



**EDUCATION** | Education Fund: RISE

**Progress Report**

October 2024–September 2025

## SUMMARY

When youth can't envision a good future for themselves, their hope fades. World Vison's RISE (Reaching Independence through Support and Empowerment) is changing that. In Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala, RISE helps young people become agents of positive change in their own lives and communities.

### Opening doors to brighter futures

In a region where poverty and violence limit choices, migration can feel like the only option. RISE offers a different path: education, employment, and entrepreneurship close to home. Through two innovative models—Teen Ready and Youth Ready—young people gain life skills, confidence, and practical tools to shape their own futures.

### Highlights from fiscal year 2025

This year set the stage for lasting impact. In Honduras, a partnership with the Ministry of Education equipped us to scale Teen Ready across classrooms nationwide. Now, teachers across the country are fostering life skills and confidence. Across the region, churches hosted and facilitated Teen Ready sessions and mentored Youth

Ready participants—opening safe, values-based spaces that strengthen character and sustain engagement.

### Innovations driving change

For older youth, Youth Ready created pathways to advance into jobs, launch businesses, or continue their studies. Innovative tools—such as micro-franchises and virtual-reality interview practice—expanded access to competitive markets. Cross-sector partnerships with companies, nongovernmental organization (NGOs), and local governments opened opportunities, while Joven Salud, an online mental health platform, provided emotional and psychological support.

### Impact in FY25 and beyond

RISE is defined by transformation: a teen once at risk of dropping out now mentoring his peers, a young mother launching her dream business, and a graduate choosing hope at home over migration. In the pages ahead, you'll discover more stories, a closer look at Teen Ready and Youth Ready, and how RISE drives change in Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala.



*Flor, 23, from Sonsonate, El Salvador, overcame unemployment and limited opportunities through the RISE Project. Participating in employability and soft skills workshops gave her confidence and prepared her for interviews, leading to her first stable job at One Dollar. This achievement allows her to support her family and pursue further education.*

*As Flor said, “Thanks to the project, I discovered that dreams can come true when you work hard and believe in yourself. To young people I would say: Never give up. Every process has a purpose, and when you work with faith, every effort is rewarded.”*

## GLOBAL UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

# 152,342

**PEOPLE, INCLUDING 92,909 CHILDREN AND YOUTH** have been empowered with education, life skills, job training, and meaningful employment since October 2022.



## 10,309

adolescents ages 12 to 17 participated in Teen Ready in FY25 in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.



## 5,119

youth ages 15 to 29 graduated from Youth Ready in FY25 equipped with practical skills for life, work, and leadership.



## 2,574

Youth Ready graduates found jobs, participated in internships, started their own businesses, or continued their education in FY25.

## RISE PROGRAM PROGRESS

### Youth Ready

Youth Ready equips young adults (15 to 29) with tools to succeed in work and life. In FY25, 5,119 youth completed the program (108% of target), building confidence and agency. Many secured jobs in customer service and logistics, others launched businesses with seed capital and coaching, and hundreds continued their studies with scholarships and school kits.

### Entrepreneurship, virtual reality, and mental health

This year, we helped reduce barriers to entrepreneurship with micro-franchises, where we paired proven business models (such as small food and service enterprises) with training, seed support, and local mentorship. Virtual-reality simulations created low-risk, immersive spaces where youth practiced interviews and strengthened communication before engaging employers. By partnering with private companies, NGOs, and local governments, we were able to connect youth with meaningful jobs, internships, and additional training opportunities. Mental health support through Joven Salud reached hundreds of youth, reinforcing resilience during periods of economic transition. As Jonathan, 22, from Honduras shared, “Before learning about the RISE Project, I felt small—today my vision expanded.”

### Teen Ready

Teen Ready equips adolescents (12 to 17) with life skills to stay in school and avoid risks like violence and dropout. In FY25, 10,309 teens participated (153% of target), with

a landmark partnership with the Honduras Ministry of Education driving a national scale-up.

### Church partnerships

Across the region, churches are integral partners in Teen Ready—hosting sessions, training facilitators, and weaving Christian principles into activities to nurture character and values. These partnerships create safe spaces that reinforce confidence and hope for adolescents.

