

Experiences and Education that Last a Lifetime

## Meet Aidan

At YES, we believe that when young people are given the right support, they rise to meet their full potential. For Aidan, that potential lies in his drive to grow, learn, lead, and now, he has the support to do just that.

Aidan is one of many youth we sponsor. By sharing his story, we hope to inspire you to support others like him on their path to growth.

When Aidan returned from his YES-sponsored journey to the Dominican Republic, his mom didn't see a new version of him, she saw the truest version. He was alive in a way she hadn't seen before. Grateful, grounded, and glowing from an experience that deeply moved him. Connecting with local teens who didn't even speak his language, Aidan embraced the unknown. Aidan was actually invited to return for the summer to train at a baseball academy, an opportunity made possible by YES, and by those who believe in the power



of these moments. Aidan will be spending the rest of his summer in the Dominican Republic! This is just the beginning for Aidan. Through the YES Education and Aspirational Networks, we'll support him directly through renewable sponsorships until he's 19. He will also be part of our broader Championship Network, connecting him with new opportunities in education, the arts, and beyond.

This is what happens when we invest in youth. This is what YES makes possible.



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# Meet Aidan

"I have been so overwhelmed with gratitude and appreciation since this whole trip began but especially since Aidan's return. It's hard to explain what he was like when he hopped into my car after the long flight home. He wasn't "different" exactly but the most "him" I have ever seen. I know that must sound strange but it was like sitting with Aidan x's 10. The most alert, most awake, most happy I have seen him in a long time. So completely in his body and spilling over with excitement to tell me how impacted he was with this experience. Just a few of the things he said that made my heart soar..."I realized that I needed to leave my phone behind every day so that I didn't miss anything. I saw everything and the DR is amazing." "The big city areas and the hotels were not my favorite part. The little villages were my favorite. They have absolutely nothing and they are the happiest people you will ever meet." Listening to him talk to the kids and teens from the DR in his room on WhatsApp is everything. They don't understand each others language but they are like family now.

Aidan got to bring food and supplies to Pedro's hometown and he was overwhelmed with an older man that he met. The man had nothing and lived in a crooked shed but was still caring for his blind sister and he was all smiles meeting Aidan. He hugged Aidan after Aidan gave him food and said the man would not let him go from his embrace. He gave Aidan a cross made out of wood and my son is wearing it still. Honestly the whole trip was eye opening and changed my son's heart forever.

Pedro really loved Aidan as well and has extended an invitation for Aidan to return to the DR to play baseball at his academy for the rest of the Summer. He too saw something in Aidan that I was hoping for. It is an incredible opportunity for Aidan and so friends and family are rallying to pay for him to go back. Pedro just told us to send him on a plane and Aidan is welcome for as long as he wants. Without your help getting him there last week he would have never had this opportunity. I will forever be grateful to you for trusting in us. Pedro is convinced that after a month Aidan will be speaking fluent Spanish and pitching 92 mph. Hahaha. I think after a month at his academy being of service and working hard playing ball he will be changed forever.

I will never be able to thank you enough. I promise we will pay it forward. I also promise we will send you video and testimonials for anything and everything you need. I will let Aidan tell you himself."

-Elizabeth , Parent of Sponsorship Recipient



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## **Our Mission**

Together we sponsor enriching experiences for motivated, yet under-resourced youth, focusing on **athletics, arts, education, and other aspirational endeavors**.

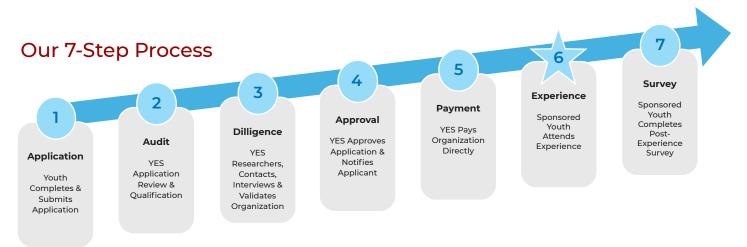
#### **Our Passion**

We fund youth experiences to broaden their horizons and help them:



#### Build Confidence • Build Character • Build Connections

We ultimately want to spark their passion to have the drive and focus to live healthier, happier, and successful lives, while making our planet a better place.



### **Experience Results:**

Short term - Youth improves confidence, work ethic, skills and community involvement. Long term - Youth becomes a member of the YES community learns how to navigate life's challenges, and ultimately lives a life filled with passion, further supported by YES sponsored experiences for years to come.



Support or Join The YES Champion Network Today



### Help Support Youth Alongside YES

Our invite-only **CHAMPIONSHIP NETWORK** is a community of champions and experts that share our mission and passion and specialize in Athletics, Arts, Education, and other aspirational fields, dedicated to transforming the lives of under-resourced youth.

- Our network collaborates to amplify YES's mission of providing enriching opportunities for under-resourced youth.
- Our champions connect and guide our youth through potential programs focusing on sponsorship, mentorship, expertise, and support.
- Our network's impact is multi-faceted, supporting youth directly or indirectly by leveraging personal connections and resources.
- Together, our champions drive growth and accelerate our outreach and fundraising, while maximizing the impact our sponsored experiences have on our youth.



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