



Project COMMON BOND

tuesday's 
children

About Tuesday's Children

Tuesday's Children was founded to promote long-term healing in all those directly impacted by the events of September 11, 2001. Our mission today is to *keep the promise* to those children and families while serving and supporting communities affected by acts of terror worldwide.

Since September 11, 2001, more than 10,000 individuals have benefitted from our evidenced-based programs, including: families of 9/11 victims, responders and military service members; international youth; global victims of terrorism and local communities, such as Newtown, CT, that are recovering from tragedies.

"We created a community of understanding and trust. We developed programs in response to immediate, ongoing and long-term needs — parenting programs, mentoring, mental health counseling, college guidance, international youth peace building and, most recently, the Career Resource Center. We have walked beside our families and have learned so much and have so much to share when other tragic events occur."

KATHY MURPHY,
Tuesday's Children Program Director, 2004-2014

Tuesday's Children has garnered families' trust while gaining an intimate understanding of the problems and realities in the days, months and years after a tragedy. Through our Long-Term Healing Model, we have learned much about implementing programs that promote healing and build resilience. Our time-tested, long-term approach - forged in the aftermath of 9/11 - enables children, families and communities torn apart by acts of violence and terror to heal, recover and thrive for a lifetime.

Our challenge now is to build upon our proven methodology, elevate our platform of programs and services, and establish new ways to broaden our organization's reach and impact. Only then can we help other individuals around the world who have been similarly affected by acts of terrorism and tragedy heal and recover.





ABOUT PROJECT COMMON BOND

Project COMMON BOND, founded in 2008, is a unique international initiative providing peace-building education to young people impacted by conflicts around the world. We have united more than 500 teenagers and young adults from 25 countries who share a “common bond”—the loss of an immediate family member in an act of terrorism, violent extremism or war. These experiences unite rather than divide. Through Project COMMON BOND, “Our Past Is Changing the Future.” We gather young adults ages 15-21 to transform their

experience of losing a loved one in a terrorist incident into global peacebuilding efforts and friendships that transcend borders. Participants engage in a dialogue of healing and community building, collaborate to promote the dignity of all, and learn conflict negotiation and peace-building skills, all to create positive change in their lives and communities.

NORTHERN IRELAND

PARTICIPANT, 2016:

“PCB has given me friends that feel like family, memories that will last a lifetime and a totally new perspective on life and society, all which I am eternally grateful for. Amidst the pain, suffering and hardships endured by many I witnessed a collectively reflect a yearning for peace”

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES:

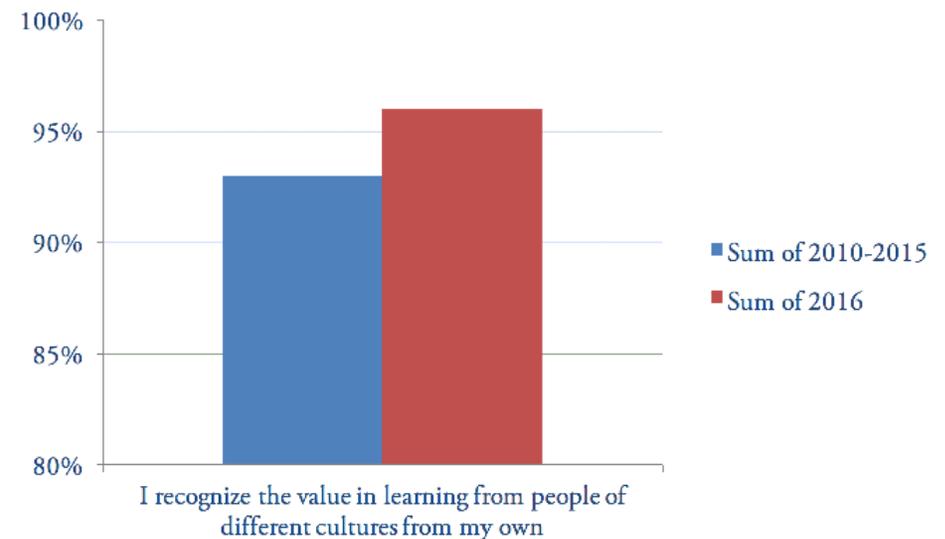
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THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVES OF PROJECT COMMON BOND ARE:

1. Healing through Community – building resilience in youth affected by trauma.
2. Transformation through Education – conflict resolution, dignity and peace-building skills.
3. Leadership Development – fostering positive change in home communities.