Teachers are seeing the change firsthand. Professor Trinidad in Honduras shared: “At first, they were shy, defiant ... but thanks to Teen Ready, we now have bright, lively young people who are developing confidence, respect, and high expectations for their futures.”

### Upcoming plans

Building on this momentum, RISE will expand into new high-vulnerability areas—urban neighborhoods and rural zones most affected by violence and poverty—while deepening work where we already operate. We’ll strengthen partnerships with ministries of education and private-sector employers. As more youth graduate, we expect to see more getting jobs, starting businesses, and continuing their education—creating ripple effects in families and communities. To accelerate progress, we’ll scale innovations like micro-franchises, immersive job-interview training, and online mental health support. Our goal remains clear: equip vulnerable youth not just to persevere, but to thrive.

## STORY OF IMPACT: MERY DISCOVERS HER PURPOSE



Mery, 22, from El Progreso, Honduras, once struggled to pay for her university studies. “Continuing my studies became almost impossible,” she said.

Then World Vision’s RISE project stepped in with an educational voucher. “It was just in time ... to regain the hope that dreams can come true when someone believes in you.” Through Youth Ready, Mery gained confidence. “I used to doubt myself ... but today I can say with certainty: I am capable,” she said. She not only stayed in school—she’s about to graduate with a degree in business management and now volunteers to train other youth.

“In my family, out of ten siblings, I am the first one who is about to graduate from college,” she said. The financial support from RISE allowed Mery to chart a new path. “If today someone feels incapable ... I want to tell them that they can,” she said.

# HONDURAS

## SUMMARY

In Honduras, youth are building new futures through RISE. From classrooms in Tegucigalpa to entrepreneurship fairs in Choluteca, teens and young adults are gaining practical skills and confidence—preparing for jobs, launching businesses, and leading projects that strengthen their communities.

### Youth Ready

In FY25, 2,339 young people completed Youth Ready, turning life plans into action—securing jobs, starting businesses, and continuing education.

Graduates also led community projects like reforestation and health fairs that benefited 51,000 people. Honduras is driving innovation by using micro-franchises—ready-to-run small businesses that let young people operate a business using an established brand and step-by-step guidance—to train youth in food preparation, customer service, and day-to-day business management. Virtual reality simulations build confidence for job interviews, while CrediJoven—developed with VisionFund, World Vision’s microfinance partner—provides affordable credit to launch businesses, creating opportunities to align future economic empowerment initiatives. With 175 partnerships across private companies, chambers

of commerce, NGOs, and local governments, Youth Ready links participants to real opportunities. Psychosocial support through Joven Salud helps youth stay engaged despite anxiety, depression, and other mental health challenges.

### Teen Ready

Teen Ready equipped 11,801 adolescents nationwide with essential life skills. Of these, 3,743 participated directly through RISE, while thousands more engaged through the Ministry of Education’s Súper Pilas program. The curriculum is integrated into 99 schools and supported by 690 trained teachers and mentors. World Vision strengthened the Teen Ready curriculum to align with national education standards, laying the groundwork for its official adoption by the Ministry of Education in 2026. We partner with schools and churches to create safe, values-based environments where parents are invited to reinforce Teen Ready’s life skills and character lessons.

### Partnership for lasting impact

RISE’s progress in Honduras is driven by collaboration. We worked with 147 partners, including 22 churches, and formed 28 new alliances to expand access to jobs, education, and entrepreneurship.



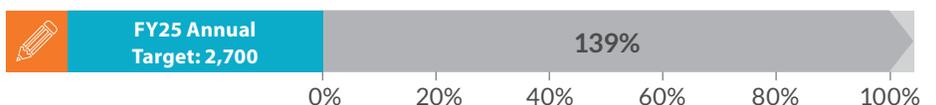
*“Thanks to this opportunity, my business grew and today I can support my children while pursuing my dreams.”*

*Angie, 28, from Tegucigalpa, Honduras, runs a small candy and food business. Before RISE, she struggled to keep it afloat and provide for her two sons.*

