ANNUAL REPORT
2019/2020
THE DIFFERENCE BEING MADE

PLAY FOR PEACE...

- creates compassionate leaders connecting people and communities across divides.
- develops youth leaders in areas of conflict to build lasting peace.
- serves as a global learning community offering in person and virtual spaces to grow.
- moves individuals and communities from conflict to compassion.
- uplifts and empowers those who are navigating dire situations.
- teaches cooperative play to spread laughter, compassion and peace.
- spreads hope, joy and connection.
PLAY FOR PEACE COMMUNITY QUOTES

“According to us, Play for Peace is a vaccine of joy. It is playing a very important role in this situation.” Play for Peace Mentor in India Vijay Kumar

“It is magic when kids come together in laughter and play,” says Roberto Valle (Play for Peace Mentor). “I appreciate being witness to that magic.”

“Play for Peace helps with unity and promotes joy, since everyone is invited to play,” says Obed Niimbere, a mentor for Play for Peace Burundi. Since the club was initiated in 2019, Obed has watched his community heal as a result of Play for Peace, after experiencing ongoing poverty and political strife.

From Delhi, India, Farheen Anwar is a mentor for the Peace Game Club. She says “I thought there was no game in this world made for me. . . . None of the sports games include physically disabled people like me”. “Play for Peace trainers created games in which I was also able to participate and have fun.” After her introduction to Play for Peace, she formed a club and brought laughter and joy to children.

Ani Puvanesan has been a mentor for the Breeze of Peace Club in Mullaitivu, Sri Lanka, since 2017. He first engaged with Play for Peace while working with another organization, and was so inspired by Play for Peace’s strategy and games used to engage with children and youth that he formed his own club. According to Ani, “Play for Peace is a great platform for children to gather and play different games to overcome the stress and trauma they have undergone.” In most cases this stress is due to war, and most recently the COVID-19 pandemic.
While the Mexico Club was started in 2017, Francisco Hueyatl had been working as a graphic design volunteer for Play for Peace long before that. After an inspirational training in his community, Francisco officially became a club mentor, spreading Play for Peace’s values to the college where he currently works as a professor.

“The values that are maintained and the Play for Peace global network has helped me understand other cultures, other ways of seeing life and, above all, help locally through this family that supports us throughout the world,” says Francisco. “And without a doubt being able to help in my community has been very significant.” For Francisco, COVID-19 has been a challenging time that has affected close friends and caused an environment of sadness and hopelessness.
With powerful and devoted partners, Play for Peace is emerging as a globally recognized leader in community peacebuilding, youth leadership and sustainable development.

This fiscal year included over 700 Practice Peace Sessions, almost 9000 youth leader service hours, our annual Fall 5K Fall/Run Walk, the creation of our cooperative play app prototype and the launch of Playshop Connect (a corporate and organizational offering).

- Playshop Connect was built by OD experts and Play for Peace leaders in order to spread our core values of caring, cooperation, inclusion and fun, as well as to spread awareness and support for Play for Peace work.

- *Play for Peace is using Kikori* is a mobile app of cooperative play activities globally, making it easier and more fun to deliver practice peace sessions.

- We also offered virtual workshops to support our entire Play for Peace community in bridging divides, creating community and finding joy and laughter.
Play for Peace
2019-2020 Highlights

Community and Club Happenings

- **Globally** - Peace Day celebrations held in 30 communities around the world reaching 3000+ participants
- **North America** - New clubs formed in rural Idaho and Chicago
- **Central America** - New club formed in El Salvador
- **Southeast Asia** - Training supported communities in post tragedy Sri Lanka
- **South Asia** - Vietnam expansion training led to creation of 3 new clubs
- **Europe** - Refugee facilitators lead Crete charity camps for kids of Belarus
- **Latin America** - Play for Peace hosted a site visit for Costa Rica Club
- **Africa** - Kenyan community re-activates and forming new club
PLAY FOR PEACE
2019-2020 IMPACT

BY THE NUMBERS

783 Practice Peace Sessions
6301 Play Participants
8938 Youth Leaders Service Hours

GLOBAL LEARNING COMMUNITY

Play for Peace Global Team
Partner Organizations
Adult Mentors & Volunteers
Youth Leaders
Child Participants

Outcomes & Impact

Compassionate Citizens
Friendships Across Divides
Thriving Communities

1: Play & Serve Together
2: Group Reflection
3: Apply Learning
Pandemic Relief Efforts - Play for Peace delivered virtual content to uplift spirits and encourage people to spread compassion, connection, and community. Our young leaders also used the values and skills learned at Play for Peace to take important action for their communities, such as running food drives and other community service.

Level Up: Race for Humanity - This virtual event with local action served families and children with uplifting learning and growing opportunities for their hearts, minds and bodies. Over 600 participants joined from all over the world.

The AppreciatiON Campaign - This virtual event with local action offered daily lessons via email and a physically distanced or virtual program child and youth focused curriculum guide to give anyone the opportunity to learn more about how and why to appreciate others. Over 200 participants joined from all over the world.
In Recognition

Our work makes a real difference because of the generous donations of time, talent, and expertise from those who make up the Play for Peace global community, including board members, staff, trainers, mentors, youth leaders, donors, and volunteers. With tremendous gratitude, we recognize their contributions during the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Board of Directors

John Guarrine, Chair
Linda Hartman-Reehl, Vice Chair
Ron Kovich, Secretary
Kevin Creely, Treasurer
Mark Havens, Director
Michael Terrien, Co-founder, Director
Lisa Gelsomino, Director
Karen McKinney, Director

Play for Peace Founders

Craig Dobkin
Michael Terrien

Advisors

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Lisa Gelsomino, Fall 5K Run/Walk Coordinator
Aidan Hennessy, Messenger of Peace and Founder of Walk for Peace
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Archana Magar, Community Events & Training Coordinator
This report depicts Play for Peace financial activities for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2020. It has been reviewed by Dana & Co. and approved by Play for Peace board member and treasurer, Kevin Creely.
PLAY FOR PEACE
FINANCIALS 2019-2020

- Administration: $68,990
- Development: $57,426
- Programming: $559,898
- Total: $686,314
**HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

With a very small staff and a global service area, Play for Peace relies heavily on the generosity and commitment of good people like you. If you are inspired to help we welcome your support.

**MAKE A TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION**

- Online [DONATE](#)
- Send check to 205 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 810, Chicago, IL 60601
- Contact us at **001.312.675.8568** or **marilyn@playforpeace.org** to donate stock.

We especially appreciate recurring donations, which allow us to better plan and grow our programs and can be set up to run automatically in our online donation platform.

**VOLUNTEER**

We have many fun ways you can volunteer with us. We promise a playful and fulfilling experience! Contact **marilyn@playforpeace** with interest or questions.

**SPREAD THE WORD**

Let people know to follow, donate, volunteer and/or support us on social media - all of this makes a difference!