
ANNUAL REPORT



DREAM project

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC EDUCATION AND MENTORING

2013-2014

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear **DREAM** Family,

During my five years at DREAM, it has been exciting to see the organization grow from our core programs of early childhood and elementary education to include youth up to 24 years old.

We now run 14 different programs across 15 communities. Overall, DREAM is working with 4,000 students and providing over 600,000 teaching hours per year.

DREAM's continuing challenge is to encourage a culture of reading and learning among our students, families, teachers, and staff. An important element of DREAM's success is our emphasis on inclusive class discussions about what students read and learn. Research shows that good reading habits lead to increased educational attainment, better personal decision-making and more successful careers. We are growing our book club program, mobile library program and expanding our parent education programs, including a new school for parents of two year old children.

The growing DREAM A Ganar Workforce Development Program, funded by USAID, IDB, and Nike, meets the challenges of the local job market for out-of-school and out-of-work youth and has been a huge success. A Ganar has significantly benefitted from strong support of the Sosua, Puerto Plata and Cabarete communities. Over 200 young adults have graduated

from this intensive program and gone on to lead healthier and more productive lives.

A Ganar and our Deportes Para La Vida programs are examples of how DREAM delivers high-interest programs through sports that engage youth and encourage them to reflect on their own talents and the job skills they must develop to be successful.

DREAM is excited to align our programs with the Ministry of Education's expansion of full-day school programs in the Dominican Republic. We plan to work closely within the local public schools, growing our reading intervention model and increasing the reach of the DREAM Con Libros Mobile Library and Teacher Training Programs.

In the following pages, you will learn more about our programs and the individuals and communities that make our success possible. I am proud to be a part of DREAM. I thank everyone whose contributions sustain our work and welcome you to get directly involved. Come visit us!

Sincerely,

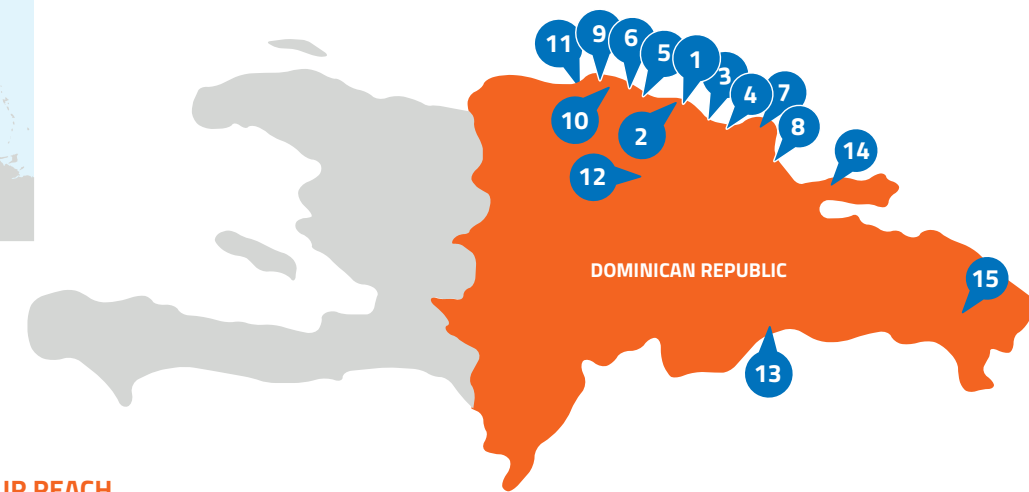
Catherine DeLaura
Executive Director of The DREAM Project



We believe...

We believe that quality, early and continuing education is the most effective way to break the cycle of poverty and change destinies.

Our mission is to run inclusive, sustainable education programs for children and youth in the Dominican Republic that can be replicated throughout impoverished global communities.