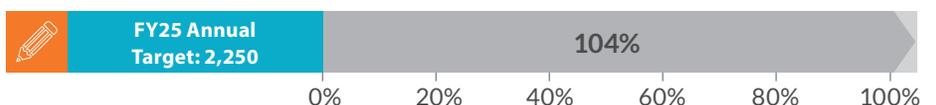
*Through RISE training and seed capital, Angie expanded her product line and moved sales beyond her home. Now, her business generates steady income, allowing her to support her children and continue her culinary studies.*

## PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

3,743 adolescents (ages 12 to 17) participated in Teen Ready



2,339 youth (ages 15 to 29) participated in Youth Ready



# EL SALVADOR

## SUMMARY

In El Salvador, amid migration pressures and limited jobs, youth in San Salvador and Cuscatlán are reclaiming access to formal work and future opportunity through RISE.

### Youth Ready

In FY25, 1,157 young people completed Youth Ready (136% of target), building life and work skills that led to jobs, new businesses, and continued education. Many secured roles in logistics, call centers, and public institutions, sometimes before training ended. Others launched ventures in food, agriculture, and services. Of these, 74% were led by young women, boosting family income and stability.

Youth advanced their education through scholarships and technical training in fields such as broadcasting, plastics manufacturing, and information technology.

We expanded access through tools like virtual reality, which allowed youth to simulate job interviews. By joining entrepreneurship fairs, youth built business connections and accessed financial and support services needed to pursue employment and entrepreneurship.

### Teen Ready

Teen Ready reached 3,383 adolescents

in El Salvador, each of whom developed a personal growth plan. The program is integrating into schools with support from the Ministry of Education, while churches mobilized rural youth and provided mentorship spaces.

In Cuscatlán, RISE partnered with local government and education departments to train 24 teachers and technicians, extending Teen Ready to 2,400 more adolescents.

### Future plans

In El Salvador, RISE is entering a bold new phase. The team will scale Teen Ready and Youth Ready nationwide and pilot a redesigned Excellence Program for high-potential Youth Ready graduates. Under the new Excellence Program, participants will earn an international logistics certificate through Texas Tech University of Costa Rica, paired with mentoring and targeted internships to connect to real employers. Church partners will integrate the Biblical Empowered Worldview curriculum into Youth Ready and Teen Ready sessions, reinforcing RISE's life-skills and economic empowerment training with a Christ-centered foundation that builds resilience, purpose, and community transformation.

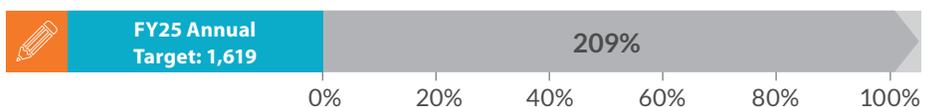


*“Before the program, I used to think that my opinions didn’t matter. Today I know that every voice counts.”*

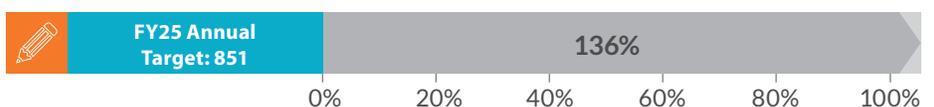
*Wilbert Jefferson López, 19, grew up in Monte San Juan, El Salvador, where opportunities for young people can feel out of reach. When he joined RISE’s Youth Ready program, he expected just another short course. Instead, he found a space that helped him discover his voice and confidence. Through workshops, mentoring, and supportive peer spaces, Wilbert learned to speak up, make decisions, and imagine a different future. With an academic scholarship from RISE, he is now pursuing a bachelor’s degree in computer science.*

## PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

3,383 adolescents (ages 12 to 17) participated in Teen Ready



1,157 youth (ages 15 to 29) participated in Youth Ready



# GUATEMALA

## SUMMARY

In Guatemala, youth face steep barriers—early school dropout, limited job opportunities, social exclusion, and high rates of violence. Girls, indigenous adolescents, and youth with disabilities often encounter even greater challenges. Through RISE, young people are gaining skills and confidence to shape their future. In FY25, RISE reached 4,806 youth with mentoring, training, and tools to pursue education, employment, and entrepreneurship.

