



LEAVE THE STREETS



Raja

20 YEARS OLD

LIFE PROJECT CENTER CHETLA

CALCUTTA

STEP 0 : RECRUITMENT



RAJA'S STORY TOLD BY CONSTANCE, COACH

Two days ago, I received a call from Raja. He was telling me that he was finally ready to conduct the interview with me. It had been few days since we last talked about doing it but I think he was very nervous about talking about himself, so he needed time to feel comfortable enough to share his story.

Raja is 19, and lives next to the Indian Museum in the backpacker area. Raja has 3 sisters with whom he has lost touch, out of choice. He didn't love them and they never loved him. This lack of love between him and his sisters intensified the relationship with his younger brother Rajkumal who is 12. His eyes sparkle when he speaks about him. Raja only sees him once a week so he wishes that the Saturdays were longer.

When his brother was 6 months old, they lost their mother. Their 3 sisters were already married so their father raised him and his brother together. Their father had problems with alcohol, but he did his best to take care of them with the meager salary that he got from recycling plastic bottles.

Following an illness, his father died few years ago and it is now his auntie who takes care of him even though she has no income. She lives in the street in a makeshift house made of plastic tarpaulin and wood. At night,

when it rains very hard, Raja knows that he can take shelter in his auntie's place: "his rescue island" as he calls it.

Raja looks like a young man, he is small and slim but muscular and with a charming smile. He has a big scar on his forehead. I presumed he got it during a tough night sleeping on his assigned market stall but he explained to me with a cheery laugh that it is a memento from a bloody fishing trip!

Speaking with Raja is very easy as he has good spoken English, which contrasts sharply with his reading and writing skills. Raja left school when he was a kid; two years ago he tried to catch up his schooling with a very basic one year class, but he didn't manage to keep up. Life on the streets has taught him to be resourceful, and instead of giving up he asked his close friend Sonu to teach him English. I guess this approach was less constraining and much more effective!

During the day, Raja takes on a series of small jobs to make his own living. He explains he prefers to be independent rather than ask his auntie for a few rupees. Sometimes he helps restaurateurs to carry heavy cargo food from the Chandni Chowk market to their restaurants or he does odd jobs for 150/200 rupees (2,5€).

Like many Indians of the same age, Raja dreams of one day becoming a Bollywood actor or singer, but more seriously his dream is to become a commis chef. Not chef but commis chef because he already knows that it will be an easier job to find in one of the restaurants of Kolkata.

To the question: "Why do you want to join LP4Y?" he answers in a very lucid and serene way "I want to do something with my future".



HAVE HOPE



Michelle

20 YEARS OLD

FASHION 4 YOUTH PROGRAM

MANILA, QUEZON CITY

STEP 1 - AUTONOMY



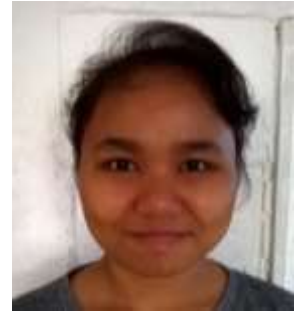
MICHELLE'S TESTIMONY

My name is Michelle Q Vega. I'm 20 years old. I live in 53 General Luna Street, Intramuros, Manila.

I have two nieces and 3 siblings and my mother is street sweeper in Pasay City. I did my elementary school in Pasay City. And my high school in Manila High School in Intramuros. When I was 7 years old, in elementary, I was living in the street with my family. My mother at that time was a garbage collector. Then we were living in a small house made in plastic in Pasay, with my mother and my 3 siblings.

When I was between 7 and 13 years old I was going to the Cockpit, after school, on Cementina street in Pasay and the people were betting on the chicken. I helped them to purchase their cigarettes, water, ice cream, BBQ and they payed me for this. We were staying long time in the evening, sometimes until 3am or 4am.

I used the money to purchase the rice and to have pocket money for the merienda in school. In elementary I was always absent, but during my High school grades, it was my glorious days. I finished High school at 16 years old. After that I stopped two years. I entered in college at 19 years old, because I had a scholarship. It was in Universidad de Manila, taking the psychologist course but I failed in one of the subject, Mathematics. I needed to stop because they ended my scholarship.



I joined LP4Y the 25th of August 2015. LP4Y is one of the step to reach my goal: to have a stable job. I would like to be a call center agent, because I want to practice other languages and experience a new environment.

There is a link between TNK and LP4Y because TNK train the special children to make soap, they learned from LP4Y. TNK helps the children neglected who want to finish their studies and prepares them to have a better future. It's two foundations that want to help the Youth. LP4Y will train me to be a productive individual and to have a job.

I was really nervous when I entered LP4Y and intimidated by the team, I think it's normal when you arrive in a new environment. But now I feel comfortable and at home. In 5 years, I want to make my own future, go on the right track, I think if I continue my studies I will be a guidance counselor, because I want to help. I want to give back the help I had, give my gratitude.

