BANGLADESH
- BELARUS
- BENIN
- BULGARIA
- BRAZIL*
- CHINA
- COLOMBIA
- DENMARK
- ECUADOR*
- EGYPT*
- ETHIOPIA
- FIJI
- FRANCE
- GEORGIA
- GUATEMALA
- HAITI
- INDIA
- INDONESIA
- JAMAICA
- JORDAN*
- KENYA
- KAZAKHSTAN
- KOSOVO
- KUWAIT
- LEBANON
- MACEDONIA*
- MEXICO*
- MOLDOVA
- MONGOLIA
- NEPAL
- NEW ZEALAND
- NIGERIA
- PAKISTAN
- PAPUA NEW GUINEA
- PARAGUAY
- PERU
- PHILIPPINES*
- POLAND
- QATAR
- RUSSIA
- RWANDA
- SAUDI ARABIA
- SINGAPORE
- SOUTH AFRICA
- SOUTH KOREA
- SRI LANKA
- SURINAME
- TAIWAN*
- TAJKISTAN
- TURKEY
- TURKMENISTAN
- UGANDA
- UZBEKISTAN
- UNITED STATES
- UKRAINE
- VENEZUELA
- VIETNAM*
- ZAMBIA
- ZIMBABWE

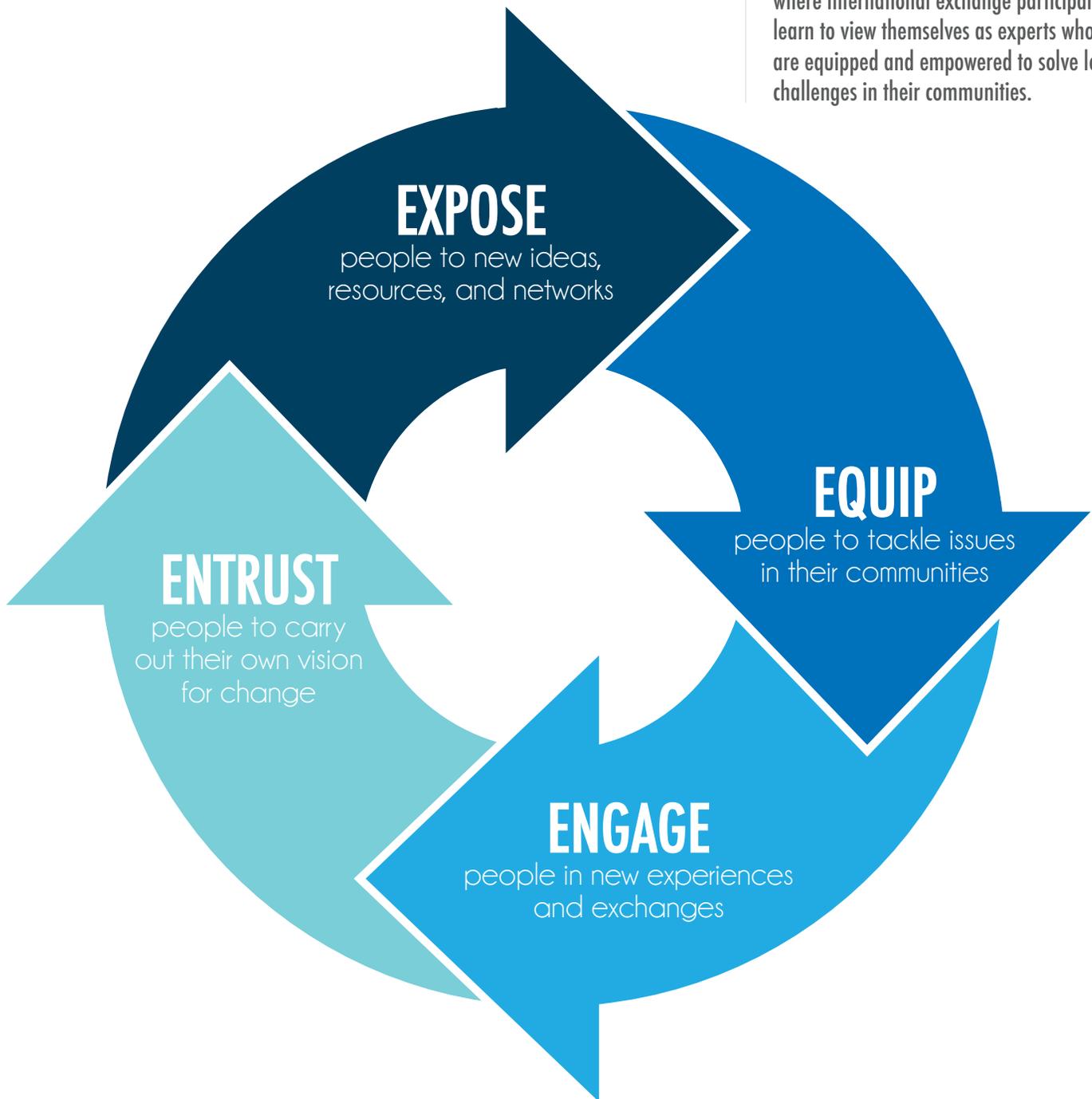
* Denotes CSPS outbound exchange

PHILOSOPHY

THEORY OF EMPOWERMENT FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

HISTORY

The Theory of Empowerment for Social Change is the outgrowth of more than 20 years of experience in international sports programming and action-based, qualitative research. Through work with nearly 10,000 women, men, and children from more than 60 countries, leaders of the Center developed its own pedagogical philosophy of empowerment for social change. We apply this theory in a culturally-grounded manner where international exchange participants learn to view themselves as experts who are equipped and empowered to solve local challenges in their communities.





CHANGING THE GAME

Bayron Lopez, a participant in the 2016 GSMP: Sport for Community, shoots a soccer ball at goal during an adapted sport event in Jama, Ecuador. As President of Ecuador's Paralympic Committee, Bayron has pushed to expand grassroots recruitment of athletes in rural areas and helped Ecuador qualify its highest-ever number of athletes to a Paralympic Games. His GSMP mentor, Mark Lucas, executive director of the U.S. Association of Blind Athletes, visited him in 2016.



RACING FOR CHANGE

