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**YES!** Annual  
Report

Photo credit: Alvin Lopez

# Introduction

**D**EAR FRIENDS,

We're living through painful and beautiful times. Painful, because people with their eyes and hearts open can't help but feel tremendous grief about what's happening in the world today. Beautiful, because in spite of, or maybe even in response to, the violence, environmental destruction, and loneliness of spirit that are impacting all of us, something else is emerging. The human spirit can be battered, but somehow it has a tendency to keep finding its way through. In the midst of the madness of our times, visionaries are sprouting up in every corner of the globe and manifesting creativity, love, resourcefulness and steadfast commitment on behalf of life. We know, because it is our job – and our privilege – to find, support, and work with some of them.

At YES!, we believe that the real news of our times is love, the power of the human spirit, and how people around the globe are claiming the opportunities and struggles of our lives and times as resources to bring forward on behalf of our highest commitments. The young leaders we work with teach us that whatever pains, struggles, blessings and opportunities we've known, we each have something special to contribute to the world we share.

There are many hungers that exist in our world today. There is the hunger for food, and there is also the hunger for love, for meaning, for a sense of contribution. There is the hunger for physical comfort, and there is the hunger for peace, for connection, for wholeness. What one of us is lacking, another has in abundance, be that a bowl of rice, a skill, a connection, or an insight. As we convene communities of diverse young changemakers, we are continuously moved by how much stronger we are together than we could ever be alone.

In these painful and beautiful times, there may be nothing more important than the journey from isolation to connection. For as we find the power of our diverse communities, and as we come to know ourselves more deeply in relationship to our unique gifts and needs, we not only become more whole. We also take steps towards giving our essential gifts in this world. We begin to learn how we can unleash all that we have, and all that we are, on behalf of all that we love.

Thank you for joining us the vital work of our times. Thank you for saying "YES!" to helping create a thriving, just and sustainable future.

In gratitude,

*Ocean & Michele*

Ocean & Michele Robbins,  
Director and President

*Tiffany*

Tiffany Brown,  
Events Coordinator

*Lorin*

Lorin Troderman,  
Operations Manager

*Nga*

Nga Trinh-Halperin,  
Development Manager

*Jenny*

Jenny Uribe,  
Office/Program Intern

*Devinder*

Devinder Sahota,  
Office Manager

## What is YES!?

YES! is a nonprofit organization that connects, inspires and empowers young changemakers to join forces for a thriving, just and sustainable way of life for all through: Global Leadership Jams, the Leveraging Privilege for Social Change program, grantmaking, public speaking, and a global support network. We work at the meeting point of internal, interpersonal, and systemic transformation. Since 1990, YES! has spoken to more than 650,000 students and organized more than 90 week-long gatherings for visionary young leaders from 65+ nations. A 2006 alumni survey showed that, among other things, 94% of Jam alumni gained valuable skills and perspectives that have enhanced their life. Survey results are posted at [yesworld.org](http://yesworld.org).

# Global Jams

## WORLD ALUMNI JAM, APRIL 27-MAY 4, 2006

The 8th annual World Jam united 35 inspiring alumni from 17 nations for a week in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Jam participants' specific areas of work included, among many others, global decolonization, indigenous land protection, freedom and rehabilitation for child soldiers, domestic and street violence prevention, gender equality, bio-cultural preservation, grassroots organizing with urban and rural populations, community development with refugees, and spiritually-based activism worldwide. The discussions were engaging, passionate, and challenging, particularly focusing on how to bring our lives and organizations into greater alignment with our values.

*"While the Jammers' work to help other people is beautiful, what I really admire is their hearts and spirits. These people are humane, loving, fragile and brave at*

*the same time. I believe this very love for yourself, your loved ones, for the earth are what provides us with a clear vision of how to live radically and healthfully in relations with others and with the earth. Those reflections really help me right now because I am making a lot of decisions that that the Jam has given me the courage to do."*

