

## **One World**

Like Ruddle Memorial Youth Foundation, One World Youth Project is committed to helping underprivileged youth reach their full potential. We do this by simulating the experience of travel by linking classrooms around the globe and empowering students to teach one another about our changing world.

Two-thirds of teachers (63%), parents (63%), and Fortune 1000 executives (65%) believe that knowledge of other nations and cultures and international issues is very important or absolutely essential to be ready for college and a career. Yet students in under-resourced communities often lack the resources to pursue travel abroad or access other vital global learning opportunities that would prepare them for college and career. As a result, global competence remains a privilege for the elite rather than a right-of-passage for all people in an increasingly globalized world.

Using our innovative model, OWYP solves this inequity by bringing global learning directly into classrooms. In partnership with a university, we establish a One World Hub run by a team of talented university students who receive training to prepare them to lead OWYP's global competency curriculum. OWYP university facilitators then travel to local middle-school classrooms, where they lead students through the curriculum and bring it to life through a weekly global connection with a classroom in another country. Meanwhile, university facilitators collaborate with their counterparts abroad to plan lessons.

OWYP's model is innovative because, unlike our peer organizations, which struggle with the digital divide, lack of financial resources, difficult logistics to scale, standards-crowded classroom time, and barriers to entry, our programming is equal-access, affordable, in-class-time, low-cost, and sustainable. In addition, our team and Board of Directors are confident that, by scaling the program to impact more students, by 2015 OWYP will become self-sustaining from philanthropy and operate solely through funding from our university partners.

With funding from RMYF, we will establish two new One World hubs: one in Lancaster, Pennsylvania and one in the New Jersey/New York City metro area. RMYF's investment will enable us to expand our reach to even more youth who lack access to crucial global learning opportunities—learning that will prepare them for college and career, help them begin to tackle the pressing issues facing our world today, and enable them to become more empowered, discerning, and empathic global citizens.

As Shazeb Mirza, a University Student Fellow in Islamabad, Pakistan, attested, "One World Youth Project not only gives a sense of awareness of global issues, but it also empowers students in my community to act as global citizens on an international level. Shifting attitudes and changing perceptions is what One World Youth Project does."