

Raíz

Who We Are

Raíz is committed to Empower, Educate, and Connect with the youth in the Dominican Republic.

We believe that no one should be forgotten, abandoned, and out of options. Focusing on ages 13-21, we offer classes that help young people develop achievable plans for their future, grow in practical skills, and discover a strong identity. Raíz is helping to create a generation of successful and compassionate individuals.

We love the Dominican Republic, and we believe that “raizing” up local leaders is the best way to overcome obstacles and create sustainable change.

How We Help

YOUTH OUTREACH

The young people of the DR are excited and willing to grow if given the chance, but they face a struggling economy, inequality, lack of opportunity, and sex tourism.

They often feel like their futures are decided for them.

Our 3-step program helps them take control of their lives and feel confident in themselves and their potential.

Empower & Educate

Raíz offers a free 10 week course in the fall and spring semesters for the local youth.

This class is going to be targeted towards vulnerable young men and women who are in need of love, support, and empowerment. The purpose of this course is to help the student set achievable goals and develop the confidence to achieve them. Youth in the Dominican Republic face many challenges that hinder their ability to be successful and harm their sense of value and self respect.

Common Challenges:

- Significant Pay Gap for women
- Adolescent Pregnancy/lack of sexual education
- Thriving sex trade/corrupt economy
- Lack of sustainable work
- Lack of support system
- Generational poverty
- Abuse
- Lack of education/challenging learning environments
- Lack of trauma/mental health care
- High cost of living because of tourism

Raíz wants to address these challenges with sensitivity and practical advice. Our goal as an organization is to affirm their worth as an individual and provide a loving environment where they can learn to overcome these challenges.

Connect

Raíz believes strongly in sustainable help- a way to create tangible change in the life of the individual.

After participating in our course, Raíz wants to connect students to local businesses looking to hire, provide job counseling and support, and offer service internships.

Camps

Raíz offers 3 exciting camp opportunities for the youth throughout the year. This includes:

- Summer camp
 - The first camp of the year will be a youth summer camp led by the students in our program. They will be reaching out to 12-14 year olds and showing them what it means to be a good example within their community.
- Leadership camp
 - The Raíz leadership camp is a time for us to pour into the young adults in our program, ages 15-30. This camp provides team building activities and leadership training with an emphasis on leading with a servant heart.
- Service Camp

- The last camp of the year will focus on serving the communities in the DR. This camp will give the youth a time to pour back into their community and work together as a team for the common good.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Raíz believes in meeting the needs of a community and helping provide tools for growth.

Emergency Feeding Program

We provide essentials for families at risk of starving. Each family goes through financial counseling to try and improve their situation and get them to a place of being able to sustain themselves.

Medical Care

We use our experience in medical and wound care to treat individuals in critical condition. Raíz gives health education classes and is helping train local nursing students in trauma care.

“Mucho Gusto” Outreach

The “moto concho’s” of the Dominican Republic are often overlooked as people in need of love. Founder Timothy started reaching out to the motorcycle taxis, offering a time of community, a free empanada, and encouraging words.