Participant Evaluations



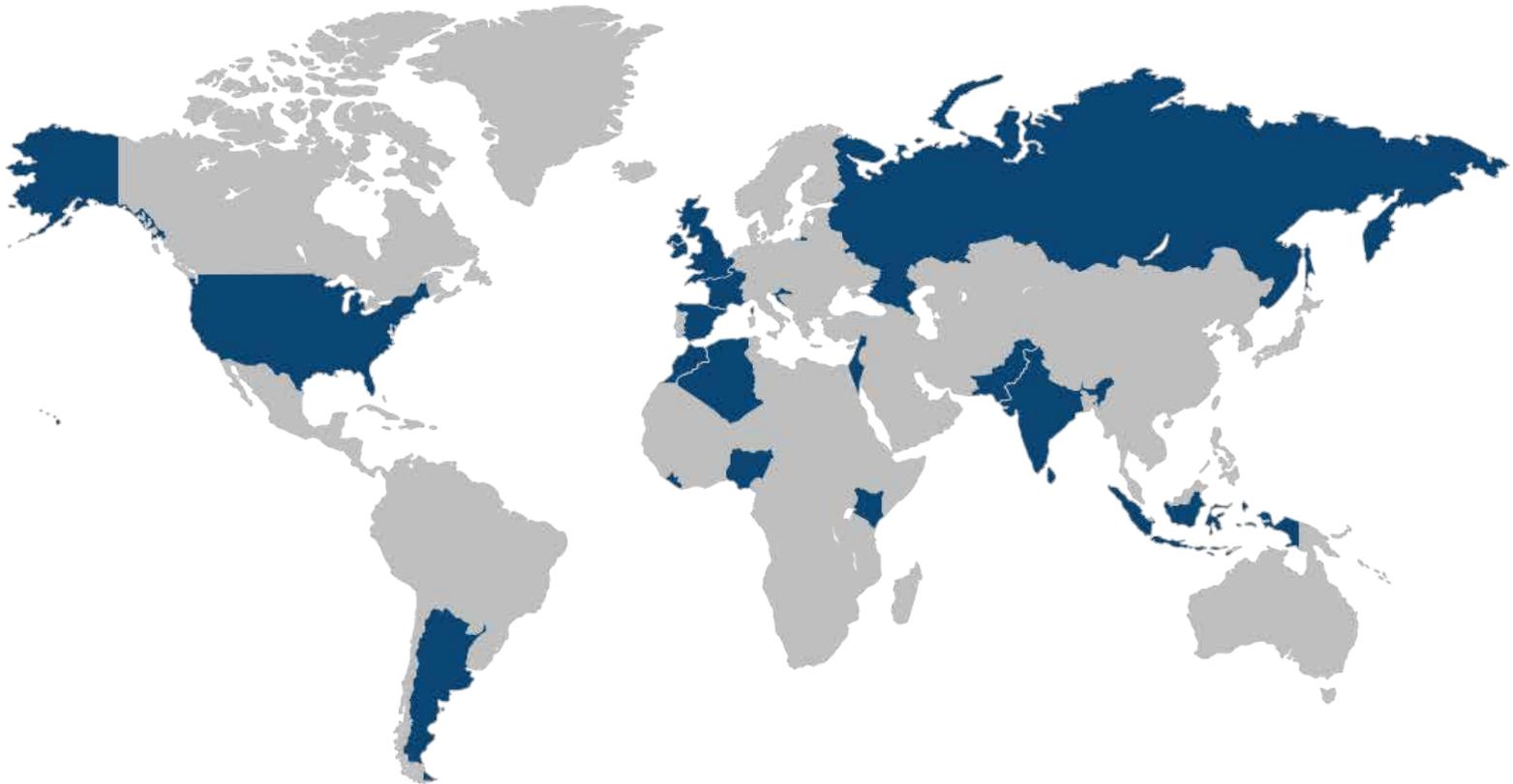


“After spending a week with these extraordinary young people, I sensed in them a real commitment to use the skills they learned for positive change in their communities. Skills of perspective taking and empathy are essential for those who will lead our world in the years to come. It was a great honor for those of us in HNMCP to be witness to a transforming experience to participants who have endured much but who also have much to give in building a better world.”

— *Robert Bordone, Director of Harvard Law Negotiation and Mediation Clinical Program, on the impact of Project COMMON BOND.*

500+ YOUNG ADULTS • 25 NATIONS

ALL AFFECTED BY TERRORISM, COMING TOGETHER TO HEAL



Curriculum Overview

Project COMMON BOND's unique curriculum, teaching peace and community building, conflict resolution and the value of dignity, creates opportunities for positive post-traumatic growth.

The curriculum for Project Common Bond, under the direction of Monica Meehan McNamara, has evolved through collaboration with Donna Hicks, author of the Dignity Model; The Harvard Negotiation and Mediation Clinic of Harvard Law School; and the many individuals who have participated in Project COMMON BOND:

Our Goals are:

- Model a community committed to peacebuilding
- Address the trauma of the experience of terrorism
- Hear the voices and knowledge of those who have been affected
- Promote dignity– an understanding that dignity is inherent in all human beings.
- Build greater appreciation for and curiosity about diverse cultures
- Create new initiatives that offset the polarizing effect of global conflict
- Build a foundation of ideas, skills and practices that will inspire participants to contribute within their home communities

The curriculum provides a scaffolding for participants from varying cultures to come together in safety and learn from one another, through empathy, healing and leadership; all powerful antidotes to the effects of terrorism. Sessions are conducted by facilitators who are all trained in conflict mediation and/or psychology. The groups are composed of about 15 participants within the same age range, but diverse in culture, gender and country of origin. In addition, we offer peacebuilding, drama, art, movement, music, and sports, activities all designed to further the exploration and expression of the goals of the curriculum.



