

WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY

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GUADALUPE CENTER



BRESEE GOALS FOR LIFE



THE  
**TK**  
FOUNDATION

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT • MARITIME

2014 IMPACT REPORT

TKFOUNDATION.BS

# THE TK FOUNDATION IS A PRIVATE, GRANT-MAKING FOUNDATION SUPPORTING NON-PROFIT MARITIME AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

Since our founding in 2002, we have awarded more than \$41 million to non-profit organizations that share our values: a hand up, not a hand out; lasting impact; integrity; innovation; and hands-on change.

The stories shared in this report are just a few of the many successes our grantees experienced in 2014. We are proud to be their partner.

If you'd like to learn more about The TK Foundation and the agencies we work with, we invite you to visit us online at [tkfoundation.bs](http://tkfoundation.bs).

## 2014 AT A GLANCE

# \$5.6M

IN FUNDING TO MORE THAN 100 CHARITABLE AND NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

# SUPPORT FOR

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT, SAILING, CAPITAL PROJECTS AND MARITIME FELLOWSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

## SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN AREA OF FOCUS FOR THE TK FOUNDATION, IN PART A TRIBUTE TO THE VALUES OF J. TORBEN KARLSHOEJ, FOUNDER OF TEEKAY SHIPPING (NOW TEEKAY CORPORATION), FOR WHOM THE FOUNDATION IS NAMED.**

Mr. Karlshoej was well-known for championing young people and rewarding their hard work. He understood the importance of education to raise the disadvantaged from their circumstances.

In 2014, with this focus in mind, The TK Foundation issued a competitive request for proposals, with the goal of funding outstanding organizations serving at-risk youth in the United States. The Foundation reviewed 80 proposals, selecting 17 outstanding programs as grantees. "We were determined to focus on support for the best of the best," explains Arthur Coady, Chairman of The TK Foundation Board of Directors. "Being able to review proposals side by side, and applying strict evaluation criteria such as program scope, success rates and service delivery efficiency, made

it possible for us to identify our grantees from among a large field of worthy applicants."

In all, \$3.8 million in grants was awarded to 17 organizations to support 14 distinct service areas. Grant payments, ranging from \$75,000-\$300,000, will be awarded over three years, and are being administered in partnership with The Orange County Community Foundation.

Each grantee is implementing a robust, comprehensive program to enhance the college and career readiness of disadvantaged youth, aged 18-24, from across the country. Funding will support programs such as college and career mentoring, financial literacy, tutoring, counseling and life and job skills development.

"By the close of the funding period, 7,800 disadvantaged young people will be facing a far brighter future," says Arthur. "We could not be more proud to support our grantees in such important work."

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT RFP

# \$3.8M

IN GRANTS  
OVER 3 YEARS

- 17 ORGANIZATIONS
- 14 SERVICE AREAS
- 7,800 YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORTED



TALLER SAN JOSE

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT IN 2014

**\$4.9M**  
IN GRANTS

MENTORING • TUTORING • COLLEGE CAMPUS AND WORK SITE TOURS • TRACKING SCHOOL PERFORMANCE • CASE MANAGEMENT • JOB SKILLS DEVELOPMENT • COUNSELING • FINANCIAL LITERACY TRAINING • SKILL DEVELOPMENT • WORKFORCE READINESS • CAPITAL PROJECTS • VOCATIONAL COURSES OR ENROLLMENT IN 2-YEAR COLLEGES • INTERNSHIPS • COLLEGE READINESS • JOB PLACEMENT SCHOLARSHIPS OR STIPENDS



## ENDING YOUTH HOMELESSNESS AND DISADVANTAGE ONE MEAL AT A TIME

SPOTLIGHT ON STREAT

**EVERYTHING CHANGED THE DAY ALESHA'S FATHER WAS ARRESTED.** From the age of six, when her parents separated, she had repeatedly moved towns, houses and schools. While she's the first to admit her life hasn't always been easy, Alesha had found ways to cope. She knew how to cook, clean and dress and look after herself by the time she was eight. Life's challenges had forced her to mature quickly.

Moving in with her mother in yet another town, she became depressed, dropped out of school and isolated herself socially. Her mother's mental illness exacerbated the problems at home. Alesha decided to leave.

After a harrowing, violent experience on the streets, Alesha was introduced to The TK Foundation-funded STREAT, a social enterprise that provides Australian homeless youth with the life skills, work experience and training they need to start a career in the hospitality industry. And that's when things started to turn around for her.

"Every day at STREAT is fun and educational; even when there is lots to be done. The staff really listen and give great advice," she says. "I've had help with housing, I have a waitressing job and I've met my current partner. I'm very proud of myself for how far I've come."

Pride of accomplishment, which rarely comes naturally for homeless youth, is a theme that resonates with many STREAT graduates. For example, Velocity didn't have a great track record with school. Wracked with nerves, she lacked the belief that she could learn the new skills STREAT offered.