**"Your wings are already spread,
all you have to do is to fly."**



DARE TO DREAM



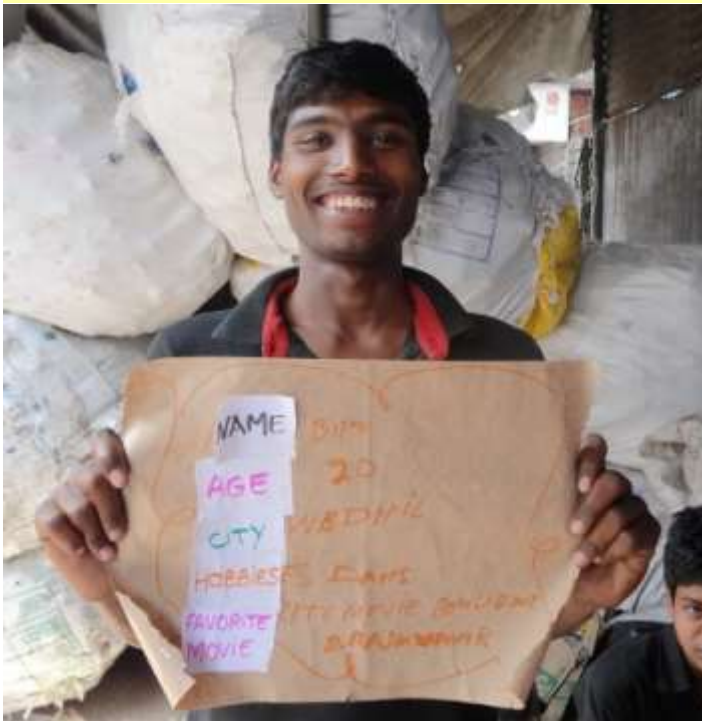
Bipu

20 YEARS OLD

LIFE PROJECT CENTER PAHAR GANJ

NEW DELHI

STEP 1 - AUTONOMY



BIPU'S TESTIMONY

My name is Bipu, I am 20 years old. I come from West Bengal.

When I was ten, in 2005, I left my hometown and my family (my parents and my younger brother) to come to Delhi.

I left home because of my father's drinking problem. He was beating us. Once in Delhi, I stopped going to school and I started working.

In 2009, I went to Goa to work as a kitchen staff, but my boss was upset all the time, so after three months I decided to go back to Delhi. There, I stayed at Don Bosco's Ashalayam center for two years, but I had to leave the center because of my bad behavior...

I have started working in a small business organizing events, but most of the time, when I need money, I collect plastic bottles at 5 AM at New Delhi Railway Station.

New Delhi Railway Station is a dangerous place. There are bad boys there. One time, I was collecting bottles, some of them wanted to take my money, as I didn't want to give it to them, they stabbed me.



It was like one of my friend who was also stabbed few years ago but he died in the arms of his mother. He was a really good friend of me.

I have heard about LP4Y through my friend Guddu, who told me that it will help me to have a good life.

I like coming to the center because everyone is very good, everyone smiles and is happy, and there is no fighting. I like English training, because when you know how to speak English very fast, you can have a good work.

"My dream is to come back to West Bengal. I have a picture in mind: sitting with my wife, my children, my mother and my brother, in my own house, chatting together."

For ten years, I haven't been home and I missed them a lot. My mom and my brother are calling for me.

I want to work in a mobile or construction business or as a waiter to have good tips. Sometimes, I also dream that I am working outside of the country. I hope LP4Y will help me to make my dreams come true.



TAKE THE DIVE



Thuy

20 YEARS OLD

SEEDS OF HOPE PROGRAM

HO CHI MINH CITY

STEP 1 : AUTONOMY

THUY'S TESTIMONY

When I was little I used to go to school, and I really liked it. But when I was 8 I had to stop because my family didn't have enough money. From the time I stopped school until I joined LP4Y my main concern was to earn money so we could all eat.

I've worked in lots of restaurants, sometimes for 20 hours a day, cleaning or serving tables. Many times I could have turned to prostitution because it would have been a quick way to make money.

When my dad had a motorbike accident we had to find the money to pay for his medical care, and we started borrowing money from all around. It was really tough. Before my dad died, 6 years ago, I promised him I would find a good job.

Now we live in a room we rent with my mom who is sick and can't work, my 4 brothers who don't leave the room, my older sister and her baby. Before she used to bring money home but she stopped work when she had the baby. We keep borrowing.



One day in the street I met Nga and Victorine, two volunteers from LP4Y. They invited me to go with them and visit the center, and meet the Young Adults.

The first days were tough for me because I don't write very well and I'm not used to talking to new people.

I didn't really know how to behave so I giggled a lot, and I was worried that annoyed the others.

"The most difficult thing to deal with is the pressure from my family who want me to be bringing in lots of money right away."



My family didn't want me to spend time at the center, so my coach helped me explain to them. I don't want to just live day to day; with LP4Y I'm learning to make long term plans and to think for myself.