*- Lan Anh Thi Ha, 21, President, YOJO/ Street Voices, Hanoi, Vietnam*

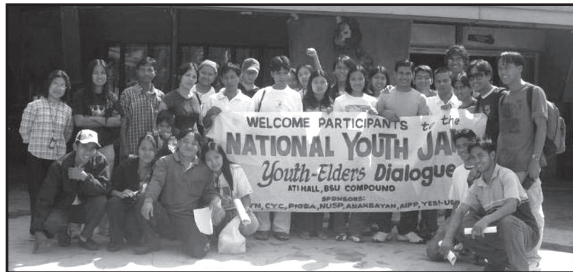


Photo credit: Yellow Campo

## PHILIPPINES JAM, MARCH 3-9, 2006

Held in Baguio City, the first annual Philippines Regional Jam gathered indigenous youths and student organizations from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. Amidst the political turmoil that beset the country, the Cordillera Peoples' Alliance and Asia Pacific Indigenous Youth Network with the significant support of YES!, organized 43 young leaders who work with indigenous communities, farmers and trade unions, and the urban poor. The Jam not only provid-



ed exchange of valuable insights and development of strong partnerships but reaffirmed the courageous and unwavering voice of young people working for a more democratic and just world.

*"It was a great privilege to be part of this Jam since I acquired great knowledge and experiences... Jams need to happen every year to help maintain the flow of youth actions in building a comprehensive society in the Philippines... My personal horizon widened."*

*- John Onggay, Delegate, Kalinga, Philippines*

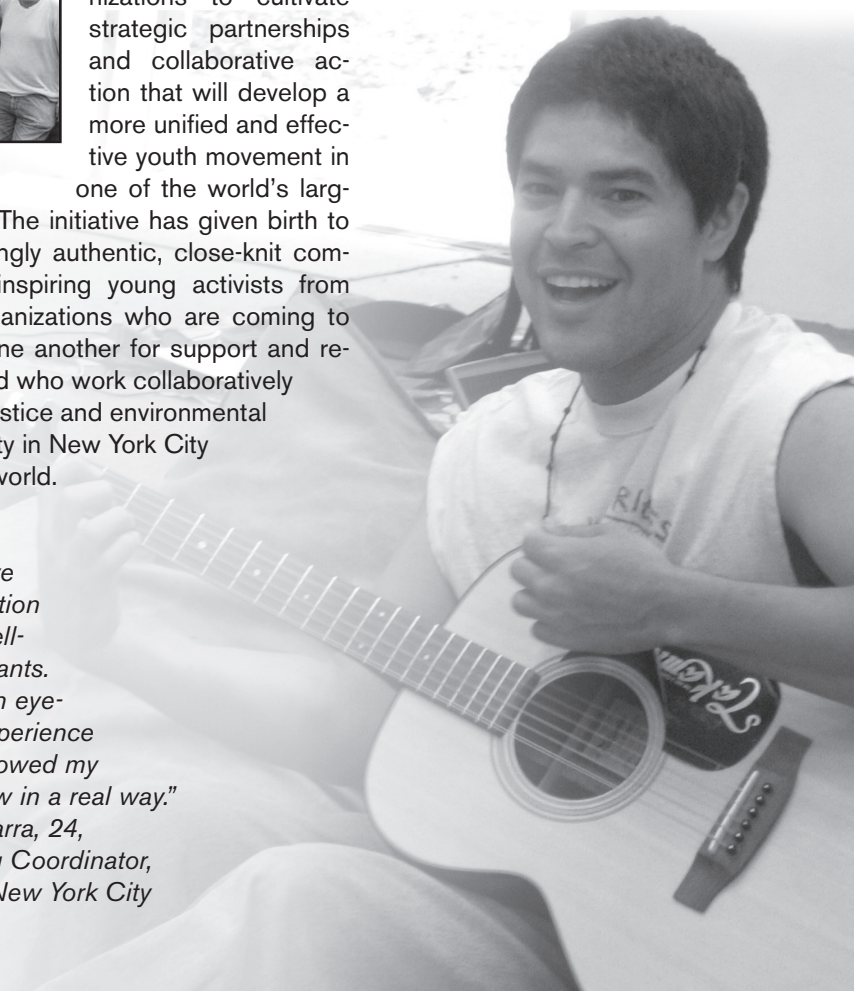
## NEW YORK CITY LOCAL JAMS, MARCH 17-20 & JUNE 8-12, 2006

The Global Youth Action Network organized two Local Jams for young leaders from more than thirty organizations in the New York City metropolitan area. The NYC Local Jam Project brings together local youth organizers and organizations to cultivate strategic partnerships and collaborative action that will develop a more unified and effective youth movement in one of the world's largest cities.