"Sometimes you underestimate how much a course can do for you," she says. "I know I did. But when I look back I can see that STREAT is one of the defining factors in my life. The staff made me so confident; I stopped worrying and knew I could do it if I just kept trying. I'm so proud of myself and I never thought I would say that."

Alesha and Velocity are just two of more than 25,000 Australian young

people who find themselves homeless every night. Most have left school. And more than half face long-term unemployment. Alarming, they have almost half the life expectancy of the average Australian. Participating in a STREAT program isn't just life-changing; it can literally be life-saving.

*ABOVE AND BELOW: Velocity and Alesha glow with pride, thanks to their work with STREAT, a Melbourne, Australia-based social enterprise that has to-date provided more than 200 homeless youth with the life-skills, work experience and training they require to start a career in the hospitality industry. The TK Foundation funded STREAT as a start-up, and has provided an expansion grant in 2014. Learn more at [streat.com.au](http://streat.com.au).*





## ESCAPING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY

SPOTLIGHT ON THE PROPELLER CLUB OF MANILA

**AS RENZI TAYONI PUTS IT, FOR THOSE LIVING IN POVERTY, ESCAPING ITS CYCLE IS "EVERY MAN'S DREAM."** But he knows simply dreaming is not enough. A helping hand and hard work are also essential.

That's why Renzi is so grateful to be a graduate of the Propeller Club of Manila Ship Mechanics / Fitter Machinist program. He credits the TK Foundation-funded organization with helping him change not just his life, but that of his entire family. "If the Club had not chosen me as a scholar, I might still be one of the many unemployed Filipinos waiting for a job," Renzi says. "Today, I'm a skilled worker with Teekay Shipping Philippines, doing a job that lets me travel the world. The Club has helped me become a responsible son and brother to my family. I am proud to support my brothers in their college studies and help my parents provide for my family."

Like Renzi, Michel Del Santos could never have afforded the professional training he received through the Club's Culinary Programme. Today, he's working on board a Hoegh Fleet vessel, and says his achievements give him and his family the hope and courage to not give up because of poverty.

"Everything I learned during my training—focus, discipline, productivity, responsibility—has given me the confidence to build a career," Michael

explains. "I'm a messman today, but I have my sights set on becoming chief cook in the future."

Michael shares Renzi's pride in being able to help provide for his family. "It was such an overwhelming feeling to receive my first paycheck, part of which I sent to my family to help them with expenses," he says. "On days when I am tired, the joy of knowing I am helping my family is priceless."

Michael and Renzi are just two of the 50 Propeller Club scholars who graduate each year, equipped to change their lives, and their families' futures. As Renzi points out, what The Propeller Club offers its students is more than a scholarship. "It's a turning point; a life-changing opportunity," he says. "There will be hardship and sacrifice, but it will all be worth it."

*ABOVE: Renzi (left) and Michael (far right) are excited about their futures. The Propeller Club of Manila, runs a scholarship program training underprivileged young men and women, aged 18-25, for employment with international shipping companies. Learn more at [propellermanila.org](http://propellermanila.org).*

WE INVEST IN PROGRAMS THAT:

1. Enable disadvantaged youth to maximize their capabilities through pathways such as education, training and life skills with a view to becoming self-sufficient.
2. Promote knowledge of the seas and oceans, and strengthen maritime safety and security for the betterment of individuals, communities and the environment.



## MASTERING HER CRAFT FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE

SPOTLIGHT ON WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY

**ALTHOUGH SHE WAS UNDERTAKING A MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION DEGREE, JOSEPHINE NTHIA KNEW HER TRUE PASSION LAY IN MARITIME AFFAIRS.** Her work at the Kenya Maritime Authority had shown her the large gap between need and ability in Kenyan maritime education and training. Young people and women, in particular, faced barriers to access. An MBA, while valuable, would not provide her with the specific skills and training she would need to help effect positive change.

Her decision to study at World Maritime University (WMU) was simple. "It had no comparison to any other university," she explains, "and I am humbled by the achievements I have gained."

A TK Foundation Fellow, Josephine made the most of her 14 months at WMU. Not only did she complete her MSc in Maritime Affairs, she studied Maritime Logistics and Shipping, passed her Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers examination and published a dissertation on Implementation of Maritime Education and Training in Kenya.

Back home, Josephine immediately got to work. She credits her studies and experience with enabling her to play an important role in Kenyan seafarer labor negotiations. A member of the International Maritime Lecturers Association, she works to improve maritime education throughout Africa. And she is committed to helping close the gender gap by improving women's access to maritime training and technology and promoting their advancement to decision-making roles.

"The exposure, confidence, knowledge and experience I gained at WMU has been life-changing for me," she says. "I have been able to offer my services to Kenyan seafarers, my government, neighbouring Republics of Somalia and Djibouti, and I am mentoring Kenyan students studying locally and abroad." In other words, her dreams are coming true.