Since his participation in the inaugural Sport for Community GSMP in 2016, JP Maunes restructured Philippines Accessible Disability Services—an NGO he founded in Cebu City—to serve people of all disabilities, implemented a para-dragon boat racing team, and organized a community race to bring awareness to the sexual exploitation of deaf youth. In the Philippines, one out of three deaf women will experience sexual assault in her lifetime.

JP MAUNES: BREAKING THE SILENCE

John Paul Maunes, or “JP” for short, is one of the Philippines’ loudest advocates for the rights of Deaf people and others with disabilities. More than a decade ago, when he was a 21-year-old nursing student, he founded what is now the Philippines Accessible Disability Services, an organization that has served more than 20,000 people with disabilities in Cebu City and surrounding communities.

For JP, he has simply carried on the legacy of a best friend who first introduced him to the Deaf community when they were teenagers playing basketball together and dreaming about the future. That friend, Peter Paul, died in an accident when JP was 17 years old. Beforehand, JP promised if anything happened to him he would carry on his advocacy and create better platforms for the inclusion Deaf people and others with disabilities. He continues to make good on that promise today.

In 2016, JP was chosen to participate in the U.S. Department of State Global Sports Mentoring Program (GSMP) as part of the inaugural class of the disability-focused Sport for Community program. With a long resume of community mobilization and outreach, JP was a perfect match for the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, where he worked with mentors Derek Daniels and Stephanie Kanter to create a plan for developing adaptive sports programs in Cebu City and then expanding to other areas of the Philippines.

After returning home from his mentorship, JP was invited to speak at workshops and conferences around Cebu, including the Young Leaders Summit and 3rd Annual Persons with Disabilities Conference. He was also named to the Cebu City Anti-Discrimination Commission and reached more than 1,000 people with his message.