### Youth Ready

A total of 1,623 youth completed Youth Ready, each creating a personal action plan. More than 1,000 advanced on their chosen path. Over 480 youth-run businesses remain active—many led by young women—with 300 receiving seed capital to grow. Others re-entered school, joined internships, or secured jobs with support for transportation, food, or uniforms. In Quetzaltenango, we ensured Mam-language interpretation was available to provide equal access for indigenous girls, while inclusive partnerships extended opportunities to 99 youth with disabilities. More than 250 youth received emotional care through Joven Salud, and workshops on stress and risk prevention strengthened resilience. Across communities, youth led

48 projects improving schools, public spaces, and water access—impacting nearly 11,000 people.

### Teen Ready

Teen Ready engaged 3,183 adolescents—132% above target. Through 134 trained teachers and church leaders, teens built leadership and conflict-resolution skills. They restored desks, painted classrooms, planted trees, and ran hygiene campaigns—boosting school pride and safety. Teachers reported fewer absences and stronger ties to school. Educators noted improved behavior and confidence, especially in areas affected by violence. Several schools began integrating Teen Ready into their curriculum.

### Partnerships driving impact

Churches offered trusted spaces for teens to learn and lead, while municipalities integrated Youth Ready into technical training that connects skills to jobs. World Vision partnered with Fundación Azteca to help youth use their training to sell goods and services, and with Banco Industrial to provide financial education and seed capital—helping young people turn their learning into businesses, education paths, and stronger communities.

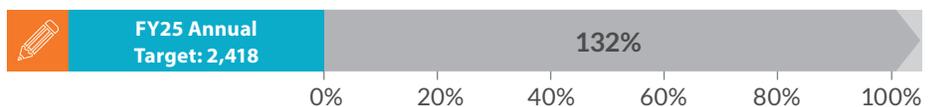


*“RISE provided me with seed capital to boost and strengthen my business.”*

*Débora, 20, from Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, turned a childhood skill into a thriving enterprise. After learning crochet from her mother, she joined RISE To learn entrepreneurship and business skills. With seed capital and guidance, Débora launched ROGCI, a handmade crochet brand that now offers diverse products and employs two people. Her business not only generates income but also preserves cultural traditions.*

## PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

3,183 adolescents (ages 12 to 17) participated in Teen Ready



1,623 youth (ages 15 to 29) participated in Youth Ready



# STORIES OF HOPE

## RICARDO'S STORY

Ricardo, 24, grew up in Ciudad Barrios, in eastern El Salvador, in a Christian family with big dreams and limited opportunities. He once imagined becoming an architect. Later, he dreamed of starting a food business. But without family support or financial stability, those dreams felt increasingly distant.

He worked long hours in a restaurant chain and tried to study with what he earned, but progress was hard to sustain. "At that time, I was impatient, disorganized, and without spiritual direction," Ricardo said. Feeling trapped and desperate, he left home for the United States in search of work. Instead, he experienced detention and deportation—a moment that forced him to confront the direction of his life.



"Being alone, with no one knowing where I was, made me question everything: What am I doing with my life?" Ricardo returned home overwhelmed, struggling with depression and anxiety—and with just \$24 in his pocket.

With that money, he bought rotisserie chicken, bread, and vegetables to make sandwiches. He made a sign that read, "Sandwiches \$1.00," and went out to sell. After hours, he sold only one. "I didn't know what to say to my wife—I had spent money we didn't have." Her response changed everything: "Don't worry, we have food; we'll freeze the sandwiches." They ate those sandwiches for three weeks.

"That's when I decided, 'I have to change. I have to work hard so I don't get to this point again.'"

A friend invited Ricardo to RISE. He went out of curiosity, but what he found was purpose. The program helped him understand that lasting change starts from within—learning to manage emotions, recognize strengths, and clarify goals. One activity, Locus of Control, had a profound impact. "It taught me to take responsibility for the things I can change," he said.