The initiative has given birth to an increasingly authentic, close-knit community of inspiring young activists from diverse organizations who are coming to count on one another for support and resources and who work collaboratively for social justice and environmental sustainability in New York City and in the world.

*"I have true respect, love and admiration for all my fellow participants. This was an eye-opening experience that has allowed my soul to grow in a real way."*

*- Miyilyn Parra, 24, Networking Coordinator, YWCA of New York City*



# Leveraging Privilege for Social Change

## LEVERAGING PRIVILEGE FOR SOCIAL CHANGE JAM, JULY 7-14, 2006

Held in Petaluma, CA, the 4th annual Leveraging Privilege for Social Change Jam brought together 28 privileged young leaders from Brazil, Britain, Canada, India, and across the United States for a week that explored privilege and personal and community transformation. Jam participants came with a broad diversity of different kinds of, and experiences of, privilege. The Jam laid the groundwork on which to build lasting partnerships, and to help participants gain momentum to bring their lives, work, and use of privilege into greater alignment with their values and visions.

*"If you know of an organization more committed to transformation than YES!... show me. If you know of people more inspired, blessed and filled with human goodness...give them my number. If you can think of a more beautiful way to shift consciousness than to bring a diverse group of exceptional young heart centered leaders together to challenge themselves and each other to interrogate themselves, their privilege and to charge off into great possibility together...and I would send them to the LPSC Jam to meet their family. This week was the place to be in the world and the world will never be the same."*

- Michael Molina, 30, Program Coordinator, Community Works, Oakland, CA

Photo credit: Ross Evans

*"I have new insight of how I want to live my values ...health, spirituality, awareness, community, action, presence. I am inspired more than ever to see how my life can impact social change in the world."*

- Kalindi Attar, 22, One Foundation, Washington, D.C.

## THE CHRYSALIS COLLECTIVE

The 2006 LPSC Jam participants had many different forms of wealth. A dialogue emerged at the Jam about how participants with significant financial capital, and participants with substantial capital of ideas, resources and commitment, could partner to generate greater social impact. The Chrysalis Collective, born out of those conversations, is a cooperative venture in which more than a dozen Jam participants have donated \$14,000+ to a fund, which is now being managed by a diverse team of participants. 2006 LPSC Jam alumni are applying to this fund for financial support and coaching to help them launch entrepreneurial ventures.

## LEVERAGE ALLIANCE

The Leverage Alliance launched this year with a powerful convening of 19 participants in August in Michigan. Comprised of young people who have access to substantial financial resources and a commitment to positive social impact, this initiative provides peer support, tools, and a shared community

in which for participants to explore and gain skills in areas like philanthropy, investing, lifestyle and consumption choices, rela-



Photo credit: Rebecca Parrish

tionships, and family dynamics. This year's heartfelt and enlightened dialogue was the launching point for an ongoing community that will meet annually with the vision of expanded work and growing partnerships in the decades to come.

## POWER AND PRIVILEGE FOR PEOPLE (P3)

Power and Privilege for the People (P3) launched in 2005-2006 as a movement-building project with the goal to create safe spaces for critical and compassionate dialogue among young people of color with significant social and financial capital. P3 recently completed its research, planning and initial outreach phase and is now focusing on more formal outreach, collaboration and organizing in anticipation of a P3 Retreat and P3 Jam in 2007.

# Supporting Aligned Movements

## COMMUNITY ALLIANCES INITIATIVE (CAI)

YES! continues to build and deepen CAI, an intentionally diverse and intergenerational community of leaders in and around Santa Cruz, CA. CAI members held twelve one-day meetings and a weekend-long retreat facilitated by Be Present founder Lillie Allen to strengthen our facilitation skills and leadership.

## JAM ALUMNI EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Several members of the Jam Council, a group of alumni that stewards the growth and evolution of Jams, have been in cultural exchange with one another since the 2006 World Jam. Kiritapu Allan, an indigenous activist from Aotearoa/New Zealand, has been engaged with Native Movement in the Southwest combining cultural exchange with research and hands-on community work. Several other exchange visits are currently planned. YES!'s new website, [www.yesjams.org](http://www.yesjams.org), is designed to facilitate the continued linking of the Jam community.

## SEEDS OF JUSTICE

A YES! alumna established the Seeds of Justice Fund through YES! and the fund distributed \$105,000 in the last year to individuals and organizations working at the meeting point of internal, interpersonal and systemic transformation. The grantmaking team, which is made up of four diverse YES! alumni, intends to distribute the final \$745,000 over the next 2 years.