Our unique peacebuilding curriculum, designed by leading experts in international relations and peacebuilding, aims to empower youth and provide them with the tools and connections to capitalize on their own skills and expertise. It creates a space for participants to develop and implement their own creative, innovative and actionable peacebuilding projects. The peacebuilding elective encourages participants to recognize and harness their own power and exert control over their lives and in their communities with the support of facilitators, advisors, and networks far and wide to do and or make something that contributes to the peace they wish to see in the world.

The aim of Project COMMON BOND's curriculum is to teach young people effective conflict resolution between people, individuals and cultures, build understanding and tolerance, and promote shared humanity in order to reduce the adverse effects of terrorism.

“The power of Project COMMON BOND is that participants learn from one another and see each other as human beings with dignity, rather than being defined by religious, cultural or political beliefs.

As one US participant said to a Palestinian participant, “I hated all Muslims because of what happened on 9/11. Now that I know you, I realize that I can no longer hold that anger towards a whole group.”

— Monica Meehan McNamara,
Curriculum Director, Project COMMON BOND

PARTICIPANT FROM NORTHERN IRELAND, 2014:

“Project COMMON BOND has changed me as a person. Through Dignity classes, I have become more open minded and have been able to move past stereotypes. There have been many opportunities for me to stand up and express myself without feeling judged...In participating in Project COMMON BOND, I have been able to share my story in a safe place with people who can empathize with me. The skills I have learned will remain with me and I shall share and develop them in my own country.”