But, when JP reached out to other leaders to find out what adaptive sports programs were being offered, he discovered there were none. So JP decided to do what many great leaders have done throughout history: build programs himself. Through a friend, he learned about the sport of dragon boat and knew it would be the ideal tool for engaging people with disabilities in his community.

“Dragon boat made perfect sense,” Maunes says. “When you look at the paddlers in the boats, you can never tell if they have disabilities or not. It’s a good message of inclusion for the community.”

Since launching in August 2016, the PADS Adaptive Dragon Boat team has made history. What started as a group of amputees, Deaf people, and polio survivors getting together on a borrowed dock in a borrowed boat from the Cebu Yacht Club transformed into a team that won gold at the 2017 International Para Dragon Boat Championships in Hong Kong.

“We’re trying to bring an end to the days when we treat people with disabilities different,” JP says. “Dragon boat is our instrument of change.”

Outside of organizing his dragon boat team, JP continues to serve as an advocate for disability rights. In March, he organized the Break the Silence 5K run in Cebu City to increase awareness of assault and abuse of people with disabilities. The event went global; more than 10,000 runners participated in PADS-inspired events worldwide, including those in Manila, London, Melbourne, and other cities across six continents.

“I have never been more excited for the future in 10 years of working with people with disabilities,” JP says.

CYNTHIA COREDO: PUSHING THROUGH

For Cynthia Coredó, life has always been about putting one foot in front of the other and moving forward. It is what she did as a little girl when her father was killed in the streets outside her home in the slums of Nairobi, Kenya. It was the same for Cynthia a few years later when her mother and sister also died unexpectedly. But, she pushed ahead in the face of tragedy, through school and eventually into a boxing gym where her journey of using sport to change women's lives began.

At BoxGirls Kenya, where Cynthia has worked as a program manager since 2009, she and a dedicated team use boxing as a tool to teach women life skills and self-defense, and empower them to reach toward bigger dreams such as attending college and pursuing professional careers that provide them with success and stability that is rarely available in Nairobi's underprivileged and violent slum communities. Outside of managing the award-winning organization's sport and leadership programs, Cynthia has been invited to serve as a motivational speaker for the UNESCO World Youth Forum on Sport, Culture, and Peace in Nanjing, China, and was named a featured social innovator by the Ogunte Network in the United Kingdom.

"In my life, I've learned that being somebody that can instill something positive into somebody else's life is the greatest success," Cynthia says. "Somebody believed in me when I was young, and now my goal is to invest in girls and young women in our community to stand and be role models."

In 2015, Cynthia was selected to participate in the U.S. Department of State and ESPNW Global Sports Mentoring Program, where she was mentored by then group media

coordinator, Gwen Conley of public relations giant, Saatchi & Saatchi, LA. After her mentorship, Cynthia returned to Nairobi and continued bringing BoxGirls' impact to remarkable heights: more than 120,000 people were reached through its radio and media campaigns and community boxing tournaments; more girls joined the programs, bringing the total to 1,300; the number of women trainers and coaches rose to 152; and the organization expanded its partnerships with local schools to include a dozen in urban Nairobi and rural Kenya.

As Cynthia watched BoxGirls grow, she felt compelled to create an organization of her own. In late 2015, she planted the seeds for Footsteps, an NGO focused on developing leadership and entrepreneurial skills in girls and young women from marginalized communities.

One of the first programs Cynthia created with her new organization was Score Leaders, a 12-month leadership development program that empowers its young women participants to create and lead their own initiatives for social change in their communities. Through Footsteps, Cynthia is creating leaders who develop others in a cycle of change that is both vital and constant for girls and women in the most challenging circumstances and environments. In April 2017, Score Leaders graduated 20 women who are now involved with grassroots initiatives using sports to make a community-wide impact.

"Footsteps exists because of the GSMP," Cynthia says. "The program is what inspired me to birth my vision. Now, we are opening avenues for women to become effective leaders and use their voices to really influence change."