OUR REACH

DREAM LOCATION	Early Childhood Education	High Quality Primary Education	Holistic Youth Development	Arts, Culture and Community Enrichment
1. Cabarete, Colonia Nueva	●	●	●	●
2. La Ciénaga		●	●	●
3. Barrio Blanco	●	●	●	●
4. Islabon		●	●	●
5. Sosúa		●	●	●
6. La Unión		●		
7. Sabaneta de Yásica	●	●	●	●
8. Abreu	●	●	●	●
9. Batey Caraballo	●	●	●	●
10. Montellano			●	
11. Puerto Plata		●	●	
12. San José de Las Matas			●	
13. Santo Domingo			●	●
14. Las Terrenas			●	
15. Higüey			●	

WHY DREAM IS SO IMPORTANT

Poverty and the inability for so many families to escape it has a direct link to how much quality education they receive. Our solution is to provide all children with the educational tools they need to create a better future while supporting the work of the public school system.

49% of students do not move on to secondary school

SOURCE: UNICEF, 2012

The DREAM Project provides over 600,000 hours of quality education for more than 4,000 children annually through 14 different programs across 15 communities, affecting the lives of more than 6,000 community members.

DREAM ensures that 100% of your donations go directly toward our education programs. The DREAM Executive Board funds our operating expenses, so your contribution goes straight to those who need it most.

HOW DREAM CHANGES LIVES

DREAM STUDENTS...



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

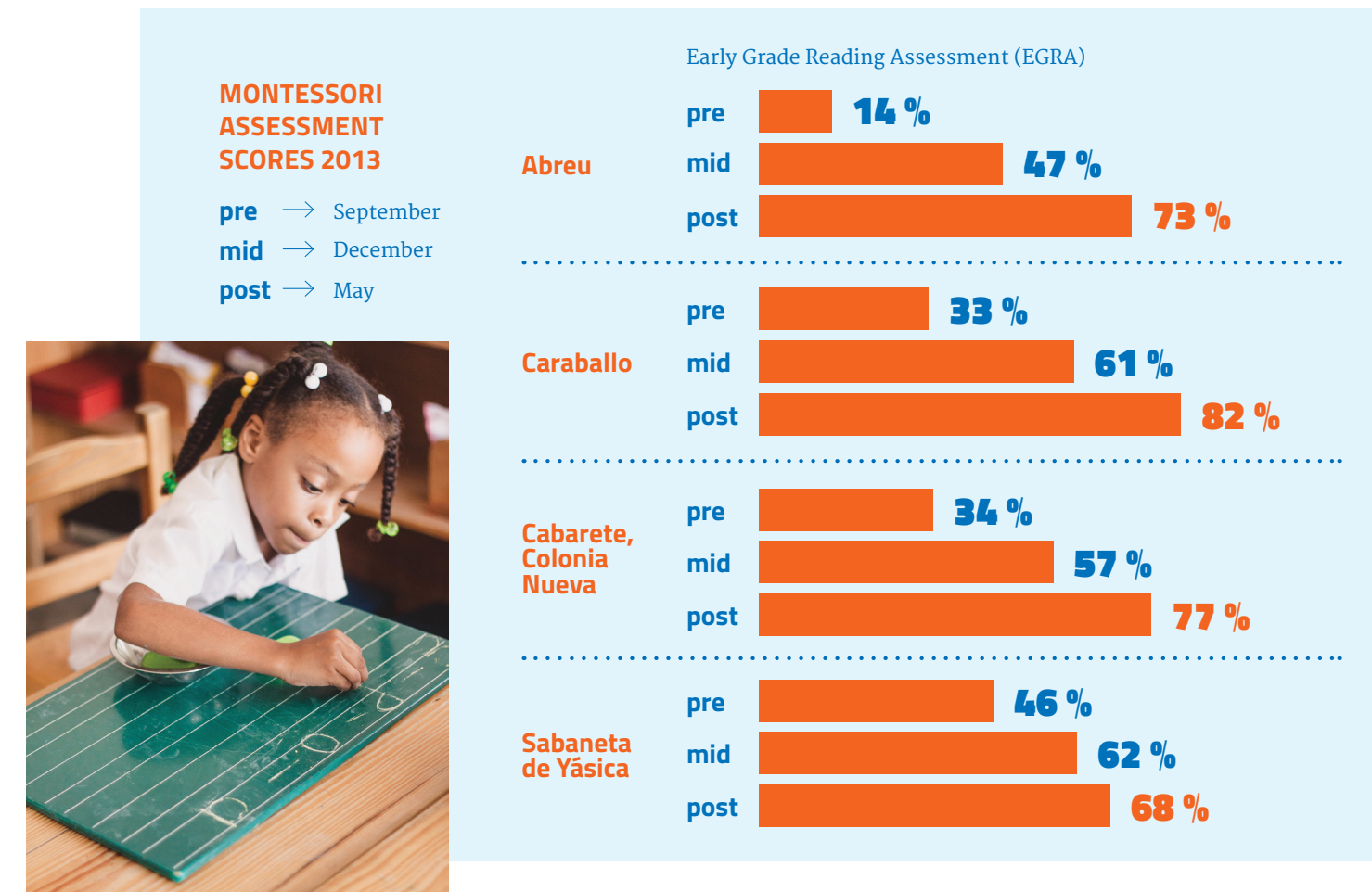
The unprecedented challenge of fixing one of the region's poorest performing education systems demands innovation. **DREAM** believes starting from the earliest stage offers young learners the foundation necessary to embrace change. Students receive early stimulation and development opportunities and arrive at school ready to learn.