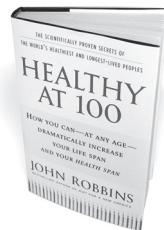


Photo credit: Dan Coyro

## ART IN ACTION CAMP, JULY 26-AUGUST 3, 2006

YES! partnered with Cultural Links, Global Exchange, Ella Baker Center for Human Rights and others to hold our seventh annual Art in Action camp. Thirty young people from across the US, 85% of them youth of color, came together to learn about movements for justice and sustainability and build alternatives to war and violence in our communities.

*"I have never been so challenged in my whole life. I have seen what I want for my life and how I want to bring justice to my community. I am happy that other people have learned to see the real me and have loved me. I thank you and I am blessed."*  
- Leo Nahum Rivera, 20, Brown Berets, Watsonville, CA,



## HEALTHY AT 100

Best-selling author and YES! Board Chair Emeritus, John Robbins, has released a new book, *Healthy at 100*. Not only does it promote taking great care of our heart, body, and planet, *Healthy at 100* is printed on 100%

post-consumer recycled paper. This is a first for the book's publisher, Random House, and it may be the first book ever published by a major U.S. book publisher on such earth-friendly paper. What's more, Random House, the world's largest publisher, has now committed to raising the recycled content of the paper it uses in ALL its books from 3% to 30% by 2010. Over 550,000 trees will be saved annually by this major operational shift. YES! is handling discounted bulk sales of *Healthy at 100* through [www.healthyat100.org](http://www.healthyat100.org).

## JAM COMMUNITY AIDS PHILIPPINES ACTIVIST



Like many other leaders in her country, Jennifer Awingan, World Jammer and Philippines Jam organizer, has been under a state of siege with daily death threats. With more than 600 political assassination (and 200 more attempted murders) in the last five years, the Philippines has become a new killing field. During the 2006 World Jam, Jennifer found out about a close colleague's murder and was uplifted by the circle of support that gathered around her. After the Jam she wrote:

*"The Jam was like a light at the end of the tunnel for me; it gave me hope and strengthened my resolve to go on with life and thrive for peace based on justice and freedom. It was a safe and comfortable avenue for me to grieve, and be comforted and supported. The Jam is full of love, compassion, humility, courage and wisdom that helped me focus my priorities. The lessons and strength that enriched me will benefit myself, my organization, and my community."*

When she returned to the Philippines, Jennifer's high-profile led to an attack on her parents by gunmen in the night. The Family has provided Jennifer with emotional support and political advocacy, and some financial assistance to relocate her family. She recently came out of hiding to work with indigenous communities again and to ensure a full investigation into her parents' attempted murder.

## JAMILY SUPPORTS IBRAHIM DURING WAR IN LEBANON

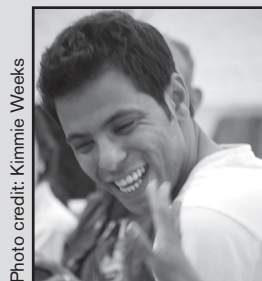


Photo credit: Kimmie Weeks

In the midst of the violent summer conflict between Israel and Hizbollah in Lebanon, 2006 World Jammer Ibrahim Youssef found support and affirmation from the Jam Community. As the war raged on, killing two of his cousins and decimating his Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon, Ibrahim received financial aid and emotional solace from YES! and many Jam alumni.

Through phone calls and e-mail from Jammers, and some emergency financial support YES! and the Jam community wired to help Ibrahim's family survive in the face of economic devastation, Ibrahim was able to feel much-needed faith and encouragement as he struggled to keep hope and his family alive. After the cease-fire was declared, Ibrahim wrote to the Jam community:

*"Dear Jammers,*

*With all my best wishes and prayers for peace, I say thank you for all your support, love and prayers that were found and are still finding their way to me and my community. War is denying all the values and principles of peace and humanity. It is a test of our courage and our commitment to peace. Peace has been killed for 34 days, but the well of the love and human being is stronger and revives the sense of humanity.*

*I wish to give all you a big hug. Thank you."*

# Events Planned for 2007

## LATIN AMERICAN JAM

Bringing together 30 young leaders from 10 nations throughout the Americas for a transformational week of personal healing, professional capacity building, and organizational networking.