To start with, my neighbors said LP4Y would just train me for a few months and then sell me, but I didn't believe them. I've already changed a lot; I have more self-confidence and now I enjoy teamwork. I have even taught the rest of the team how to cook, and they help me with my English because they learn quicker than me.

Now I would like to motivate other at risk Young Adults and I tell them: "Like me you didn't get a good education, you don't know how to act like a professional and sometimes you don't behave well, so what can we do?"

We will only find jobs where we're exploited, with low wages and no stability, in an environment where there is no respect. We will have a boss who will insult us every day, and that will be our entire life, unless we do something to change that.

You have to take this opportunity and try the LP4Y Discovery Week. Then you can make your own decision whether you want to what it takes to change your life."



HANG IN THERE



Phuong

18 YEARS OLD

LANTERNS & LIGHT PROGRAM

HO CHI MINH CITY

STEP 2 - RESPONSABILITY



PHUONG STORY TOLD BY LENA, COACH

When Phuong was little she arrived in Ho Chi Minh City with her family who were in financial difficulty and had come to the city in search of a better life. She took casual jobs sewing, waiting tables, childcare, to pay for her younger sister's schooling.

While she was working two of her friends came and told her about LP4Y. They explained that they were learning English, a bit of business and marketing, and how to present themselves professionally in order to find more stable work.

Phuong started her training with LP4Y in March 2015. She has the support of her whole family, in particular her mother who knows the importance of education if you want to get ahead, and who felt so bitter when her daughter had to leave school too early.

She found the first month very hard going. She didn't speak a word of English and communication with me, her coach, was hard since neither one of us understood the other. She often thought about leaving LP4Y and getting another simple job, just to bring some money into the family, but her parents refused her offers, and Phuong persevered.

Over time LP4Y has become like a second family for her. The atmosphere with the other Young Adults is good and positive; they all want to help each other. Of course there are more challenging moments. Sometimes the coaches are stressed and worried and the atmosphere is charged. Other times the stress comes from the team. Like in July.



One evening, after class, she changed into her waitressing clothes and went to work. When she got home, around midnight, she was too tired to learn her vocabulary. Her teammates judged her harshly. But then they learned that she had to work to help support her family.

Today's challenges are not the same. It's not so much vocabulary, as learning professional behavior ... and good timekeeping. She's no longer waitressing, instead helping her older sister sell fruit every morning at the Binh Chanh market. As soon as she's finished, at 7.30 AM, she leaps onto her scooter, whizzing through the dangerous Ho Chi Minh traffic to get to the center on time ...

She admits that timeliness is one of her biggest challenges. And she's definitely stressed about that.

But first Phuong plans to stay at LP4Y for a little longer. She really wants to perfect her English and her professional skills.

She is very lucid; she knows that the road ahead is long, and that she won't have her own salon for quite a while. She will need to build up her experience, a loyal customer base, and most important, the capital to invest.

But yesterday's dream is now a goal that she will fight to achieve.

"For she believes strongly that
once you have a clear goal
you see life in color, and with optimism."



DECIDE FOR MYSELF



Kim

23 YEARS OLD

HEAR US PROGRAM

ILIGAN CITY, MINDANAO ISLAND

STEP 2 - RESPONSABILITY

KIMBERLY'S TESTIMONY



My name is Kimberly Condrado

I live in Barangay Kiwalan, Iligan City Mindanao, Philippines.

I joined LP4Y in February 2015. I am 23 years old and deaf since birth. I am in Responsibility Step and I am an assembly worker for the jewelry activity.

When I was a child, my parents didn't send me to school. My eldest sister and my brother went but not me. A teacher from Jehovah's Witnesses was coming in my home sometimes to teach me how to write, read and sign. I had no classmate, no one to communicate with except this teacher. Nobody in my family can sign.

During my childhood, I was staying home, cooking, doing the laundry and all chores of the house.

Last year, my brother-in-law heard about Hear Us and suggested to my parents to enroll me in their professional training. I knew already this program by my boyfriend Jonathan who is a member of Stars Club but my family didn't allow me to join before. This time, because my sister and her husband insisted, my parents finally agreed.

I was very shy at the beginning. I didn't really know what LP4Y could teach me but at least I realized, step by step that I could dream of another life for myself. Even if I am deaf I can learn and work like anyone.

In Hear Us house, we are a team of 15 young deaf adults. I learn, I work and I enjoy it. I really like making jewelry, especially the long bracelets of our new collection. I also have skills to organize the team for the general cleaning.

We understand each other, we help each other and we share a lot. I found a place where someone listened and understood. I learned and believe in the saying that "I can't but Together we CAN!"

My parents don't have dreams for me. They don't even want to think that I can have my own family in the future.

My little brother has a girlfriend, my sister is married but



they don't want me to get married with my boyfriend Jonathan in the future because he is also deaf.

I understand their concern, they care for me and see me as a fragile child. I don't want to offend my family but I want to be independent. I am 23 years old and I feel mature to decide for myself.

Before, I didn't take any decision but today I feel I am strong enough to follow my dreams. Because of LP4Y, I get a scholarship and enrolled a Housekeeping course from TESDA and passed the assessment successfully.

