



Graceland University Students in Free Enterprise and ProBelize Team up with Youth for the Future to Help Young Entrepreneurs in Belize

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Volunteers from Graceland offered a 4-day business workshop to teach young Belizean entrepreneurs how to develop strong and professional business plans.

PR9.NET January 27, 2008 - San Ignacio, Belize – 14 business students and 2 professors from Graceland University Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) developed and taught a 4-day "Building a Better Business" workshop in San Ignacio, Belize from January 14th – 17th of 2008. The volunteers taught different business skills to 20 young entrepreneurs. The attendees learned about business management & administration, marketing, communications, accounting, legal issues, taxes, business ethics, and information technology.

The group set up different tables where each workshop participant spent 45 minutes discussing specific business areas in depth with a SIFE member. The almost 1 to 1 ratio allowed for a very personal look into the participants' business ideas, giving them the opportunity to work out every detail of their business plan.

The workshop also included presentations from local Belizean business owners who started just like each of the participants and a talk from the Marketing Specialist of the Belize Rural Development Program. A 12 year old girl, who works and thrives in her parents business, also gave the participants a motivational speech to inspire them.

Participants had to present their business plans on the final day, highlighting their idea, marketing strategy, competitive advantage, and plan to find start-up capital. Each participant received a Certificate of Completion and the Graceland group experienced Creole and Garifuna drumming, dancing, and singing at a celebration afterwards.

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About Graceland University

Graceland University is a small liberal arts university in Lamoni, Iowa which strives to create learning communities where students develop their potential for meaningful and productive lives. Their internationally recognized Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) Team is a part of the larger SIFE Organization, an international non-profit that is found on university campuses in over 40 countries. SIFE teams develop community outreach projects designed to create economic opportunity for individuals and communities. Graceland SIFE is made up of over 70 students from over 20 majors and regularly works on more than 15 projects a year in local, regional, national and global communities.

About ProWorld Service Corps

ProWorld Service Corps is a company specializing in study abroad and volunteer work service projects in Peru (ProPeru), Belize (ProBelize), Mexico (ProMexico), India (ProIndia), and Thailand (ProThailand). Founded in 1998, ProWorld provides enriching experiences for volunteers while striving to make a difference in cooperative communities.

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