## GLOBAL SOLIDARITY JAM

Convening 30 diverse young changemakers from around the world for a week of enlightened conversation and collaboration-building around transformational partnerships of solidarity. Core partners include: Native Movement (USA), Shikshantar (India), and Institute for Popular Education (Mali).

## LEVERAGING PRIVILEGE FOR SOCIAL CHANGE JAM



Photo credit: Kimmie Weeks

Gathering 30 diverse young leaders with exceptional resources who are using their lives and gifts on behalf of a thriving, just and sustainable way of life for all. Core partners include:

Shikshantar and Changemakers.

## POWER AND PRIVILEGE FOR THE PEOPLE (P3)

Providing safe space for privileged and/or famous young leaders in communities of color with the support, skills and inspiration they need to effectively leverage their time, talent, connections and money on behalf of a healthier, more just and peaceful world. Core partners include: Urban-Peace and 21st Century Youth Leadership Movement.

## FLAGSTAFF JAM, AZ

Bringing together young leaders from Flagstaff, Navajo Nation, and Hopi Nation's environmental, indigenous rights, social justice and community wellness movements to create space for transformational community-building on a local level. Core partner: Native Movement.

## NEW YORK FACILITATION JAM

Connecting, inspiring and training facilitators for New York Area Jams and other regional Jams around the world. Core partners include: Global Youth Action Network and Native Movement.

## PHILIPPINES JAM

For 30+ young leaders in the Philippines to connect and build partnerships as they work for democracy, ecology, and human rights. Core partners include: Cordillera Peoples' Alliance and Asia Pacific Indigenous Youth Network.

## ART IN ACTION CAMPS

Helping young people from diverse backgrounds to use artistic expression – dance, spoken word, poetry, public speaking, street theater, hip-hop, and puppetry – as a means of learning, self-expression, and social change. Core partners include: Cultural Links, Global Exchange, and Ella Baker Center for Human Rights.

## YES! PARTNER MINI-JAM

Bringing together YES! staff, donors, board and organizing partners to explore how we can build more authentic and potent partnerships.

## LEVERAGE ALLIANCE

An ongoing community for young people with access to high levels of net wealth and a commitment to social change.

# Our Finances

## YES! 2005-2006 MAJOR SUPPORTERS INCLUDED:

### Visionary Partners Circle Members (\$1,000 or more per year for five years):

Angela Sevin & Mark Stafford, Avi Peterson, Barbara Green, Barbara & Christopher Wilson, Betsy Rix, Brad Black, Carol & Don Dow, Carol Newell, Carolyn Cavalier, Cate Coslor, Debbie Rennels-Salkind, Deborah Drysdale, Elrik Jundis, Fiona Pugliese, Geraldine Lopez, Hans Schoepflin, Helen Gemmill, Holly Roberson, Ilyas Iliya, James Elsen, James & Beth Masterson, Jamie Jeffries, Jay & Jennifer Wood, Jeffrey Leifer, Joel Yanowitz & Amy Metzenbaum, John Densmore & Leslie Neale, John & Margo Steiner, Kalindi Attar, Laura Loescher, Lee Slaff, Leslie Goldstein, Lynne Twist, Marc & Jean Malnati, Marie-Elizabeth Mali, Marion Hunt-Badiner, Melanie & Mike MacKinnon, Melissa Stuart, Michael & Judith Bissonnette, Michael Steiner, Mike & Saori Kappus, Miles Smith, Nancy Glock-Grueneich, Neal & Amy Levin, Nuria Latifa Bowart, Olivia Boyce-Abel, Pamela Crawford, Phillip Garrison, Raj Sundra, Rebecca Jones, Robert Foster, Robert Hamer & Jill Reber, Rowland and Patricia Rebele, Russ and Joni Pratt, Savitri Burbank, Shirley & Paul Dean, Sophia Bowart, Stephanie Sutton-Flanagan, Steve & Carli Szymanski, Susan Griffin Black, Theo Ferguson, Tracy Gary, and Victoria Ayres.

### \$10,000+

Aveda Corporation, Burt Family Fdn., Calvert Giving Fund, Fetzer Institute, Community Fdn. Serving Boulder County, Grant Abert, Hidden Leaf Fdn., Joaquin Phoenix, BLT Fund of the San Francisco Fdn., Schoepflin Family Fdn., Solidago Fdn., Steve Fox, Hill Snowdon Fdn., Norman Fdn., W.K. Kellogg Fdn., Zamora Medici Fund.

