Country Spotlight: GOJoven Guatemala

About GOJoven:
GOJoven is a pioneer in youth leadership development and mobilization. The GOJoven model is youth-led, local, diverse, and inclusive. Since 2004, GOJoven has been building the capacity of young leaders and organizations to create positive change in Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH) programs, policies, and services in Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, and Quintana Roo, Mexico.

GOJoven Guatemala Fellows are guided by the following mission and vision.

Mission:
To fight for the observance and enactment of sexual and reproductive rights (SRR) of marginalized adolescents and youth in Guatemala through training, research, communication, and political advocacy in various levels of national public administration and the international community.

Vision:
GOJoven Guatemala Fellows envision themselves at the forefront of Guatemalan society, promoting respect and protection of the SRR of adolescents and youth.

Strategic Focus:
Organizational Development: Develop the structure, function, methodology, and sustainability of GOJoven Guatemala

Civic Participation: Propel the influence of adolescents and youth in the discussion, definition, and social intervention of SRR

Training and Capacity-building: Build capacity among adolescents and youth in SRR that contributes to universal access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH)

Research and Systems: Develop longer and shorter-term multidisciplinary research and systematization strategies to improve ASRH

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Achievements of GOJoven Guatemala:

- Reached more than 13,000 youth and adolescents with ASRH trainings and information to reduce adolescent pregnancy, HIV transmission and sexually transmitted infections
- Developed youth-friendly multilingual ASRH radio programming to reach thousands of youth
- Mobilized hundreds of adolescents and youth to advocate decision-makers and contribute a youth perspective to the debates in Congress about the National Youth Law 38-96 initiative
- Co-organized the First National Youth Conference for youth and civil society organizations to address adolescent pregnancy, HIV and sexual violence
- Partner organization and youth member of the Reproductive Health Observatory (OSAR) national and departmental networks, to improve reproductive health outcomes and monitor the implementation of Guatemala’s Universal Law for Family Planning and Sexual Education
- Developed advocacy actions that contributed to the approval of Decree 8-2015, which modified the Civil Code to raise the minimum age of marriage for adolescents
- Promoted dissemination and awareness of Decree 8-2015 among the population to accelerate elimination of child marriage
- Joined the National Working Group on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (MENEIS) to help advance the right to comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) from a human rights, gender and intercultural perspective, between 2015-2019 at the national level
- Incorporated two new generations of fellows under GOJoven Guatemala, using the GOJoven Model, for a total of 55 new young leaders from 11 departments in the country
- Trained over 700 teachers to offer CSE in primary and secondary schools in multiple departments of Guatemala
- Produced a youth-targeted HIV prevention video utilized by the Ministries of Health and Education to educate youth on protecting their SRH

Where We Work:
The eleven departments where members of GOJoven Guatemala are active

Contact GOJoven Guatemala

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