Overview of Activities

The Project COMMON BOND summer symposium brings international participants, chaperones, facilitators, group leaders and staff together for a week of bonding, education, creative arts, sports and peace-focused community-building activities. Approximately 65 students of varied backgrounds and cultures attend each year, housed in dormitories on campus with meals provided on site. Staff and facilitators arrive the day before for orientation and trainings on topics such as interreligious understanding, grief, trauma and sensitivity.

Throughout the week, participants meet for interactive morning sessions learning the Dignity Model, encouraging them to tell their narratives, hear those of others and to respect each other's experiences, religions, cultures, ethnicities, nationalities and personal preferences. Participants attend daily fixed sessions in peacebuilding, drama, art, movement, music and sports.

Each symposium features unique sessions and topical keynote talks. Past keynotes from leading experts in global relations, trauma and peacebuilding have included: Owen Paterson, Britain's Secretary of State for Northern Ireland from 2010 to 2012; Jana Laiz, author of *Weeping Under This Same Moon*; Mohamad Kamara, peace activist and refugee from Sierra Leone; Mandy Habib from the National Child Traumatic Stress Network; Zak Abraham, a global advocate against violence whose father was one of the 1993 bombers of the World Trade Center, and Mohammad Sayed, a disabilities rights activist and young victim of terrorism. Past symposia also featured experiential workshops on Theater of the Oppressed pedagogy.

PARTICIPANT FROM INDIA, 2015:

"Project COMMON BOND has brought so much positivity to my life, I just can't say in words. It not only brought happiness, but also brought new perspective, self learning, and respect for others' opinions and dignity. This program developed a bond among young adults from around the world and formed leaders who will spread positivity, peace and happiness to others "



Towards the end of the week, students and staff members enjoy a day of tourism. In past years, students have visited historical and cultural sites in Washington, DC, Boston, MA, Philadelphia, PA, New York, NY and Northern Ireland. The week concludes with the annual Peace Games, talent show, closing ceremony, and banquet.

Since 2012, Project COMMON BOND has also included daily sessions for international chaperones. Chaperones are organizational leaders, activists, policymakers, practitioners, students, teachers and social service providers from international non-governmental organizations. These individuals tend to be peace activists in their own countries and are coming together to receive training in the Long-Term Healing Model developed by Tuesday's Children, to share with each other the work that they are doing, to get support from one another, and to build their individual skills.

Starting in January 2016, Tuesday's Children established an additional winter symposia for alumni of Project COMMON BOND. This five day conference provide trainings, workshops and exposure for those participants most interested in learning how to shape their personal narratives of strength and resilience in the face of trauma and conflict in order to lend their voices to the fields of conflict resolution and peacebuilding. In partnership with the George Mason University School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, Tuesday's Children created workshops focused on strengthening participants' conflict negotiation skills, teaching courageous leadership, and crafting personal narratives, as well as opportunities to meet with experts in the field.