Through entrepreneurship training, Ricardo gained practical tools in finance, business management, and leadership. "Without that training, many of the things I have today would not exist." He also learned how to build relationships and networks. Once withdrawn, he now leans on peers and facilitators—and actively supports other entrepreneurs by buying their products and helping small vendors grow.

For Ricardo, the transformation was also spiritual. After distancing himself from God during years of hardship, RISE helped him reconnect. "Starting each session with a prayer helped me to see life differently," he says. "It reminded me that everything I've achieved hasn't been only because of my own effort."

"Today I have my restaurant Don Aisac," Ricardo said. "I started with very little, but with effort and the support I received, I have been able to build it little by little."

# STORIES OF HOPE

## ISABEL'S STORY

Isabel (center), 28, lives in San Rafael, a densely populated neighborhood in Guatemala City marked by social and economic challenges. From a young age, she loved learning and discovering new things—but confidence did not come easily. Before joining Teen Ready, Isabel carried deep insecurities about her abilities and her future.

One childhood memory stayed with her. She remembers a teacher she admired because of the care she showed her students. “It may seem like a small thing,” Isabel said, “but when she let me help stamp notebooks, I felt such a thrill.” That moment sparked something lasting. “It made me dream of one day taking her place,” she said. Even then, Isabel sensed that teaching was about more than lessons—it was about shaping lives.

When Isabel joined Teen Ready as a mentor, everything began to shift. The program helped her trust herself, recognize her strengths, and understand the value of positive influence. She discovered that leadership was not about having all the answers, but about walking with young people as they learned to discover their own potential.

Since 2023, Isabel has served as a mentor, teaching groups of adolescents in her community. Each session reinforces her sense of purpose. “When I speak to you, I am learning through you,” she often tells her students. She values Teen Ready’s participatory approach, which empowers young people to shape what they learn. “I love the methodology because it allows students to decide what they want to learn and discover for themselves through the activities.”

Along the way, Isabel has experienced moments that affirmed her calling. She recalls one girl who felt distant from God, yet stayed after each session to share her doubts and questions. “Every time we finished the biblical reflection, she would come talk to me,” Isabel said.

Through mentoring, Isabel has grown in leadership, confidence, and discipline. But the greatest reward, she says, is witnessing change in the teens themselves. She encourages them not to keep what they learn to themselves, but to share it with their families and communities—becoming agents of change beyond the classroom.

Isabel extends the same invitation to other educators. “When you decide to believe in young people,” she said, “you are helping to change the future of an entire country.”





Youth Ready graduates receive hands-on motorcycle repair training—covering engines, chassis, and electrical systems—through a partnership with Fundación Azteca in Tegucigalpa, Honduras (October 2025).

## IN CLOSING

Across Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador, young people are gaining skills, confidence, and purpose—choosing to build futures where they live. You met Ricardo. For him, leaving home seemed like the only way forward. Through RISE, he discovered another path—one that allowed him to provide for his family and create jobs in his own community.

You also met Isabel from Guatemala. As a Teen Ready mentor, she is helping adolescents develop confidence, leadership, and life skills that help keep them in school and out of harm’s way. Isabel’s own growth—from insecurity to leadership—shows how Teen Ready transforms not only teens but the adults who guide them. Her influence is creating ripple effects, as teens she mentors are now pursuing bigger dreams for their lives

## PROGRAM-TO-DATE SPENDING

Program spending from October 2023 through September 2025

Summary	Project-to-Date Spending	Project-to-Date Budget	Project-to-Date Spending Rate
Total WVUS Private Funding Spending	\$ 7,398,666	\$ 7,871,941	94%

## THANK YOU

Thank you for investing in young people through RISE—helping thousands like Ricardo and Isabel prove that opportunity at home changes everything. This is the power of RISE: practical skills, real opportunities, and hope that lasts—turning skills into jobs, ideas into businesses, and dreams into education in Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador. We are grateful to God and to you, our donors, for making this possible.



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World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God’s unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

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Education\_Education Fund\_Report FY25 Annual

## RISE BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

These businesses provided jobs, internships, or both to RISE participants. (This list includes private sector partnerships, as well as other businesses that have provided jobs or internships without a formal partnership.)