I can now apply in a hotel in Iligan to earn money and to sustain myself.

I want to marry Jonathan and build a family with him in the future.

I know I can because now I have confidence in myself.



"Some day I will prove to my family that being deaf it's not a hindrance to succeed in life."



BECOME SOMEONE



Tran

20 YEARS OLD

PROGRAM BREAD & SMILES

HO CHI MINH

STEP 2 - RESPONSABILITY



TRAN'S TESTIMONY

I am the youngest in my family of 7 children and I come from one of the provinces. I left school at 11 to start working. I was a waitress for a year, and then I worked in a cookie factory about 8 hours from HCMC. After a few years my boss got into the habit of not paying me and I found myself in awkward situations, missing meals, and asking my parents for money, instead of being able to help them out. Then I bumped into Bien and Trang who had worked at the factory with me. They told me about LP4Y, because they had friends who were following the Bread & Smiles program. I jumped at the opportunity to change my life. I had many dreams: to be a bartender, a translator or a graphic designer.

To start with it was really hard. Every day I traveled 2 hours by bus to get to the center. During those hours I worried, telling myself it was foolish to do this, and that I would be better off just working. Plus I couldn't understand a word of English. Communication was really hard and I got mixed up and felt really pressured. It was very intense and I couldn't calm myself and I wanted to give up. I thought about it too much and it made me sad.



After 2 months I borrowed a motorbike and that made a difference. The atmosphere with the team is really good, and everyone helps everyone else. I have real friends I can count on. When things aren't going well the others are there for you ... and that is real motivation!

"It has also helped me remember why I'm here: to change my life, to have a stable job and to feel that I'm someone."

Some from the team have been studying longer than me and have better English - compared to them I'm lagging behind. This will be one of my biggest challenges in the coming months, particularly when I move up to Management Step. There will be many more responsibilities and expectations ... Given that I want to be a bartender in a hotel in District 1 I'm thinking of carrying on until Entrepreneur Step in order to develop really professional behavior and improved English.



GET BACK ON YOUR FEET



Jhoann

17 YEARS OLD

BLOOM PROGRAM

TONDO, MANILA CITY

STEP 2 : RESPONSABILITY

JHOANN'S TESTIMONY

I live in the slum of Happyland in Tondo. I have one son, Vincent. He is three years old. I spent my childhood in Cavite, which is a city south of Manila, with my mother, stepfather and four siblings; one sister and three brothers. As I was the oldest, I always took care of my younger siblings. I never got to know my real father and I've never seen a picture of him. He is not even mentioned in my birth certificate. When I was 13, I left school after the first year of high school. The reason for this was my mother. She treated me very badly and punched me often with a belt or anything like that, without any reason. Instead of finishing school I started working.

When I was 14 years old I already had a boyfriend and I became pregnant and I delivered Vincent. My mum said to me: "Go away from our house, you are not my daughter anymore". So I had to leave and I moved to my boyfriend. I stayed with him for three years and then we separated, because he never had time and was not caring about me. Shortly after I met a pastor who offered me to bring me back to school and he enrolled me in ALS to get my high school degree. He found a job for me as housemaid and nanny, where I could earn money. First I was really happy to have that chance and I was grateful for his help. After a few months he asked me what I can give him in return for what he did for me. And suddenly I understood that he wanted to have sex with me and maybe a relationship. He grabbed me by the hand but I managed to free me and I was just running away and never came back.

A little time after I met Paulo and I moved to Manila to live with him.

But our life was not good; I had to face many challenges.



Paulo was drug addicted, but I didn't know at that time. I often wanted to separate from him, but I had no relatives or friends in Manila where I could go. That's why I stayed with him. I worked in a mall as a sales lady. Four month after I came to Manila I started in LP4Y.

I got pregnant again, but Paulo didn't believe that it was his child. Once he was angry about me, he punched me and one week after I had a miscarriage. Instead of caring for me he was reproaching to me that I didn't care enough for the baby. I still didn't know where to go, so I continued staying with him. One night he just threw me out of the house saying: "Go away, I don't have any child with you". He threw outside a bag with my clothes and I had to sleep outside with Vincent.

My life project plan is to become a call center agent because I love working in an office. I also like to wear professional attire and I want to communicate with other people.

"I learned to give a color to my dreams and I learned here that my dream can come true."

I could also improve my English a lot and I gained self-confidence in LP4Y and learned how to be responsible and reliable, as my responsibility in the Bloom team is to be the cashier.

My long-term plan is to build up my own restobar when I'm 40 years old. I would also like to learn how to play the guitar. For my son Vincent, I want him to go to school and later be able to study, as I cannot provide jewelries or anything like that for him, only my love and education. I also wish to find a good and caring husband, better as the ones before.



THE YOUTH ARE OUR FUTURE,



LET'S WORK WITH THEM !



