

Semi-annual Jovens Construtores Program Report 2023.1

The Jovens Construtores Program (JCP) is a development program with its own social technology aimed at training youth and adolescents. Originally conceived by YouthBuild, the program was implemented by Cedaps in Brazil with the help of YouthBuild International.

OUR NETWORK CONTINUES IN FULL SWING: the saying “*Once in YouthBuild, always in YouthBuild*” makes more and more sense, since one-time solutions don’t fix historical injustices. Only continued support and the search for medium and long-term structural solutions can bring about effective change. Through a partnership between Cedaps, Prudential do Brasil and BrazilFoundation, JCP continues to offer permanent initiatives for youth. Here are a some of them:



Jovens Construtores Continuing Education

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Training sessions on JCP-related topics offered to program alumni in our network.

Conclusion of the Favela Empreendedora Call for Proposals

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This JCP initiative, in partnership with our young program alumni **Arthur Felizardo** and **Hugo Sabino**, was developed to support young people in our network with entrepreneurial experience and fund 10 business projects.



Social-emotional support for youth and enhancement of the Human Development Module

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Process led by counselor **Anne Reder** and psychologist **Adriana Bonneterre**.



Financial Education workshop in partnership with BTG for Jovens Construtores participants and Cedaps employees



Conexão JC: serving the network's youth

Cedaps Youth Front's technical team helps ensure individual attention is given to the demands raised by the young people in our network.

Going further

We've been preparing push forward and take on new challenges. We will soon report on new developments, which have been planned and prepared with the help of two key partners – **Rice University** and **Banco BTG Pactual**. In April, we met with academics from **Rice University** to draw out our scale-up plan, based on an already well-developed project thanks to our partnership with **BTG**, through the **BTG Soma program**. We are currently part of the **BTG Soma network** and continue to count on the support of the **Rice University** group of academics, who are important advocates of youth causes.



Cedaps' participation through its Youth Front in "Give Back Day - BTG Soma Educação", the closing event of BTG Soma's third edition in March this year.

Youth at Fala, Comunidade!

Cedaps has been organizing the event “*Fala, Comunidade!*” for 21 years. It is one of the core events on its agenda since it provides an important base to continuously develop a systemic view of **Health Promotion** by listening and learning from local leaders and their initiatives and social technologies that have been created and perfected, changing not only people’s lives but the realities of the territories and cities they live in. In June, for the first time, JCP contributed to the Seminar’s program. Eighty young people from the JCP network participated by bringing their viewpoints on topics such as social and



Credits: Bel Junqueira

productive inclusion, daily challenges, mental health, and the importance of public policies, family and support needed to empower youth in Brazil.



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The photographic exhibition “*Esperança Corajosa*” (*Brave Hope*) was also launched during the event, bringing a reflection on the challenges of fighting against racism in **Youth and Adult Education (EJA)**. In addition to photographs, the exhibition displayed quotes from people close to the issue, as well as *African Adinkras* and their meanings – symbols that open our eyes to other logics and learnings. The exhibition is circulating through all of the **EJA** schools in the municipality of Rio de Janeiro.

Strengthening GEJA's partnership

In 2022, we approached the Youth and Adult Education Administration under Rio's Department of Education (GEJA/SME-RJ) and forged a partnership that has become quite fruitful ([click here to find out more](#)), and which continues to bear fruit in 2023. In addition to the above-mentioned photographic exhibition, another asset was developed with the JCP youth from CREJA (the school and Reference Center for Youth and Adult Education): greater publicity for enrollment and visibility for the school. The asset was built in four stages: planning; establishing a partnership; elaborating materials; and launching a publicity campaign, including pamphlets containing information about the school and how to enroll in EJA's Elementary school, which were distributed in the streets and squatter houses of downtown Rio. In addition, information was also broadcast on *Rádio Saara* and displayed on a banner placed on the institution's façade.

Participation in events

Participating in events that address young peoples' potentialities, challenges and aspirations is one of the ways that JCP finds to enhance its actions and contribute with its own experience to the discussions raised. These spaces strengthen the Program as a successful methodology that works with and for Opportunity Youth¹ and, at the same time, ensures a discourse that promotes the plurality of young people, making it possible to build effective and coherent actions based on different lived experiences. For this reason, JCP participates and promotes agendas that focus on effective change to the current scenario of young people, while being able to narrow in on social/private mobilization or political advocacy by participating, for example, in the following events:



GIFE Conference

12th GIFE Conference, which took place in São Paulo, on “Challenging the Structures of Inequalities.”

¹ In Brazil, the term “Opportunity Youth” has been translated into Jovens-Potência – literally, “Power Youth” – and adopted by social organizations to refer to “NEET” youth, that is, young people who are not in education, employment or training.

National Directors Association (NDA) in Washington, D.C.

Annual Meeting of YouthBuild program directors in the United States, which for the first time counted on the participation of international programs, with more than 100 contributions.