Over 500 children, across 5 schools, each receive over 500 hours annually of high quality Montessori instruction by local certified teachers

MONTESSORI EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

High quality early childhood education using Montessori methodology is adapted to individual student learning and developmental needs.



PARENT EDUCATION

Parents become partners in the education process, regardless of their education level, ensuring that children's learning and developmental needs are addressed in the home.



HIGH QUALITY PRIMARY EDUCATION

Once our young learners are exposed to a new culture of education, how do we keep them engaged? **DREAM** students develop strong academic skills, with a special emphasis on literacy and critical thinking, through access to high quality education and learning opportunities.



DREAM has 1 mobile library, 3 public libraries, 5 summer camps, and 4 Young Stars Programs, serving over 1,000 participants

DREAM CON LIBROS MOBILE LIBRARY AND PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Can you imagine a world without books? Through **DREAM**, children with low reading skills in resource-limited communities become successful readers through intensive literacy interventions and access to age-appropriate reading materials.



YOUNG STARS AND SUMMER SCHOOLS & CAMPS

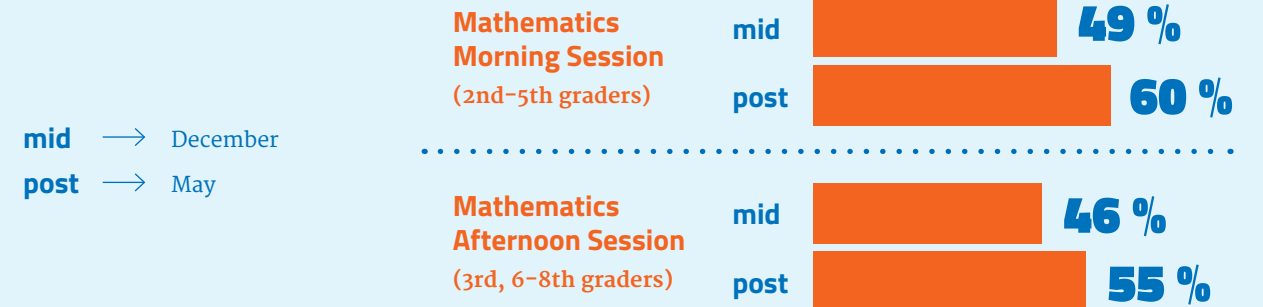
In the Dominican Republic, 49% of youth do not go past the 8th grade. Innovative after school programs and intensive summer programs increase student potential to graduate from primary school and become lifelong learners.

TEACHER TRAINING

Sustainable change can only come from working from the inside out. Teacher training helps public school and local program teachers improve their instructional practices, leading to increased student engagement, growth, and achievement.