FIGHTING FOR FUTURES

Through her work with [BoxGirls Kenya](#), 2015 GSMP alumna [Cynthia Coredo](#) uses self-defense training to develop girls from underserved areas of Nairobi into strong, confident women. After her participation in GSMP, she founded the Score Leaders Program to promote economic independence among women through community engagement, entrepreneurship, and sports participation. According to the United Nations, 26% of Kenyan women aged 15-49 experienced physical or sexual partner violence within the past 12 months.



THE PLAYMAKER

Less than six months after her participation in the 2016 GSMP, Nour Kayyal of Jordan founded Swish Basketball Academy, an organization in Amman that provides basketball instruction and leadership development to youth aged 4-12. In an environment where in 2012 more than 70% of the population believed that husbands had the right to punish members of the family with physical violence, Nour helps build confidence, self-worth, and strength through sport for a new generation of youth in Jordan.

NOUR KAYYAL: A PERFECT SWISH

Nour Kayyal loves her double life. Every morning, she wakes up at 6:30 a.m., drives to the Rumi Cafe for a cappuccino, and commutes into the heart of Amman for her work as a senior private banking officer with Jordan Kuwait Bank. Throughout the day, she contacts prospective clients, builds relationships with existing ones, and gauges the strength of regional and global markets. But, by early evening, Nour transforms into something much different: a basketball coach.

As a former member of Jordan's national women's basketball team, Nour was determined to capitalize on the atmosphere created by the 2016 FIFA Women's Under-17 World Cup, which had the country moving toward increasing the number of women playing sports. So in May 2017, she launched Swish Basketball Academy, the first woman-led, sport-based organization in her country. Within four months, Nour and her three coaches have helped 66 youth participants experience the confidence, strength, and leadership development that comes with sport participation, something Nour cherishes.

"I remember this group of girls," Nour says. "They all got into Swish knowing nothing about basketball. But after their sixth session with us they knew how to dribble, how to pass the ball, and how to set up shots. Seeing them improve—it was like a dream."

However, success stories aren't written everyday, and Nour knows it. During the planning process, she became overwhelmed by the cost of buying equipment, renting practice courts, and obtaining the required legal frameworks. She was also discouraged by those who questioned her ambition and entrepreneurial efforts simply because she was a woman—the World Bank reported in 2014 that Jordanian women are often constrained by gender-related bias and

restrictive social norms, particularly in relation to work.

Seeking guidance, Nour turned to the people who understood her situation best: fellow alumnae from the U.S. Department of State and espnW Global Sports Mentoring Program (GSMP), an initiative implemented by the Center for Sport, Peace, and Society that aims to empower women and girls through sports across the world.

"When things got really tough, I remember talking with (five other participants) during one week," Nour says. "No one around me understood what I wanted to do, but they did."

With the encouragement of her global sisterhood, family connections to legal guidance, and \$9,000 of her own money, Nour connected the dots and gave life to Swish. The academy was the culmination of a plan she and her GSMP mentor, Hilary Shaev of the NBA, had worked to develop months earlier.

"I remember Hilary asking me, 'Okay, Nour. What do you have in mind? How can I help you?' I told her I wanted to learn everything I could about a big organization so I could implement something in my country on a small scale. And that's exactly what I did. Swish might not be as big as the NBA or WNBA, but it's big enough to fill my heart," Nour says.

The final component to completing her mission with Swish is reaching youth from low socioeconomic parts of Amman. To gain expertise in this area, in September she collaborated with and hosted 2012 GSMP alumna Hayam Essam, founder of Girl Power Egypt—a basketball program in Cairo with similar goals to Swish. Later in the month, Nour also returned to the U.S. for one week to serve as a guide to a new class of participants.

JACK JONES: VIETNAM VOLUNTEERING

Growing up in Mufreesboro, TN, Jack Jones always dreamed of playing college football. His dad, John, played at Tennessee Tech and Jack wanted to follow in his footsteps. With his intimidating 6'4" 300 lb. frame, Jack was heavily recruited by top 25 programs, including Alabama, Auburn, Georgia, Ole Miss, and Missouri. But as a Tennessee native, Jack had his heart set on running through the "T" and playing for his beloved Vols. And that dream came true on May 9, 2013, when Jack committed to play for the orange and white.