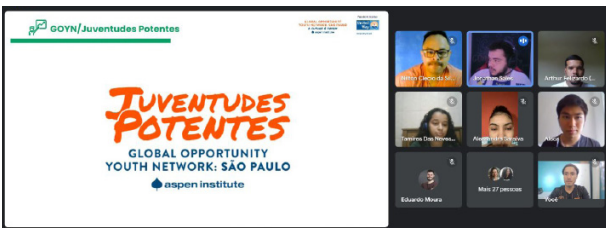


ESG Forum in São Paulo

Event carried out by ABRH-SP in partnership with *Juventudes Potentes*, for the purpose of creating a space for dialogue and thinking solutions for the productive/economic inclusion of opportunity youth. The event sought to raise awareness among corporate leaders as to the importance and benefits of ensuring inclusion of different youths.

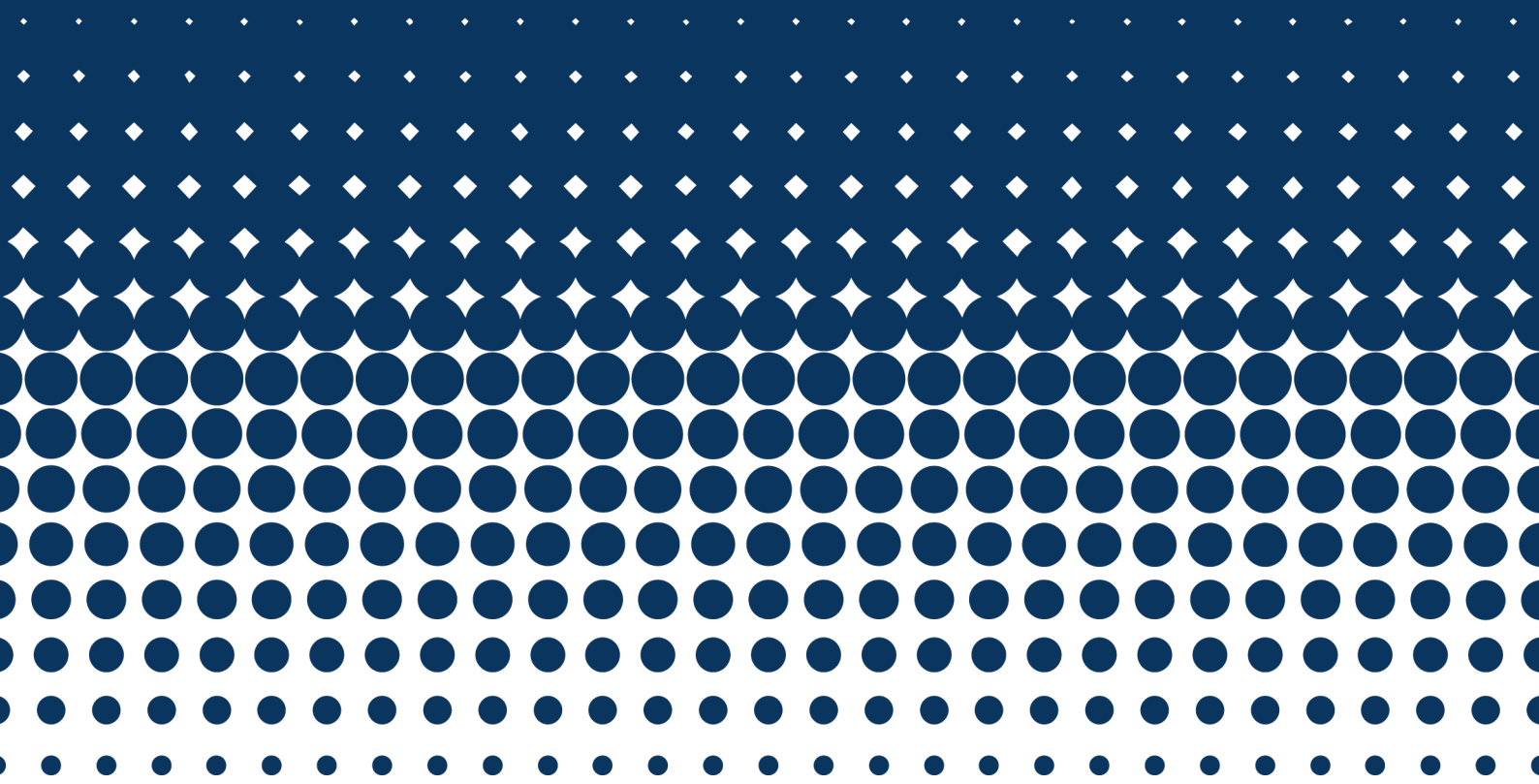
Participation in GOYN Discussions (Territories WG and Youths WG)

JCP participates in regular meetings held by *Juventudes Potentes*, an initiative developed in the city of São Paulo by United Way Brasil. Our contribution takes place through Working Groups (WGs) on Territories and Youths. WG results are used to promote youth participation and engagement and build a more diverse and intersectoral ecosystem with community-based organizations.



Meeting with Marcus Barão, President of the National Youth Council

With Cedaps joining Rio de Janeiro's State Youth Council (COJUEJ), we held the first extraordinary meeting with the president of the National Youth Council, Marcus Barão, with the aim to present and overview of the COJUEJ appointment and inauguration and learn about the National Council's action plans and schedule for 2023.



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