

# Children of War Project

Hundreds of children today are being afflicted by wars. They have been forcibly recruited as war conscripts and have been indoctrinated to embrace the culture of violence in their respective society. As they grow older, denied with basic education and economic opportunities, they are becoming frontline elements of armed groups be they local militia or government military conscripts. In any way, they are turning into agents of war instead of peace in their respective communities.

## CATEGORY

[Conflict Resolution](#)

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## LOCATION

[Philippines](#)

## WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE OR NEED YOUR PROJECT WILL ADDRESS AND WHAT INNOVATIVE METHODS WILL YOU EMPLOY?

### Describe the specific need or challenge that your team will address with this project

Hundreds of children today are being afflicted by wars. They have been forcibly recruited as war conscripts and have been indoctrinated to embrace the culture of violence in their respective society. As they grow older, denied with basic education and economic opportunities, they are becoming frontline elements of armed groups be they local militia or government military conscripts. In any way, they are turning into agents of war instead of peace in their respective communities.

### Briefly describe the specific solution or approach to address the need or challenge and explain why it is innovative

The Children of War Project is grassroots-based peace and conflict intervention aimed at saving young individuals who are affected by or are victims of war from becoming war conscripts and minor soldiers by giving them access to technical education and supporting their development in becoming local peace and conflict resolution experts and potential governance champion. It is innovative because we are transforming prospect war conscripts from war and post-conflict zones into peace agents from their own locality in opposed to current trend where peace agents are outsiders.

### How will the project impact your community? What changes (in people, institutions, attitudes, practices) do you think you will see?

Through the Children of War project, families and individuals in conflict and post-conflict areas will develop a renewed sense of appreciation towards the culture of peace and the pursuit of grassroots-based peace building programs as they look upon their children finding an alternative path to community development and social justice. With the development of grassroots-based peace advocates, peace and conflict-resolution will become more localized and placed in the context of existing local cultures and traditions. Because the project also involves introducing and developing economic survival skills, the beneficiaries can establish access to livelihood and entrepreneurial services.

## WHO WILL BE INVOLVED?

### Beneficiaries: who are your target groups (or communities) and how many people will directly benefit from your project?

Objectives:

## MEET THE TEAM

Project owner

[Anthony Regis](#)  
[Philippines](#)  
[Professional Fellows](#)

Project members

[Manage members](#)  
[Paul Omar Gangoso](#)  
[Philippines](#)  
[Professional Fellows](#)  
[\[remove from project\]](#)

[Christopher Reyes](#)  
[Philippines](#)  
[Professional Fellows](#)  
[Professional Exchanges \(Thematic\)](#)  
[- Governance and Democracy](#)  
[\[remove from project\]](#)

[Mahmoud Suliman](#)  
[Israel](#)  
[Fulbright Student Program](#)  
[\[remove from project\]](#)

[Kathelyn Parede...](#)  
[Bolivia](#)  
[Professional Fellows](#)  
[\[remove from project\]](#)

[Nisreen Rammal](#)  
[Lebanon](#)  
[\[remove from project\]](#)

- This project will save at least 40 young war victims from becoming war conscripts and give them free access to technical education & skills training; and,
- This project will develop 200 community peace volunteers organized by the Children of War beneficiaries.

And all of them will undergo our peace and conflict-resolution training program as an add-on curricula to their choice of technical skills training. After one year, these 40 students will themselves organize 200 peace advocates in their respective communities. These 40 community champions will be taught with skills trainer's training and certification and will in turn train the 200 advocates with technical and vocational skills. Every year more and more young individuals will be educated, will become prospective leaders, and will become community-based peace and conflict resolution experts and organizers.

### **Local partners**

TESDA- the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority is the Philippine government body that has the authority to grant permits to training institutions and ensure quality standards in skills trainings. TESDA will help steer the project's education component making sure the the skills training will fall under the Key Employment Generators of the agency and the labor sector.