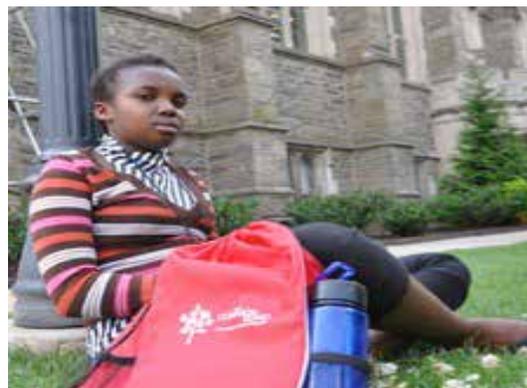
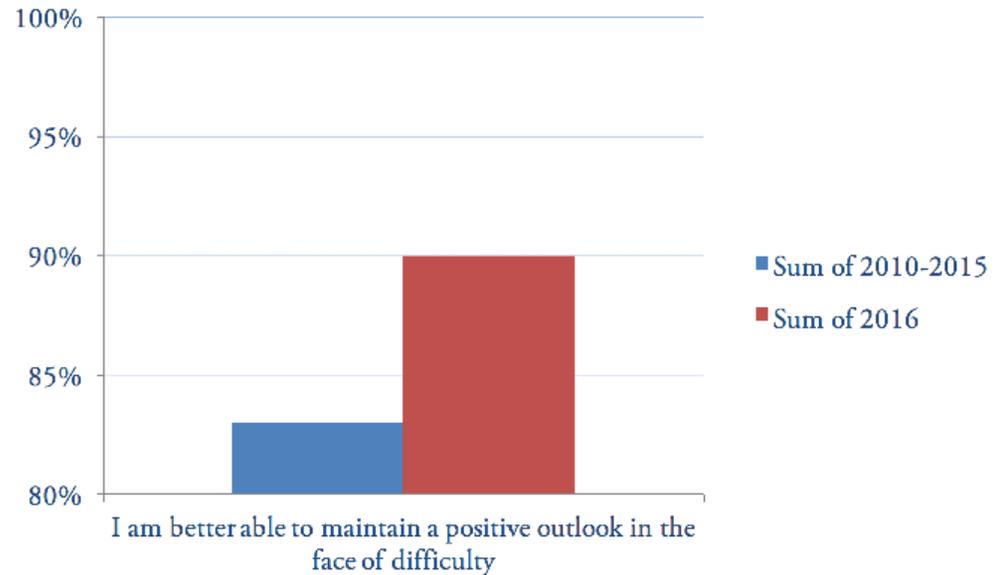
"The Project COMMON BOND Winter Session 2016 was incredible. Building on the more academic aspect of Project Common Bond (conflict resolution, peacebuilding), the winter session allowed me to learn how to take what I learned in PCB regarding those aspects and apply it to a future career."

- PARTICIPANT FROM USA,
WINTER 2016

Evaluation Trends

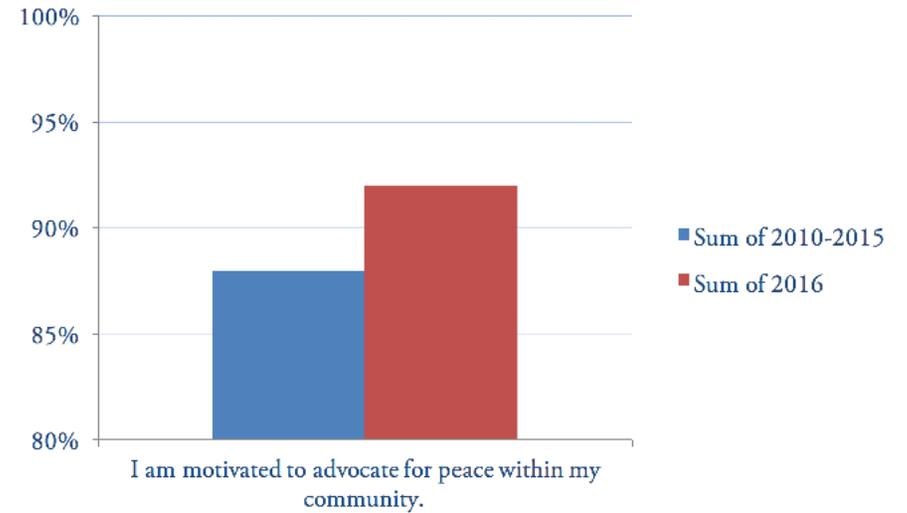
PARTICIPANT FROM THE USA, 2015:

“COMMON BOND is not only a place where I can feel safe with who I am and how I am feeling but it is also a place where I can talk about the problems around the world without feeling judged and angry. This program brings hope to everyone who joins”



2016 PARTICIPANT IMPACT

- 96% Recognized the value of learning from different cultures
- 96% Felt better able to practice dignity for themselves and others
- 92% Felt motivated to advocate for peace in their communities
- 90% Felt better able to identify and respond to prejudices
- 90% Felt better understanding of the things that shape their identity
- 90% Felt better able to maintain a positive outlook in the face of difficulty
- 90% Felt better able to respond thoughtfully rather than react impulsively

