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Youth Violence Prevention

Without hope, young people can go down the wrong path. EDC strives to provide education, work, and community engagement for young people who might otherwise make violent life choices or pursue risky behaviors that endanger their lives and their futures.

EDC designs, implements, and evaluates programs to improve education, health, and economic opportunity worldwide and manages 250 projects in 30 countries and in all 50 states. In more than five decades of collaborating with local communities, EDC has learned that many of the gains made possible by our work can be disrupted or quickly reversed by violence. EDC has made youth violence prevention a top priority in our work, from experimental initiatives to large-scale national and international efforts. We strive to increase protective factors, build resiliency, and reduce risky behaviors to keep youth healthy and provide alternatives to violence.

This work is critical when dealing with youth in poor and unstable environments who are too often out of school, unemployed, and lacking options for positive engagement in their communities. No single intervention will fully address the problem so EDC embraces a comprehensive and integrated approach, involving stakeholders from social science, education, health, mental health, justice, and law enforcement. We focus on developing youths' cognitive, social, and emotional skills while generating opportunities for employment, education, and civic engagement. It is an approach with proven results.



YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Expertise

EDC's experience has generated a depth and breadth of knowledge adaptable to a variety of settings. EDC has led or participated in nationwide and global networks that influence the agenda of youth violence prevention, youth development, and health and education in fragile environments, including the WHO Violence Prevention Alliance Steering Committee (VPA) and the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE).

Relevant EDC Youth Violence Curricula

EDC has created curricula that address violence in the US and around the world:

- Eyes on Bullying: <http://eyesonbullying.org/pdfs/toolkit.pdf>
- TEACH-VIP E-Learning: <http://teach-vip.edc.org/>
- Love is Not Abuse: <https://www.breakthecycle.org/sites/default/files/pdf/lina-curriculum-high-school.pdf>
- Exploring International Humanitarian Law: <http://ehl.redcross.org/curriculum/>
- Child Maltreatment Prevention: http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/capacitybuilding/courses/child_maltreatment/en/index.html
- Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Prevention: http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/capacitybuilding/courses/intimate_partner_violence/en/index.html

Focus Area	Country	Project	Description
Youth Development	Liberia	Advancing Youth Project	EDC established youth clubs at more than 120 alternative education sites to encourage peer-to-peer support. Club members – 9,000 in all – participate in leadership elections, set goals and expectations, and run a range of activities. If someone misses classes, club members visit the home to find out what's getting in the way and how they can help.
Youth Development	Guyana	Skills & Knowledge for Youth Employment (SKYE)	EDC assists at-risk youth to avoid entering or re-entering the juvenile justice system through coaching and skills training and job placement.
Capacity Building	U.S.	Children's Safety Network (CSN)	EDC partners with national organizations and Federal agencies to promote child and adolescent health and safety through technical assistance, trainings, data, and access to the latest research and publications.
Capacity Building	North Eastern Kenya	Yes Youth Can	With funding from USAID/Kenya, EDC is building capacity of youth associations in Somali Kenyan communities to organize and conduct community development activities that respond to their needs and priorities.
Strategic Partnerships	Mindanao, Philippines	Education Quality & Access for Learning & Livelihood Skills – Phase 2 (EQuALLS2)	EDC worked to strengthen parent-teacher associations (PTAs) in the conflict-ridden area of Mindanao, Philippines. PTAs made great strides to support basic education by improving informal programs for out of school youth.
Strategic Partnerships	U.S.	National Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention	From 2002 to 2013, EDC worked with the U.S. Departments of Justice, Education, and Health and Human Services to foster resilience, promote health and mental health, and prevent youth violence.
Research, Evaluation	Honduras	METAS – Improving Education for Work, Learning and Success	With funding by USAID/Honduras, EDC organized an assessment to examine the factors that contribute to violence in Honduras and provided specific recommendations on programming strategies to address violence with youth. As part of this study, EDC trained a cadre of youth to help conduct the assessment and built their capacity in data collection and community outreach.