

# VIRTUAL SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR CORPS, GUATEMALA

In May we launched our inaugural 8 week Virtual Social Entrepreneur Corps Program. We recently asked participants for their evaluations and feedback. Roughly 80% of the participants (Community Consultants) responded. Here's what they shared with us.

100%

of students would recommend the program to others

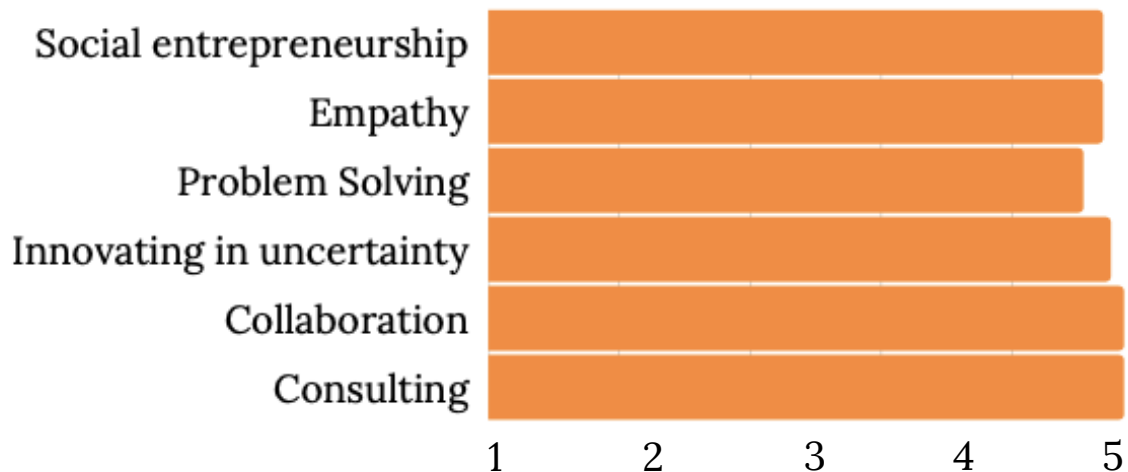
100%

of students enjoyed the program

100%

of students felt supported by leadership

We also asked participants if they had improved their skills through the program on a scale from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). Here are the results:



# TESTIMONIALS

Virtual Edition

social  
entrepreneur  
corps

“The program was truly transformative and impactful on both professional and personal levels. The multifaceted nature of this virtual experience is something I really appreciated. The conversations with the leadership, my team members, and Guatemalan organizations culminated in a rich learning experience. I feel like I can take skills such as empathy, resilience, communication, and creativity and apply them in various aspects of my life.

“The program allowed me the space and support to come up with innovative ideas amidst ambiguity. The leaders were also fantastic!

“VSEC gave me the opportunity to “travel” beyond the confines of this pandemic. The structure of this program allowed for a smooth transition to what remote work with people all over the world can really look like. The amount of camaraderie and teamwork that was created through this platform and program, having never met (in person) any of the leaders or participants, was truly incredible. I felt connected and supported by all participants and leaders and learned so much on the importance of practicing empathy in consulting work, especially when doing so from so far away. The first part of the program focused more on learning the basics of what being a consultant means, especially remotely. Having these “tools” and background knowledge was vital and so helpful for the interviews and projects with our clients. One of my favorite parts of the program was the Spanish lessons. I learned so much and feel so much more confident holding conversations in Spanish, as well as translating between English and Spanish. The connections and meaningful conversations we were able to have with people in Guatemala were so valuable. I am so grateful for the connections we were able to create and really enjoyed the work we were able to accomplish. This opportunity turned out to be an incredible experience, and really turned my summer around. I left this program with tangible skills on consulting work, so many new connections, and a better idea of the work I want to continue to pursue.

“Virtual Social Entrepreneurship Corps introduced me to a whole new way of thinking about effective change making processes. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to integrate empathy, critical thinking, and collaboration to design solutions alongside partners in Guatemala.

“This program has brought 5 wonderful transformations in me. It made me: 1) more empathetic 2) a better problem-solver 3) emotionally intelligent 4) a strong team-player and 5) a better Spanish speaker. Despite the virtual setting, leadership did such a wonderful job of giving us the true Guatemalan experience. We were able to learn and simultaneously implement core consulting methodologies in a cross-cultural team setting. I made really strong connections in the process, not only with my team in the US, but also with our clients in Guatemala. Thank you!

“The program gave me an opportunity to expand my knowledge and understanding of social problems and the chance to build connections with people from different backgrounds. Most importantly, the opportunity to learn, redefine and apply the concept of empathy was a once in a lifetime opportunity

“In my experience with Virtual Social Entrepreneur Corps, I not only learned how to solve problems with various changemaking frameworks, but I also learned how to put empathy into action by taking a “with not for” approach to social impact. VSEC provided the optimal space despite our physical separation. I am grateful for the transferrable skills I developed and will forever cherish the invaluable relationships we cultivated during our eight weeks together.