1. Aceros de Guatemala
2. ADISA
3. Aire Frio
4. Al Capone Cigars
5. Aldo
6. ALFI LATAM
7. All Truck
8. Almacen el Centro
9. Almacenes el TITAN
10. Almacenes Xtra
11. Amepro
12. American Auto Parts
13. Arca De Esperanza
14. Aristos
15. Aspiraciones
16. Autorespuestos.hn
17. Bac
18. Banco Agrícola
19. Banco Davivienda
20. Banco de Alimentos de Honduras
21. Banco Industrial
22. Becas Alcanza
23. Bigos
24. BIMBO
25. Bra Guru
26. Cable Color
27. Cafe Limon
28. Cafe de Tres
29. CAFETANO
30. Camacho
31. CANELLA
32. Capillas Señoriales
33. Carrion
34. Carrousel
35. CCIT
36. Cell Phone
37. Centracom Asesores de Campo TIGO
38. Centro de Formacion San Juan Bosco
39. Cerveceria Hondureña
40. Chafe & Gourmet
41. CINEMARK
42. Clarion Suites
43. Claro
44. Clinica GAMECA
45. CMI
46. Comercializadora San Jose
47. COMIXSEL Cooperativa de transporte
48. Complejo Tabora
49. Conexión
50. Consisa
51. Corporación Multi Inversiones Alimentos
52. Credi Cobros
53. Credimas
54. Crismar de Honduras
55. Daglex Recursos Humanos
56. De Todo
57. Dimafer
58. DINANT Exports/ Corporacion DINANT
59. Distribuidora Cabajal
60. Do It Learning Center
61. Dominos Pizza
62. Don Valerio S.A. de C.V.
63. Electrodomesticos Popular
64. El Salvador at Your Fingertips
65. Empacadora Litoral
66. Energia Potencia y Desarrollo
67. ESCA
68. Espresso Americano
69. Examesa/ Grupo IESA
70. Excel Automotriz
71. Fabrica de Plasticos los Laureles
72. Fanasa
73. Farinter
74. Farmacia Siman
75. Ferreteria Dimoro
76. Ferreteria Germar
77. Ferreteria Santa Fe
78. Ferromax
79. Fundación Azteca
80. Fundesur
81. Gasolineras UNO
82. Golden Seven
83. Gomez LEE Marketing
84. Granjas Marinas
85. Grupo Agrisal
86. Grupo Albamar
87. Grupo Alza
88. Grupo Comidas
89. Grupo Construferro
90. Grupo de empresas de Interaseo y Equipos Honduras, Interaseo Servicios Honduras y Sulambiente
91. Grupo Honores
92. Grupo Intur
93. Grupo Jaremar
94. Grupo Monge /Gallo Mas Gallo
95. Grupo Platino
96. Grupo Roble

97. Hanes Brands Inc
98. Hotel Holiday Inn
99. Import Frut
100. Instituto Tecnológico Centroamericano
101. Inverprova
102. Inversiones Valcer
103. Jetstereo
104. LAMARR Project of Expertise France
105. La Mundial
106. Laboratorios Paill
107. Lady Lee
108. Larach & Cia
109. Larome
110. Lido Pozuelo/Bimbo
111. Logix
112. Master Chicken
113. Mateo Motos
114. MC Farmaceutica
115. MCC
116. Medi Procesos
117. Meet House
118. Mega Famaco/Famaco
119. Megapaca
120. Metro Café
121. Molino Harinero Sula
122. Multi Impresos
123. Nicolatis
124. OEI/ Organizaciones de Estados Iberoamericanas
125. OMEGA
126. Ondusa
127. One Dollar
128. Operadora de Gasolinera de Honduras
129. OPL Honduras
130. Optica Popular
131. Paca Max
132. Pacasa
133. Panda Express
134. Papeleria San Diego
135. PBS
136. Pinturas Americanas
137. Pollolandia
138. Por Salud
139. Projec Phone
140. PROMACO
141. Promasa
142. Promo Stock
143. Pronto
144. Puma El Dorado
145. Químicas Dinant
146. Recargas Virtuales
147. Reposteria Sandra
148. Restaurante Bella Vista