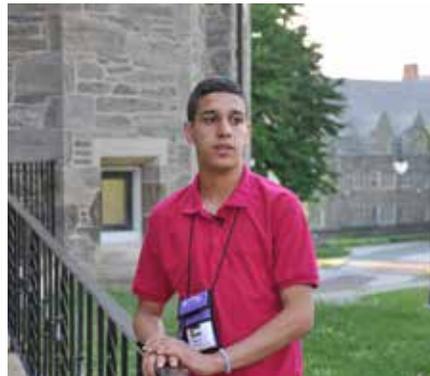


Future Directions

Project COMMON BOND's curriculum is continually growing to include more young adults and countries impacted by conflicts around the world. As past participants in the program grow older, we aim to support them in academic, career and leadership initiatives and achievements. We have witnessed the extraordinary transformation these youth can undergo, the lasting friendships they can create across borders, and the positive influence they can have when they return to their home communities.

In future symposia, we will enhance the program through:

- Enhanced action-focused curriculum
- Peacebuilding toolkits for implementation in global communities
- Web-based learning and support for participants, chaperones and partners
- Robust evaluation charting Project COMMON BOND's transformational impact
- Engaging alumni in international peacebuilding and conflict resolution conferences
- Increased scope of international participants
- Securing a permanent home at a peace-focused institution



Partners & Funders

Institutional Funders:

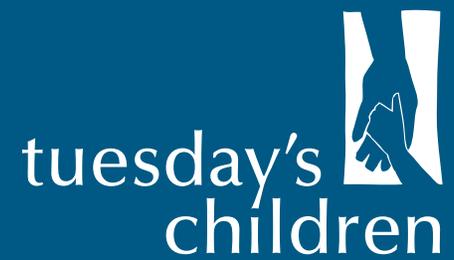
Alex and Ani • The American Ireland Fund • AMIA • Asociación De Ayuda A Las Victimas Del 11-M • Belfast Harbor • Bendary Car Corporation • Bloomberg Foundation • Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. • Century 21 • College of the Holy Cross • The Community Foundation Serving Richmond and Central Virginia • Delaplaine Foundation • Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund • Flax Trust • Goldman Sachs Gives • Gristmill Foundation • Jacob Marley Foundation • Iberia Airlines • Koby Mandell Foundation • Manhasset Community Fund • The Marc S. Zeplin Foundation, Inc. • Marsh & McLennan Companies • New York Yankees Foundation • Santa Maria Foundation • Sarita Kenedy East Foundation, Inc. • Twin Towers Orphan Fund • Warner Bros. • York Capital Management (US) Advisors, LP

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Project COMMON BOND program partners include:

Adelphi University; AMIA, Argentina; Association to Aid Victims of 11 March, Spain; The British Council, UK; Beslan Relief Fund; Bryn Mawr Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research; C. Global Consulting; Children's Charter; The Children's Room; Columbia University Center for the Study of Trauma and Resilience; Corrymeela, Northern Ireland; European Network of Victims of Terrorism; Association of Victims of Terrorism (AVT); Families Moving On, Northern Ireland; Foundation for Peace, England; Global Survivors Network; Harvard Law School Negotiation and Mediation Clinical Program; Harvard University Weatherhead Center for International Affairs; International Association of Social Work with Groups; Israeli/Palestinian Bereaved Families Forum; Middle East Children's Institute; National Support Group for the July 22 Events, Norway; New York University Child Study Center; NGO Committee on Mental Health; Northern Ireland Bureau; Northern Ireland Phoenix Project; The Peaceful Education Community Center in Tulkarem; Queens University, Northern Ireland; Russian Children's Welfare Society; South East Fermanagh Foundation (SEFF), Northern Ireland; Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding; Unforgotten Children of Beslan, Russia; United Nations Alliance of Civilization; U.S. Institute of Peace; Women without Borders, Austria; Women without Walls Initiatives, Nigeria.



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