### \$1,000 - \$9,999

Albert's Organics Corp., Amy & Glenn Bacheller, Anandi Paganini, Andrew Millison, Anonymous, Ariel Nessel, Ben & Ruth Hammett, Barbara Meislin, Brian Biro, Celia Zaentz, Center Point Institute, Changemakers, Cricket Island Fdn., Clear Compass Media, Dan Alvarez, Darian Heyman, David Samuel Orr Fund for the Earth, Earle Harris, Firedoll Fdn., Gary Malkin, Gegax Family Fdn., Gertrude Bock, Honor the Earth Fund of the Tides Fdn., Hull Family Fdn., Jack Butler, Jack Lampl, Jane Yett, Jay Kenney, Jeanne McHugh, Jim Greene, John & Deo Robbins, John Sullivan, Kalliopeia Fdn., Karen and Bill Scarvie, Kathi Grossman, Lazar Fdn., Leonard Kurz, Lisa Friedman, Lisl Schoepflin, Livingry Fund of the Tides Fdn., Lumpkin Family Fdn., Lundberg Family Farms, Lynnaea Lombard, Mariana Bozesan and Tom Schulz, Max and Anna Levinson Fdn., Mazal Fdn., Michael Kilgroe, Moss Fdn., Nalith Fdn., New Earth Fdn., Nirali Shah, Phillip Garrison, Pond Fdn., Project Ahimsa, Richard Glantz, Roy A. Hunt Fdn., Sandy Gottstein, Scott Porter, Seven Springs Fdn., Southwest Airlines, Steiner Family Fdn., Sue Fischlowitz and David Roberts, SunRidge Farms, Sunshine Fund, Sunshine Smith, Thomas & Shelby Reynolds, Tides Fdn. on the recommendation of Wendy Grace and Michael Honach, Youth Development Fdn., Zaffaroni Fdn., Zients Family Foundation.

*Although space does not permit us to thank them all by name, we are infinitely grateful to all of the hundreds of people who gave so generously of their resources and love in the last year to help YES!'s work grow around the world. Please visit our website [www.yesworld.org](http://www.yesworld.org) for a complete list of donors in the 2005-2006 year.*

**- Thank You!**

Photo credit: Maryam Roberts

## Statement of Activities\* October 1, 2005 - September 30, 2006

REVENUE	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Individual Donations	\$401,514	\$206,400	\$607,914
Foundations	\$218,877	\$105,292	\$324,169
Investment/Earned Income	\$162,855		\$162,855
Pledges toward Future Years	\$0	\$173,505	\$173,505
Funds Released from Restrictions	\$296,952	-\$296,952	\$0
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$1,080,198</b>	<b>\$188,245</b>	<b>\$1,268,443</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program	\$825,047		\$825,047
Management	\$85,719		\$85,719
Fundraising	\$160,724		\$160,724
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1,071,490</b>		<b>\$1,071,490</b>
<b>Revenues in Excess of Expenses</b>	<b>\$8,708</b>	<b>\$188,245</b>	<b>\$196,953</b>

## Statement of Financial Position\* September 30, 2006

ASSETS	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Current Assets	\$191,359	\$1,255,502	\$1,446,861
Fixed Assets	\$12,874	\$0	\$12,874
Other Assets	\$1,356	\$425,803	\$427,159
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$205,589</b>	<b>\$1,681,305</b>	<b>\$1,886,894</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Accounts Payable	\$30,060		\$30,060
Deferred Grant Revenue		\$291,501	\$291,501
Deferred Grant Making		\$742,135	\$742,135
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$30,060</b>	<b>\$1,033,636</b>	<b>\$1,063,696</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
Beginning Net Assets	\$166,821	\$459,424	\$619,796
Revenue in Excess of Expenditures	\$8,708	\$188,245	\$196,953
Ending Net Assets	\$175,529	\$647,669	\$823,198
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$205,589</b>	<b>\$1,681,405</b>	<b>\$1,886,994</b>

\*Unaudited Financial statements

Restricted Assets include Seeds of Justice Fund (\$735,735) and multi-year grants (\$343,001).

**YES! Staff (clockwise from top) Ocean, Devinder, Lorin, Jenny, Michele, Tiffany and Nga are inspired and joyful in their work supporting young visionaries to create a better world.**

**YES!**

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