BE HELPFUL TO OTHERS



Jelbert

20 YEARS OLD

ORIGIN PROGRAM

LAPU LAPU CITY, CEBU ISLAND

STEP 3 : MANAGEMENT



JELBERT'S TESTIMONY

I wake up at 5:40 to 6:00am in the morning and will wait for the headcount. Then I will wait for the clock to strike at 7:00am to take a shower. After shower, I will make myself ready to have my breakfast up to 8:00am. Right after my breakfast. I will check the time if it's 8:40am then I will wear my uniform and go directly to the canteen hall.

With my teammates we will wait for Coach Daniela to arrive. I will think about new components to make new designs since our product is jewelries. While waiting I am planning how to organize my team in the production time for work.

While we are in the room, I am trying to manage the team in terms of "how our production process works". Taking into consideration all the small details, for example how this works, how to make this binding, how check the quality of the products, etc. From 10:30am until 10:37am is our break time.

At 12:00 we go back to our cells for Lunch time. Some of my friends ask me how was my work as a designer? I answered, "it's not so good because it's not easy to work as a designer". It took me a lot of patience to be a designer and to come up with a new design. After lunch we will be back to the training room at 1:00pm to continue our work until 2:00pm. 2:00pm is our second headcount of the day which means we go back to our cells and the

BJMP personnel counts us to check if someone escape. At 2:30pm we go back to the center and when 3:30pm strikes, it's our break time in the afternoon. We are going to stay in the center up to 5:00pm. We have to finish the tasks that we set up during our briefing time on Tuesday morning. Everyday each of us have a different and specific task. If not we will have the chance to finish it by the next day.

For tomorrow I will plan to make our production process more organized and efficient.

Before when I was still free and was not in jail. I was so lazy that I didn't want to have any work. I was always in the house watching TV, going out with my friends, using drugs, getting myself drunk.

But now that I am in the jail and I joined LP4Y my life changed.

"Now I have clearer goals for my future and for my family. Someday if I'll get released I already know what is my plan for my life to make it as good and productive as possible."

I'm so happy to be part of the LP4Y Origin Team because this program helped me a lot. I learned a lot about English communication, computer literacy and lastly how to handle the business by being professional in all aspects.

I believe I will be learning and improving a lot day by day in these different aspects in my life.

LP4Y helps the young adults to have a better life, especially the young adult inmates in jail.

I'm so happy and privileged to have LP4Y here in Lapu-Lapu City Jail because each of our lives in the team was given hope. To reach our dreams and make it successful. Specially in my part because I have already a family.

Thanks LP4Y because the allowance that you give to us really helps. We are also very thankful because you are helping us to reach our dreams by having our savings as our future fund.



BECOME A ROLE MODEL



Minh

18 YEARS OLD

SEEDS OF HOPE PROGRAM

HO CHI MINH CITY

STEP 3 - MANAGEMENT



MINH'S TESTIMONY

When I was a child, at that time I was just 3 months old, my father and my mother divorced. After that my mother got married again. During the time I am 6 to 15 years old, I was studying at school and my family has to move everywhere. My family didn't have enough money to pay for me to go to school so my aunt and my uncle give for my mother money to pay for me to go to school, because of that the other people in my family look at me in different way. They don't trust me and they think I can't do anything.

When I'm 15 years old, I fought with one boy in school and the school fired me. At that time my family was very sad and very disappointed about me. During the time I didn't go to school, I try to do a lot of jobs to help my family, such as: a waiter in drinking restaurant, to delivery for one super market...

When I was 17 years old, I was playing with my friends and I saw some volunteers from LP4Y came to my house

area and introduced about the foundation. I decided to join LP4Y because I want to have a better future, to show with my family what can I do and to improve my English. During the time I joined LP4Y there is a difficult time because I have to stop my work and my mother have to take care all so she became angry and we argue every day.

When I was at the end of Responsibility Step I was lost and I wanted to give up because I lost my goal. I went back to the street. LP4Y's volunteers came to help me, they show me the light. I came back to the center and fight again. Now I'm a Manager of Seeds of Hope team.

As a manager of the team you have to show for the new youths how LP4Y is a good environment to give them a better future, but that is not easy. Like the new youth they don't respect me and they don't care what I say so I have to work very hard to let them see my motivation.

Now I'm in Management Step already, so I have to find an internship. Because my dream is to become a digital marketer so the first internship I want to get is in Coccoc Company, an information technology company; they train us how to make advertising, how to communicate with the customers and how to sell the products. My plan for my future is to join in the training in Coccoc and to get more experience about digital marketing.

If I decide to join the Stars Club in the coming month, I will share my experience about 1 year in LP4Y and to show with them how I am professional to let them know LP4Y train me to become like this. If I can do it, everybody can do too.

"If I can do it,
everybody can do too."



BE WILLING TO TAKE OFF



Jonathan

20 YEARS OLD

GREEN PROGRAM

CALAUAN CITY, PROVINCE DE LAGUNA

STEP 4 - ENTREPRENEURSHIP



JONATHAN'S TESTIMONY

From 8 to 10, I was a street child. During 2 years in the streets, I did a lot of bad things. I discovered some strong drugs. I was also doing a lot of stealings to have money for me and my gang. It was not easy for me at that time.