MATHEMATICS ASSESSMENT SCORES 2013

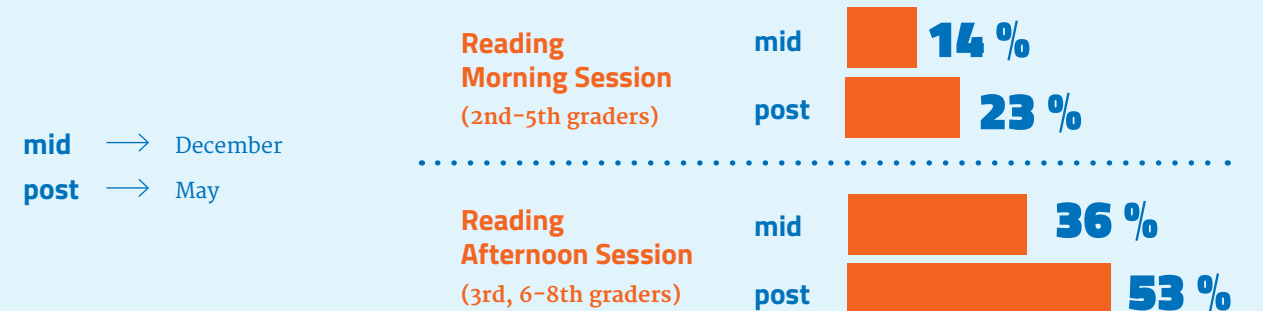
Data shows percentage of answers correct on a basic math skills assessment.



DREAM Basic Math Skills Assessment

READING ASSESSMENT SCORES 2013

Reading A-Z assessment system shows growth of four reading levels (C - G) and one grade level (Kindergarten to 1st Grade) for morning session students. Afternoon session students show growth of seven reading levels (K - R) and one grade level (2nd to 3rd Grade). Growth is based on average pre and post scores. Grade levels based on U.S. standards.



Reading A-Z Assessment

HOLISTIC YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

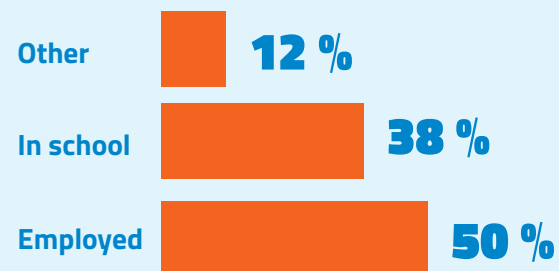
A GANAR

Once our youth transition from their academic career, they need effective resources to reach their next goal: employment. Through A Ganar, at-risk youth secure employment and/or re-enter the formal education system while developing skills and employability to improve their quality of life.



A Ganar has been implemented in three communities, with five 375-hour courses graduating more than 200 youth since its inception

PERCENTAGE OF 2013 A GANAR GRADUATES EMPLOYED OR IN SCHOOL



DEPORTES PARA LA VIDA (DPV) (SPORTS FOR LIFE)

Impactful programs do not have to be expensive to save lives. DPV mobilizes youth to prevent the spread of HIV, make healthy decisions, and become community leaders and role models. Thanks to a collaboration with Peace Corps that includes funding from PEPFAR, DPV has seen tremendous growth since 2010.



DREAM and Peace Corps trainers have reached more than 2,500 youth nationwide in 2013.

AVERAGE GROWTH ON HIV / AIDS BASIC KNOWLEDGE ASSESSMENT FOR NORTH COAST COMMUNITY

pre → before the DPV course
post → after the DPV course



LUCEROS DOCUMENTATION PROGRAM

Do you exist without a document proving it? Through the **DREAM** Documentation Program, children and youth have increased access to social services and employment opportunities by securing birth certificates and other identity documents that enable full participation in civil society. Our inaugural technical course graduated 30 community documentation advocates.



ARTS, CULTURE AND COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT

A traditional education does not always ensure a path out of poverty. Through **DREAM**, students and community members improve their quality of life by engaging in a variety of enrichment activities.