In 2013 and 2014, Jack was named Tennessee Class AAA Mr. Football Lineman of the Year and in 2015, an Under Armour All-American. Football was always important to Jack, but so were other areas of leadership and development. Jack served as class president and was intimately involved in the Student Council, International Baccalaureate program, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Young Life during his high school years.

"I've been a Tennessee fan my whole life. I bleed orange," Jack says. "To be a member of Team 120 is a dream turned reality. But to be a leader for this team, I know it's important to go beyond the field, to be a man of character in the locker room and in the community. I was very involved in high school, even serving as the Class President, so the opportunity to give back and develop my leadership skills through the VOLeaders program is a second dream coming true."

With his magnetic personality and southern charm, Jack was an easy selection for the VOLeaders Academy, a dynamic partnership between three organizations on the Tennessee campus: the Department of Athletics, the Center for Leadership and Service, and the Center for Sport, Peace, and Society. For the second installment of the academy, the participants—15 student-athletes representing

all 14 Tennessee sport programs—participated in courses on leadership in sport and sport for social change, along with an international service-learning experience in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

Throughout the program, Jack was willing to do anything to be of service to the community, including his first 5K for the YMCA Race Against Racism, but it was through the VOLeaders Academy that Jack emerged as a reflective and thoughtful leader among his peers. His inclusive and diplomatic nature coupled with his light-hearted antics, made him a favorite in the classroom and the community.

It was during his time in Vietnam that Jack began to open up about the deeper issues of society that were difficult for him to accept. After the group visited an orphanage in a local village, Jack shared with the group that his youngest sister, Mary Margaret, was adopted from an orphanage in China when Jack was ten years old. Jack's experience in Vietnam only sharpened his commitment to use his platform as a Tennessee football student-athlete to raise awareness about underserved and at-risk youth internationally.

"I think it's important as VOLeaders that we are a voice for the voiceless," Jack says. It was beautiful that we went to an orphanage in Vietnam, to love and care for these kids, to let them know that people on the other side of the world are thinking about them. I wish I could take all of them home with me. But I will do my part and raise my voice to let people know that there are almost 18 million orphans without a home. That's what the VOLeaders program taught me: to speak up for those who need you and to lead with your heart about issues that matter."