*ABOVE: With her WMU education, Josephine Nthia is focused on her future. As the International Maritime Organization's centre of excellence for post-graduate maritime education, World Maritime University serves the global maritime community through education, research, and capacity building. Its students are equipped with hard knowledge, analytical skills, vision and a life-long maritime network. Learn more at [wmu.se](http://wmu.se).*



## SAILING TOWARD SUCCESS

SPOTLIGHT ON BROAD REACH FOUNDATION

**TASHA NEVER THOUGHT SHE WOULD BREAK OUT OF HER NEIGHBOURHOOD, LET ALONE FIND HERSELF ON A SAILBOAT.** Her family was broken, money was scarce and life at school had plenty of negative peer pressure. Thanks to her experiences with Broad Reach Foundation, funded by The TK Foundation, her eyes have been opened to a new world of possibilities.

"When I'm sailing, working as part of a team, I feel like I have a real task, and I'm accomplishing things that need to be done. It's improved my self esteem greatly," she says. "I still have a hard time believing that people would work to make this happen for kids like me. I want to learn more and become a winner in life."

Marcus, a Broad Reach volunteer, says there is no greater motivation in life than being successful. "You can see it in the kids' smiles at the end of the sailing day; their confidence is at its peak," he explains. "There's no division between rich and poor on the water. Everything can be left behind."

Owais, a Broad Reach student, agrees. "My family and I are immigrants and don't have much of anything. But I am rich—I have fun, I have friends, I meet amazing people and I look forward to this summer again. It's because I am a member of Broad Reach."

*ABOVE: Students set sail with Toronto, Canada's Broad Reach Foundation, one of 14 grantees from The TK Foundation's Youth Sailing Initiative. Broad Reach provides programs based in the sport, science and mastery of sailing for youth from vulnerable communities. The programs combine leadership and life skills development through sail training – a unique model seldom accessible to this population. Learn more at [sailbroadreach.ca](http://sailbroadreach.ca).*

### MARITIME IN 2014

SAILING FOR AT RISK YOUTH • MARITIME CONFERENCES FOR CADETS • MARITIME SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS • CAPITAL PROJECTS • TRAINING • IMPROVING SECTOR EFFICIENCY

**\$860K**  
IN GRANTS



## COLLABORATION AND COMMUNICATION

SPOTLIGHT ON THE TK FOUNDATION

**THERE ARE QUESTIONS ALMOST EVERY GRANT-MAKING ORGANIZATION ASKS AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER:** “How can we ensure the agencies we fund are operating as efficiently as they can? Are our resources being put to their best use?” In fact, close inspection of agencies’ bottom lines, and their service delivery networks, is a key criterion in The TK Foundation’s funding decisions.

Over the past several years, as it expanded its funding base and reach, the Foundation began to see some instances where better information-sharing among grant-makers and funding recipients could have led to even better grant-making decisions. “We felt the time was right to explore opportunities to open up channels of communication between and among funders and grantees,” explains The TK Foundation Managing Director, Susan Karlshoej. In 2014, the Foundation was instrumental in creating two conferences with the specific goal of improving community collaboration.

For its inaugural Youth Development Mini-Conference, the Foundation invited both youth service delivery agencies and other funding organizations to a neutral forum to share findings and trends in youth development.

“It was so valuable to be able to discuss what is happening in the non-profit youth development sector outside of a grant-offering situation,” Susan says. “There was no pressure; and as a result we engaged in some really honest dialogue. It was enlightening to learn that funders and funding recipients shared so many of the same concerns around effective grant making and service delivery.”

The Foundation learned, for example, that when agencies are required to seek a diverse funding base, they are also required to comply with a variety of reporting standards. Resources that could be better put to use in the

community can be eaten up in time-consuming administrative work.

As a result of the discussions, the Foundation has made key changes to streamline its application process, among other things. “We continue to look for grantee accountability; that hasn’t changed,” Susan notes. “By developing a simplified application process, however, we can contribute to our shared goal: improving our ability to support disadvantaged youth.”

For the International Maritime Funders’ conference, co-convened with Seafarers UK, the Foundation had a different objective.

“The maritime funding community is quite small, particularly compared to that in youth development. Surprisingly, although we all know of each other, we hadn’t established many mechanisms to work cooperatively,” says Susan. “With so much good work to be done in the non-profit maritime sector, now was the time to discuss how maritime grant-makers can be as efficient as possible.”

Key issues on the agenda included reducing duplication of efforts, sharing agency due diligence and project information, and improving communication around funding priorities.

“We learned there was a real desire to share information on grants, which was so encouraging,” says Susan. “As a result, Seafarers UK, with our input, has started work on developing a platform to allow that. It is exciting to see maritime funders actively participating.”

These two conferences are just one example of The TK Foundation’s strategic commitment to creating a lasting impact. “It’s said knowledge is power, and we agree,” concludes Susan. “With improved access to funding information, and a shared sense of community, we can get down to the business of making a difference more effectively than ever.”