ATVIZ- the Association of Technical Vocational Institutions in Zamboanga del Sur is an association of more than 39 TESDA-recognized schools in the region. It shall help distribute beneficiaries among its members and help develop the peace and conflict-resolution curricula and integrate it into existing programs.

DSWD- The Department of Social Welfare and Development can assist in the identification of afflicted children and youth in the areas.

LGU's- Local Government Units can provide sustainability support to the project as well as assistance in the conduct of community-based activities

### **Alumni team**

The team leader shall oversee the general implementation of the project. Four other team members shall act as finance officer, two communications officers, finance officer, networking officer. The finance officer will ensure proper accounting and disbursement of funds while the communications officers will take charge in the dissemination of IEC materials as well as informational advocacy to the general populace. Meanwhile, the networking office will take the responsibility coordination and cooperation of local partners.

**Proposed Project Dates:** July 01, 2015 - June 30, 2016

## **HOW AND WHEN WILL YOU IMPLEMENT YOUR PROJECT?**

### **Implementing Plan and Timeline**

1. Educational Campaign- This activity involves the Project Team searching for, screening and validating the prospective beneficiaries.
2. Competency-based Curriculum Development Workshop- This is a 2-day workshop that aims to develop a competency-based curriculum that will be used as the learning system for the children of war peace and conflict resolution training program.
3. Classroom Education of Beneficiaries- This is the school-based technical education of the Children of War beneficiaries
4. Community-based Sessions- These are year-round field-based learning sessions for project beneficiaries. Among them are the series of peace advocacy trainings and technical vocational skills trainings where the beneficiaries themselves will organize.
5. Fund-generation Conference- A 1-day conference that will gather all stakeholders and seek their commitment to support the future and current batches of the Children of War beneficiaries.
6. Information and Education Campaign- a number of IEC materials published to promote awareness and engagement of other sectors into the project.

- 7. Monitoring & Evaluation- Interventions aimed at tracking the progress and impact of the project.

	July	August	September	October	November	Decemb
1. Educational Campaign	*					
2. Competency-based Curriculum Development Workshop	*					
3. Classroom Education of Beneficiaries		*	*	*	*	*
4. Community-based Sessions			*			*
5. Fund-generation Conference						
6. Information and Education Campaign			*	*	*	*
7. Monitoring & Evaluation	*	*	*	*	*	*

**Communication Plan**

The project is intended towards the rural youth and children in Mindanao. This means that regular and systematic advocacy campaign shall be established to provide a continuous and effective flow of communication to our targeted audience. As the primary audience of this program, the local youth and children shall be able to access the services under the project from their communities. Our secondary audience shall be the rural families and leader to expand their support and understanding towards the underlying causes of conflict..

The project manage team shall put into place a number of advocacy inputs/ activities/ materials to ensure that the information is well delivered. These shall be in the form of:

- Website including online marketing campaign and optimization.
- Multimedia / TV informational materials.
- Local radio dissemination.

**Evaluation**

The Project Activity Logframe and Timetable shall be used as the main reference of tracking progress of the project. As to beneficiary participation and performance, an online academic performance tracker system shall be used where information of student engagement in academic affairs can be traced. This includes the grade/ academic performance evaluation every end of semester. In- depth interviews shall be conducted as the end of the program to measure deeper impacts of the project.

**Sustainability**

The team shall identify partner schools through ATVIZ with capacity to train and educate young individuals. High profile professor will be hired, and there are visiting lecturers that will conduct special workshops on peace and conflict resolution as well as in the local governance. This program demonstrates the commitment to peace and conflict resolution as well as good governance, which are longstanding goals of the schools.

To sustain the program, local government institutions, private corporations and the TESDA will be convened and develop a multi-sponsorship scholarship fund to subsidize the succeeding batches of the Children of War.

**TOTAL FUNDING REQUESTED**

\$20,000.00

**PROPOSAL DOCUMENT:**

[Download budget](#)