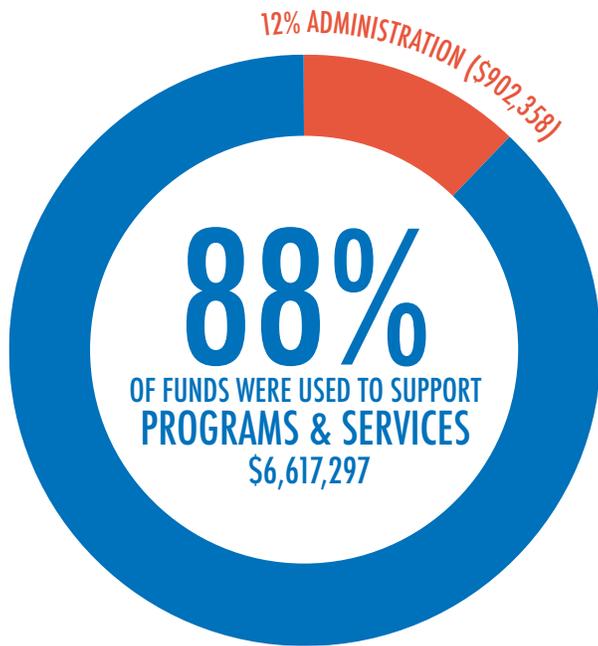


VOLUNTEERS IN VIETNAM

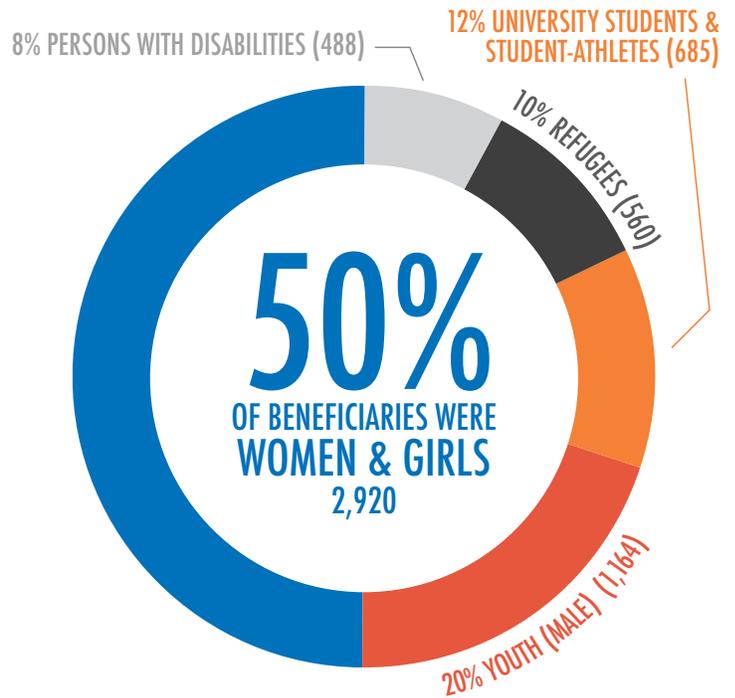
Jack Jones, a University of Tennessee student-athlete in football, was a member of the 2016-2017 VOLeaders Academy that traveled to Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in July 2017. Leaders from the Center for Sport, Peace, and Society teach a sport for social change course during the spring semester in preparation for the international exchange experience.

CENTER FOR SPORT, PEACE, & SOCIETY BY THE NUMBERS

5-YEAR PROGRAM SERVICES BREAKDOWN



5-YEAR BENEFICIARIES TOTAL: 5,817



2016-2017 SUMMARY OF REVENUES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT	\$1,030,000
INTERNAL FUNDING	\$167,000
DONORS	\$2,123
MENTOR COST-SHARE	\$160,000
VOLEADERS COST-SHARE	\$150,000
2016-2017 TOTAL:	\$1,509,123

5-YEAR SUMMARY OF REVENUES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT	\$5,560,000
INTERNAL FUNDING	\$850,000
DONORS	\$9,656
MENTOR COST-SHARE	\$800,000
VOLEADERS COST-SHARE	\$300,000
2012-2017 TOTAL:	\$7,519,656

THANK YOU

MENTORS

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Burton Snowboards
Chicago Parks District
Coca-Cola Company
Colavita Olive Oil
DLA Piper
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Google
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Lakeshore Foundation
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CENTER FOR SPORT, PEACE, & SOCIETY

MEET THE TEAM



SARAH HILLYER, PHD
Director

The 2011 Generations for Peace Post-Doctoral Fellow, Dr. Sarah Hillyer is recognized as one of the leading practitioners in the field of sport for development and peace and leads all aspects of the Center. She played basketball at Liberty University.



ASHLEIGH HUFFMAN, PHD
Assistant Director

For more than a decade, Dr. Ashleigh Huffman has led international exchanges and sport-based programming across the world. Along with Dr. Sarah Hillyer, she leads all aspects of the Center. She played basketball at Eastern Kentucky University.



CAROLYN SPELLINGS, PHD
Assessments & Impact
Coordinator

Dr. Carolyn Spellings leads all program evaluations and reporting processes for the Center. She also has more than eight years experience conducting international, cross-cultural research.



BRIAN CANEVER

Digital Content Manager

In addition to managing the Center's websites and social media accounts, Brian Canever is the principal writer for feature stories, blog posts, newsletters, and contributions to other media partners. In 2016, he won a regional sports journalism award.



ALICIA MALNATI, PHD
Graphic Designer & Research
Assistant

Dr. Alicia Malnati, or "Dr. Hatch," oversees all graphic design elements for the Center and contributes to research projects, reporting processes, and evaluations. She was a gymnast at the University of Missouri.