Very later after, I met LP4Y. My training was ok most of the time but sometimes it was hard and I had my past coming back, making it hard to deal with my "bad habits". I can really say that before entering LP4Y I was a child and through my months in the Green Program, I felt that I became an adult, strong enough to face my problems.

When I was in Manager Step, I got an opportunity to have an interview in a Peruvian restaurant, exactly one year after entering LP4Y. Soon after that, I started my job as a kitchen staff but I had a big problem to deal with, the res-

taurant was 3 hours away from Calauan. But I was really lucky because the coaches in Taguig welcomed me for few weeks in the Entrepreneurs House. It's the place where we have occasional trainings with professional people from companies in Manila to train us on how to do a professional resume, how to be successful in a job interview, etc...

I stayed in the Entrepreneurs House for 3 weeks for free and it gave me time to focus on my first days of work without anything to worry about. I worked non-stop for 2 weeks, 10 hours a day. I'm not sure it would have been ok for me to keep my internship without staying at the Entrepreneurs House.

Now, I'm still in the Entrepreneurs House but I moved to the 2nd floor where some Stars are sharing a studio. I have a place to stay and I'm contributing to the food and the electricity as I received my first salary. But I know I will not be able to stay there forever. I am waiting for another friend, we will try to find a bedspace not too far to keep a link with the LP4Y Foundation and all the Youth who are now working.

So that we can share our experiences and spend some time together when we have a day off.



SHARE EXPERIENCES



Thuy

20 YEARS OLD

BREAD & SMILES PROGRAM

HO CHI MINH CITY

STEP 4 : ENTREPRENEURSHIP

THUY'S TESTIMONY

My family have 12 people : my parents, 6 older brothers, 2 older sisters, 1 younger brother and me. When I was 12 years old, my parents sent me to an orphanage inside a Pagoda. I stayed at the orphanage 8 years. At that time I could go to school and I learn how to pray for my family but after a while I couldn't handle to stay there anymore. So I was just living like this : withdraw into myself, look like a depressed person. I just had one dream: I wanted to come back my home.

At the beginning, when I joined LP4Y, I couldn't follow the rules of my team and my Coach. I was very noisy and didn't listen very well. I didn't know what they thought about me but I understood they loved me a lot and wanted me to have a successful life. In the center, I could learn more English, I could improve my communication skills and make new friends.

With my coach and my team, I took time to think again for my Life Project Plan and I decide to find a stable job to help my family but I still keep in mind to become bartender in the future.

Now I have a stable job, I am working for Phuc Long coffee and tea house. I am making some biscuits for all the coffee shop in HCMC and I am very lucky because my



manager is a French baker and he also can teach me to make some breads.

I can earn 6 million Dong (€240) a month so I opened a bank account and I can share half with my family. The other part, I use it for me and also to support my friends. The accommodation in HCMC is very expensive so with 6 other Youth from LP4Y, we decided to live together to share the rent. Some are working already and the other are still following the PTE so I do my best to share my experience with them and to push them to succeed.



SUCCEED IN THE IMPOSSIBLE



Dominique

20 YEARS OLD

GREEN PROGRAM

CALAUAN CITY, LAGUNA PROVINCE

STEP 4 : ENTREPRENEURSHIP



DOMINIQUE'S STORY TOLD BY JULIEN, COUNTRY COORDINATOR

Dominique was the first Youth I met upon arriving in the Philippines to start my mission with LP4Y. At the time Dominique was a senior at LP4Y, about to complete the PTE, but even without knowing this I could tell he was someone with experience. As of the first contact Dominique was pleasant, calm, engaging, and spoke excellent English. I was really impressed by his ability to work independently, and by the way he interacted with new people.

Some time later he was offered an internship with a data encoding company. Talk about thumbing your nose at destiny! Dominique was a child from the streets, from a broken family, and yet through hard work and determination he had found his way into a large company in an upmarket district of Manila. Sitting at his computer and using his intelligence and commitment, rather than rummaging through the trash, he was on his way to finding a

better future and breaking the cycle of misery. But the huge leap towards a decent world is always the hardest part for the Young Adults. It is literally a case of entering a new world, complete with new behavioral codes and new ways of talking ... a huge challenge for someone who has grown up on the streets.

It was too much for Dominique. Dominique disappeared from view during one year.

One morning I heard a voice, someone asking if they could come up. It was Dominique! He was thin, and pale, and smiled hesitantly as he spoke. He told us that the last months had been a living hell; he had spent time in prison. He told us he had summoned all his courage to come and see us at the Entrepreneurs' House, because he wanted to change his life and go back to being the Dominique from before.

"So this must be that famous resilience we talk about, the ability to hit rock bottom, and to then bounce back, higher than before..."

That's what I thought as I looked at Dominique, and I started to hope that this time he would have the strength to leave his past behind and build his future. With his coach Florence's help, he updated his skills and succeeded in having an interview at Mother Spice Food restaurants. Dominique stayed focused and made a good impression. He hasn't lost his English nor his commitment, which is why he now has a 6 month contract with the possibility of an extension.

