



The Learning Farm
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**Funding Proposal for Building New Greenhouse
for
The Learning Farm**

Who we are: The Learning Farm

The Learning Farm (TLF) is a non-profit organization that aims to empower marginalized youth through residential farming program. Established in 2005, The Learning Farm's goal is to enable youth to become economically self-sufficient, capable, and productive members of their communities through participation in a 100-day residential training program where they learn about life values, organic farming, enterprise development, and a number of other valuable life skills. Through organic farming, TLF is able to transform participants' values, outlook, and expectations of self and community and to equip them with tangible,



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marketable skills whilst working and participating in a purposeful, communal environment.



The Learning Farm target group is categorized as “youth at risk”. They may be those who reside on the streets, school dropouts, have been exposed to conflicts and natural disaster, live in pockets of poverty, or have no access to jobs. They come from a diverse range of cultural, educational and religious backgrounds and are drawn from almost every province in Indonesia, from big cities such as Jakarta and Bandung to remote areas such as the jungle of Jambi, peripheral islands of Maluku and Papua.

Most of the youth come to The Learning Farm through a referral system from our partner organizations that work with street children and other vulnerable youth or through their own means after being informed about TLF by our alumni. Some of the youth who attend The Learning Farm have only been to elementary school whilst others have graduated from high school. There are participants without families who have lived for



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years on the streets while others may come from single parent homes or may have various other forms of family support. Some have experience with drug addiction and may have been involved in illegal activities, whilst others have never been away from their villages.

Currently, we have more than 1300 alumni in 30 provinces across Indonesia plus East Timor. We have alumni residing from Aceh to Papua. Mostly they have found their way, a better life – working in farming, service businesses, waste management and some even go back to school to pursue higher education, only 5% remain unemployed.

And starting from November 2016, we begin collaboration with UNHCR to welcome unaccompanied youth refugees, starting with 2 Somalian and 1 Afganian refugees. Until now, we have educated 32 youth refugees from Somalia, Pakisan, Afganistan, Benin, Sudan and Ethiopia.

In 2017, we have move to a new farm, thanks to one individual donor who provide us with 2,4 hectars of land. And to Singapore Red Cross who funded the construction of the training compound. This new farm enable us to grow rice, more variety of vegetables, fruits, fishery, ducks and animal husbandry. This program requires steady funding and resources.



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The Learning Farm Program

1. Basic Program

The basic program takes in 40 youth to learn about organic farming for 100 days. The youth aged 15 - 24 are selected to participate in a set of learning activities with organic farming as main teaching media. Aside from that, students also learn lots of skills that suit our 3 pillars. The 3 pillars are **personal growth, communication/literacy, and healthy body & healthy mind**. We are supported by volunteers from various sectors; corporation, foundation, and individuals.

2. Advanced Program.

After completing their initial training, students from the basic program who demonstrate appropriate interest in organic farming and have the motivation to deepen their knowledge are invited to continue to the advanced program for another 2 x 100 days (2 cycles). Therefore, the students from advanced program will learn at TLF for 1 year in total. This is an adequate amount of time to learn different plant treatment in different seasons. At the end of



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this program they will be more ready to become organic farmers and to contribute effectively to the organic farming sector with a deeper understanding of facilitation processes, higher communication skills and a greater knowledge of farming practices.

3. Alumni Program

To further improve and more clearly measure our success rate, The Learning Farm wishes to monitor all of our alumni and assist them with their future development through the provision of organized activities and linking them to access of job opportunities.

Examples of our Alumni Success Stories

- *Joko, a batch 1 student. He was a street youth from Yogyakarta. Together with his fellow student, Slamet, they already have their own organic farm in Kaliurang, outside of Yogyakarta. Joko himself has now developed a small association with a number of peers who are mostly alumni of The Learning Farm to do a consultation on the Organic Farming Business. While Slamet also rejoined him after dedicated his time to work for Green School in Ubud Bali.*
- *Ambrosius, student from batch 10, an orphan that was internally displace as a result of East Timor separation from Indonesia. Went to live on an orphanage in Bandung, get involved with a wrong crowd and live on the street, worked as debt collector and mafia insurance. Until he meet Santo, TLF alumni who encourage him to come to TLF. For the first time in his entire life he was treated as a human being and slowly the scar was healed. The message from a mentor engrave in his memory “you have another chance to learn and succeed” and through his TLF experience he realized that God has a grand plan for him. Since his Graduation day in 2011, Ambros has work in an agriculture research and cultivation, climbing the ladder of carrier in the same company and last year obtain his College degree in Management –*



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with no help from others except himself.

Our Proposal for Contribyoute, Germany

We would like to specifically invite you to help us construct a new Greenhouse, our second one. The old Greenhouse is a 10 years old construction and have suffered several storm with so many patches.

The new Greenhouse will be use mainly to grow variety of herbs that have high value but difficult to plant outside in direct sun. It will also help us to breed our own seeds which will help reduce the cost to buy seeds.

Our proposal is for IDR 375.200.500 = Euro 23,000

Enclosed, please find the budget calculation for the construction. The staff and the students will partake in the construction to keep the budget at the minimum and also to make them have the ownership. Team work is one of the 6 values we instill in our students.

With this amount we will be able to build 360 M2 Greenhouse, plant 12 variety of herbs and other high value vegetables, with a total of 20 vegetables beds. Estimated income per-year is IDR 102.196.000 = Euro 6,000 to 7,000

Enclosed please find attached the list of herbs and vegetables as well as the estimated harvest and income generated from it.

We hope that you will consider our proposal and we are welcome for any input or answer any of your questions.



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Look forward for your positive response.

Please join us planting a seed of change and make a difference.

Organically Yours,

Nona Pooroe Utomo

Executive Director

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