MUSIC EDUCATION

Children who study music are seven times more likely to graduate from high school.

DREAM youth develop their understanding, knowledge, and appreciation of music, learning to express themselves creatively.



Provides 80 students with 128 hours each of music education

COMMUNITY ENGLISH COURSES

The ability to speak English can sometimes be the difference between a life of poverty and a fighting chance.

This **DREAM** program develops abilities to communicate in a foreign language, facilitating increased opportunities for further education and employment.



Provides 60 adults with 20 hours each of English class

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

At the heart of **DREAM**, you will find a volunteer. Skilled volunteers use their talents to provide rich learning experiences based on community needs and interests. Apply online at dominicandream.org/volunteer.



COMPUTER LITERACY

Technology: The great equalizer. Through **DREAM**, youth and community members gain access to information technology and acquire skills necessary for the 21st century.



Provides 175 students/community members with 40 hours each of computer literacy

2012-13 FISCAL YEAR		CUMULATIVE TOTAL TO DATE	
36,803	Volunteer Pro Bono Hours	244,450	Volunteer Pro Bono Hours
30	Local and Year-long Volunteers	1,795	Volunteers
100+	Summer Camp Volunteers	70	Service Learning Student Trips

FROM A MOTHER AND AN EDUCATOR

“My growth through this organization has been so much more than just fulfilling my dream of being an educator - it has been both intellectual and emotional.

Above all of my personal achievements, I have been able to reach my ultimate goal: an excellent education for my daughters through Montessori, then Young Stars, Music classes and all the amazing programs DREAM offers families looking for a better future. This is the main reason I am thankful for this project. Thank you **DREAM!**”



Emiliana Bravo, DREAM Montessori Professor and mother of two DREAM students

FINANCIALS

It is critical to look at the details; Could this money be better spent?

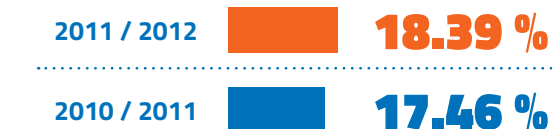
DREAM takes pride in our efficiency and ability to offer the absolute highest quality programming in the most resourceful and sustainable way.

2011-12 FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES	MONTESSORI PROGRAMS	COMMUNITY PROGRAMS	SUMMER SCHOOLS & CAMPS	YEARLONG YOUTH PROGRAMS	TOTAL PROGRAMS	MANAGEMENT & GENERAL	FUND RAISING	
Brochures & marketing	/	/	/	/	/	\$ 427	\$ 4,951	
Payroll & related	\$ 103,039	\$ 28,977	\$ 7,622	\$ 5,020	\$ 144,658	\$ 36,881	\$ 52,810	
Events and trips	\$ 1,095	\$ 2,039	\$ 2,364	\$ 1,882	\$ 7,380	\$ 275	/	
In-kind goods	\$ 6,825	\$ 3,146	\$ 5,139	\$ 12,867	\$ 27,977	/	\$ 2,142	
Insurance	\$ 622	/	\$ 134	/	\$ 756	\$ 1,083	\$ 449	
Meals	\$ 10,951	\$ 30	\$ 15,434	\$ 4,362	\$ 30,777	\$ 5	\$ 542	
Miscellaneous	/	\$ 692	\$ 129	\$ 2,459	\$ 3,280	\$ 1,930	\$ 982	
Office supplies	\$ 3,038	\$ 529	/	\$ 543	\$ 4,110	\$ 1,076	\$ 62	
Phone & Internet	\$ 8	\$ 5	\$ 163	\$ 47	\$ 223	\$ 1,434	\$ 1,963	
Postage & shipping	/	\$ 626	/	\$ 14	\$ 640	\$ 82	\$ 469	
Printing & copying	\$ 309	/	\$ 460	\$ 331	\$ 1,100	\$ 243	/	
Professional fees	/	\$ 29	\$ 134	/	\$ 163	\$ 16,031	\$ 500	
Program development	/	/	/	\$ 1,099	\$ 1,099	/	/	
School supplies	\$ 2,356	\$ 444	\$ 8,085	\$ 400	\$ 11,285	/	/	
Staff development	\$ 9,840	/	/	\$ 1,433	\$ 11,273	\$ 180	/	
Travel & transportation	\$ 4,874	\$ 2,054	\$ 9,548	\$ 4,600	\$ 21,076	\$ 1,036	\$ 6,959	
Occupancy	\$ 2,693	\$ 7,108	\$ 18,109	\$ 33,903	\$ 61,813	\$ 5,162	/	
Volunteer services	\$ 5,585	\$ 57,665	\$ 93,199	\$ 114,095	\$ 270,544	\$ 5,925	\$ 1,580	
Overhead allocation	\$ 40,841	\$ 81,727	\$ 27,450	\$ 42,348	\$ 192,366	/	\$ 35,584	
Depreciation	\$ 6,597	\$ 17,321	\$ 2,479	\$ 4,836	\$ 31,233	\$ 1,460	\$ 2,940	
TOTAL								
	2012	\$ 198,673	\$ 202,392	\$ 190,449	\$ 230,239	\$ 821,753	\$ 73,230	\$ 111,933
	2011	\$ 194,460	\$ 138,116	\$ 253,668	\$ 201,669	\$ 787,943	\$ 66,129	\$ 100,586