Dominique, with his unbelievable tenacity, is a role model for the juniors at LP4Y. He knows his weaknesses and works hard every day to build his future, in spite of a terrible past which still haunts him sometimes.

And even if we are there to point him in the right direction, and give him a nudge when necessary, it is he who has to work every day to change his life and become the Dominique from before, full of hopes and dreams, but this time with the strength to make them come true.



PERSEVERE WHILE KEEPING FAMILY TIES



Ningsih

20 YEARS OLD

MOZAIK PROGRAM

JAKARTA CITY

STEP 4 - ENTREPRENEURSHIP



NINGSIH'S STORY TOLD BY AURELIE, COACH

Ningsih lives in a hut near the biggest dumpsite of Jakarta, close to her family members. Married when she was 15 years old, Ningsih has a young son, Sahardan, who is now 3 years-old.

When she joined LP4Y, Ningsih had graduated from high school. She didn't have enough money to study in college and lacked the self-confidence to find a job.

She stayed a year and a half in the LPC Semper and made impressive progress. As she actively participated in the launch of the economic activity, she gained a lot of business experience: purchases, production, costs calculation, reporting, etc.

The allowance received weekly, the Life Project Money, enabled Ningsih to save to buy professional clothes for job interviews and allowed her family to have a better standard of living.

She even bought a goat in her family's hometown so that she could resell it later and make some profit!

Meanwhile Ningsih's husband struggled to find a permanent job as he only completed primary school. Her grandfather was sick and unable to work and her grandmother did her best to help by selling drinks in the neighborhood.

Finding a job is not an easy task for the mother of a very young boy, as she must fulfil her family duties. Ningsih can't work in a company far from her home, especially because commuting in Jakarta is very time consuming and exhausting. But during the PTE, she gained a lot in self-confidence and easily takes initiatives. She also learned how to write a CV and adapt a motivation letter.

Thanks to all this and to her incredible perseverance, she finally found a job by herself. She is now a cashier in the Ramayana supermarket near her place.

Ningsih also helped her husband apply for a job by completing the application. Sanudin is now a regular employee of the city as a sweeper.

Thinking about her Life Project Plan enabled Ningsih to draw her plans for the future. Her dream is now to become a secretary and save enough money so that her husband can open a small shop.



ALWAYS KEEP THE GOAL IN MIND



Jetryl

20 YEARS OLD

ORIGIN PROGRAM

LAPU LAPU CITY, CEBU ISLAND

JOB : WAITER, KITCHEN ASSISTANT



JETRYL'S TESTIMONY

Before my life was miserable. I went with the wrong friends and got bad habits: I got desperate and destroyed my life.

One day, a policeman was in my house asking me : "you know those guys?" I said "yes". They caught me and called my friends but they ran. I was the only one brought by the police to the police station. And the police officer had no evidence. Then the police officer put his hand in my pocket, and got drugs ...

When I was in jail my life was like a puppet commanded by all regulations of the jail : I wake up early morning and wait for the head count, after the headcount I take a bath, after taking a bath I clean the cell. I always imagined that I made a mistake to my father and that was why I was in this place. I was hopeless and thought deeply about what happened in my life.

But there is a friend inside of the jail who offered me to join a program called LP4Y. He said that they teach us to be a professional person, speak good English and improve our skills . And I had no hesitation. I am happy at that time because I learned a lot and I learned the way to speak better English and improve my skills. When I was released I got easily job.

Jetryl was released on March 25th 2015. The day before, he told his coach : "I will be released this week coach, I'm so scared". Despite their complicated relationship, his father came to pick him up and he left jail with the number of his coach and the address of the LP4Y center in his pocket.

But Jetryl disappeared: no news, no one knew what had happened to him, everybody was worried ... Until three weeks later, Jetryl appeared at the door of the center in his professional attire, with professional haircut and his LP4Y agenda.

He had printed many resumes and distributed them wherever he heard there were job opportunities. He quickly got hired as a factory worker. After, he went on to become an assistant electrician for two months and then delivery boy. This last job was very tiring as Jetryl had to deliver parcels to other provinces. He started looking for another job that would enable him to stay in Cebu and seized the opportunity of a job in a bar-restaurant. This Jetryl was even more motivated than the one who had been in jail!

His boss describes him as a fast learner, unafraid to take initiatives but always being respectful. If you go to Ananabar, he will serve you with the best manners. Jetryl has not forgotten his dream to become a photographer one day, but for now, he concentrates on his job, and his first goal is to make savings for himself and to secure his future.

These days, Jetryl goes back to the training room in Lapu-Lapu City Jail, but with his black Stars Club polo.

"He wants to give hope to his former teammates, assuring them that a normal life after jail is possible if they fight for it ... and he is the best proof of that! "



WORK FOR THE COMMUN GOOD



Regina

20 YEARS OLD

MY CRAFT PROGRAM

CEBU CITY

JOB : HUMAN RESSOURCES ASSISTANT

REGINA'S TESTIMONY

I come from the Island of Bohol, but I've been living in Cebu City for 6 years now. Before, I was part of My Craft, but now I am a Stars Club's member and I work in a company for the Human Resources service.