RAINEY JOHNS
Program Assistant

In addition to her full-time job as Director of a parks and recreation department in Kentucky, Rainey Johns assists the Center with logistics, budgets, and recordkeeping. She played soccer and softball at Cambellsville University.



CHERRY BREWER
Program Assistant

Prawannarat "Cherry" Brewer assists the Center with logistics, program planning, and overall organization. She also serves as an administrative assistant to the Directors when needed. She will complete her doctoral degree in the fall of 2017.



JARON JOHNS
Photographer

Jaron Johns is the principal photographer for the Center and has traveled to more than 20 countries in two years, including India, Jordan, and Brazil. He is also a wedding and portrait photographer based in Lexington, Kentucky.

LOOKING AHEAD

The last five years for the Center for Sport, Peace, and Society have been marked by tremendous growth, support, and social impact throughout the world. What started as a small, sport-based service-learning course dedicated to local refugee integration has blossomed into a world-renowned global sports institute and training center for sport for development and peace scholars and practitioners. Since 2012, the Center has implemented 35 global exchanges in 72 countries, and as a result, equipped nearly 6,000 leaders to use sport as a tool for positive social change. The Center's team has also authored 16 scholarly publications, delivered more than 50 national and international presentations, and secured more than \$5.5 million in external funding. However, despite the profound difference our small team is making, there is still great work to be done.

As we look at the world, we see the need for unity, peace, and healing more than ever. Natural disasters, nuclear threats, and political tensions create ravines between groups that seem insurmountable. Many good-intentioned people are looking for ways to help, but the problems and divisions seem so deep they are unsure of where to start and the thought of making a difference alone feels overwhelming.

If you are one of those people, please consider supporting our team. Our goal in 2018 is to directly impact another 5,000 people living on the margins of society. To reach our goal, we must diversify our funding sources. Therefore, we've set a goal of raising \$500,000 by December 2018. Will you consider helping us reach our ambitious goals? No financial gift is too small, and it requires all of us to make a difference.

Looking to the future, we see a better world, one that finds humanity amid adversity. One that is sparked by creativity, ingenuity, and an entrepreneurial spirit to collectively solve the issues facing humans and the planet. At the University of Tennessee's Center for Sport, Peace, and Society, we are committed to doing our part, to leading the way through the empowerment of women and girls, persons with disabilities, youth, refugees, university students, and student-athletes. It's not impossible to make a difference, but it requires a team. Please consider physically, emotionally, or financially joining ours. Find out how on our [website](#).

Thank you for your support.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF DR. JOY T. DESENSI

Dr. DeSensi helped shape the essence of the Center's philosophy and commitment to equality, diversity, inclusion, and empowerment. She challenged us to think differently, create opportunities for others, and help everyone thrive, not only those in power. She was a model for integrity. We are forever grateful for the role she played in our lives and the responsibility we now have to carry her legacy forward.

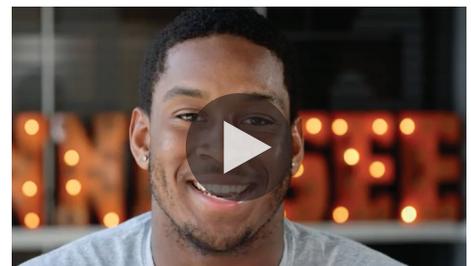
LEARN MORE:



GIRL POWER: HAYAM ESSAM'S STORY
Hayam dedicates her life to supporting girls from underserved areas of Cairo through basketball and [Girl Power Egypt](#).



#GSMP2016: CHANGING THE GAME
Sports have the power to change the landscape of society, and the women of the 2016 GSMP class know it.



VOLEADERS' IN VIETNAM: REFLECTIONS
In July 2017, members of the VOLeaders Academy traveled to Vietnam for a service-learning immersion experience.



PAT: A LEGACY OF LOVE
This is the story of how legendary coach Pat Summitt helped rebuild girls basketball in Iraq.



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