SCHEDULE OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

Year ended June 30, 2012 with Comparative Totals for June 30, 2011. Includes in kind and pro bono values. All amounts are in US dollars.

ADMINISTRATIVE & FUNDRAISING PERCENTAGE



TOTAL EXPENSES



DONOR LIST 2012-13

OVER \$100K

IREO Management
Zaleski Family Foundation

\$25K TO \$50K

Playa Grande Foundation
Kimball Family Foundation
Thomas Rosato Foundation

\$15K TO \$25K

JetBlue Airways
JP Morgan Chase
Partners of the Americas
Dominican Board of Tourism
Tribeca Pediatrics
Jennifer Tuvell & "Ace" Alan Bailey

\$10K TO \$15K

Guzmán Ariza & Associates
Jack Cumming

\$5K TO \$10K

Banco Popular
William & Lucy Friedman
Millwoods Christian School
The Seattle Foundation

\$3K TO \$5K

Beyond the Beach Children's Foundation
Mirtha Cabral & Andrew McQuilling
Ellen Flora
The Khosrowshahi Family
Thomas Putnam

IN KIND DONORS (US\$1,000 & UP)

AmCham
Brugal
Casa de Campo
Hudson School
JetBlue Airways
Karla Farach de Athanasopoulos
Ocean World
Playa Grande Club & Reserve
Sea Horse Ranch
STIX
Taina Cafe
Villa Castellamonte (Jason Matthews)
Serino Coyne
Casa Kimball (Spencer Kimball)

AMBASSADOR PARTNERS

Banco Popular
Combined Federal Campaign
FedEx
Guzmán Ariza & Associates
JetBlue
JP Morgan Chase
Kimball Family Foundation
Partners of the Americas
Playa Grande Foundation
Sea Horse Ranch
Tribeca Pediatrics

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY PARTNERS

Beyond the Beach Children's Foundation
The Butterfly Effect
Cabarete Beach Houses

Cabarete Web Design
Carib Wind Center
Coral Bay Real Estate
Guido Perdomo Law Offices
Johan Design
Juan Perdomo Century 21
Kiteboarding for Kids
Menzies Aviation
Natura Cabana
Sandro's Restaurant
Ocean World
4TW
Velero Beach Resort
Hotel Villa Taina

STUDENT TRIP PARTNERS

Adventures Cross Country
Farmington Public Schools

Green Tech High Charter School
Millwoods Christian School
Ramapo College
S-Trip
University of Maryland
Utah Valley Regional Medical Explorers
Washtenaw International High School
Wilderness Ventures
Wilmington Friends School

Our **DREAMers** – The hundreds of donors who give smaller amounts every day, ensuring we continue to educate more and more children.

DR Office

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