Before starting my job, I went to Iligan for 2 months, as an LP4Y Star to help the two programs to launch a new micro-economic activity.

My mission there was to work with the deaf Youth from HearUs! Program and the inmates from Origin program in Iligan City Jail, to teach them how to make jewelries because they were changing activity. I guess my Coach offered me to go because she thought that I had the skills to teach the other Youth, since before, when I was part of My Craft, I trained the Youth from the Origin program of Lapu-Lapu City Jail.

When I arrived, my first difficulty was to communicate with the deaf people, because I can't hear their voice, and they can't hear me : I don't know how to sign, how to ask them questions ... and they don't know how to interact with me.

But we found ways to communicate, and the Youth gave me trainings on how to sign. Quickly, we were able to



discuss, and I even became the translator when there were visitors!

Discovering this new way of communication was the most exciting thing for me

During those 2 months, we learned from each other: I taught them my jewelry making skills, and they introduced me to their world.

"After what I've experienced there, I really feel that we need, with all the LP4Y Stars, to build a strong community, and work together to share our knowledge to the other Youth. "

I discovered that the Deaf Community is really strong, the STARS gather regularly and they are a strong and supportive family for each other.

That's why I am part of the board of the Cebu Stars Club, as the secretary. With the other former Youth, we organize activities for the current LP4Y Teams.

I come to give trainings, advices, to share my experience and I participate to the important LP4Y events.

I want to give back what LP4Y gave me, because I am so thankful I was part of the foundation.

I hope LP4Y will continue for a long time to help the Youth of the Philippines, to help them to find who really they are, to have confidence and to become good professionals ... Like they did for me !



The Youth are our Future, Let's Work with Them !

LIFE PROJECT 4 YOUTH Alliance is a network of local organizations in the Philippines, Indonesia, Vietnam, India, France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the United States.



MEMBER: you will receive the latest updates by email or by post. You will also be invited to the association's meetings, events and the general assemblies.



DONOR: your monthly or one-off donations help create a fund base for the national LP4Y associations in your country, or go towards supporting a team of Young Adults. You may also make donations in kind.

- For all your donations you benefit from the fiscal provisions in your country
- You can make a donation on line on our website, or arrange a bank transfer, or pay by check to your local LP4Y association.



CORRESPONDANT: share news of LP4Y with your contacts and assist in the organization of information and communication events such as the exhibition 'PORTRAITS! When Young Victims of Exclusion become Entrepreneurs!' If LP4Y is not already present in your country of residence you can even help set up a new branch. With the help of the LP4Y Correspondents' Kit (partner files, presentation leaflets, letters, LP4Y PowerPoint presentations) and the support of other LP4Y members in your region you can also approach businesses and institutions to present our mission and establish financial partnerships, appeal for donations, develop professional integration opportunities for Young Adults, arrange training sessions, skills sponsorship etc.



VOLUNTEER: If you are 24 or over, sign up for 1 to 2 years or more. You will be active in Europe, the US or in Asia. Your training and social security, insurance, pension etc. as well as professional expenses (transport, visas, lodging and daily expenses) will be covered. You will be covered by the provisions of the International Solidarity Volunteers or the European Volunteers, or be carrying out your Civic Service. 200 volunteers have already experienced the mission.



JOIN THE PARTNERS' CLUB: our partners play an essential role in the integration of Young Adults. Businesses, universities, professionals and foundations can all contribute to LP4Y:

- by making a financial donation or a donation in kind towards the opening of a new center, for the renovation of an existing center, for its operation or for the purchase of equipment,
- by participating in the additional training of the Young Adults by offering regular or one-off training sessions,
- by accompanying a team and giving them the chance to develop one of your projects,
- by offering advice, becoming a client or by distributing a team's services or products
- lastly, by opening the doors of your company to Young Adults for visits, internships or jobs.

Youth 4 Change



Team

6 activist students
from Sciences-Po Paris

International Partners

21 NGOs

Asia / Africa / America /
Europe / the Mediterranean

Youth 4 Change is a network of organizations that share the same mission: to integrate excluded Young Adults living in poverty. This action tank, created by LP4Y in 2011, facilitates the exchange of good pedagogical practices and successful insertion projects for vulnerable Young Adults.

www.youth4c.org

TV channel
Videos of the Young
Adults and events in the
different countries of
the LP4Y Alliance

www.lp4y.tv



Website
For any information on
the various programs,
our partners
and for all the newsletters

www.lp4y.org



Facebook page
For up to date news,
photo albums, videos
and upcoming events

[www.fb.com/
lifeproject.foryouth](http://www.fb.com/lifeproject.foryouth)

Portraits, The book
and the exhibition
When Young
Entrepreneurs succeed

www.lp4y.org



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To make a difference with the Young Adults from LP4Y, please contact us at info@lp4y.org