2025
Impact Report

educate2envision international

Expanding Access to Education in Rural Honduras

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Letter from the Executive Director

In rural Honduras, secondary school is not a given. For most young people in the communities we serve, it has never existed nearby, never been affordable, and never been designed with them in mind. That is the problem E2E was founded to solve. Thirteen years later, we understand it more deeply than ever.

Access to school is just the beginning. The real work starts when a student graduates and faces a world that wasn't designed for them either. It takes networks, exposure, mentorship, and doors held open by people who believe rural youth belong on the other side of them.

In 2025, we stopped trying to solve it alone. We convened the first-ever national cross-sector forum on rural education in Honduras the Cumbre RuralED bringing together universities, government officials, NGOs, and private sector leaders around a single question: what will it actually take to transform the lives of rural youth? Nearly 100 people showed up. Thirty-seven organizations. Eight sectors. For the first time, the people who needed to be in the same room were in the same room.

That same year, we formalized partnerships with two more national universities Universidad Católica de Honduras and Universidad José Cecilio del Valle bringing their campuses, their student volunteers, and their networks directly to our students for the first time. We also began connecting graduates to private sector internships, opening doors that had never been available to rural youth in our communities.

A graduate in rural Honduras faces a narrow set of choices. Stay and work the same fields as their parents. Or try their luck in the city, with girls often taking on domestic labor. What we are working toward is a third option: higher education, technical training, or entrepreneurship in the communities they come from. The structural barriers are real. But an educated young person with the right support has options their parents never did.

Rural education is not a priority in the global philanthropy landscape. We have always known that. It's part of why we started E2E and part of why we keep going. The young people we serve don't need to be rescued. They need to be resourced. They need someone to believe that where you grow up should not determine how far you go.

Thank you for being that someone.

With gratitude,

Katia Gomez

Executive Director

Our Impact In 2025

Since 2012, 3,500 students given access to secondary education across Honduras.

REACH

574 students served

85 communities reached

17 Academies rural secondary schools, each serving 5 nearby communities

LEARNING

41 upper secondary graduates

111 lower secondary graduates

34% continuing to university or technical training

ACCESS

51% female students

122 students enrolled in VOLAR career pathways

$25,000 invested in direct student support books, meals, fees, transport, and more.

Every $341 supports one rural student for an entire year.

For many E2E graduates, continuing to university is not immediately possible not due to lack of ambition, but economic reality. Many return home, join the workforce, support their families, or take on community roles. Higher education is one measure of success, but not the only one for rural youth, graduation itself is a significant achievement.

Yixi Merlo - *Leading With Purpose*

"Leadership isn't just about standing out.
It's about going back and lifting others up."

Yixi Merlo is the oldest of three siblings in a rural community where expectations for young women are narrow and persistent: study, get a title, start a family. Yixi had other ideas.

In 2025, she graduated at the top of her 10th grade class at the IHER Academy in San Juan and was named Leader of the Year in Choluteca an honor awarded by teachers and community leaders for her contributions beyond the classroom. Over the year, she led reforestation campaigns, organized waste collection drives, coordinated dengue prevention efforts, and represented her community at the Cumbre RuralED in Tegucigalpa and at the Universidad Católica de Honduras. When teachers are asked to name a leader, her name comes up immediately.

What makes Yixi's story especially compelling is a quiet but deliberate choice. When offered the opportunity to continue her studies elsewhere, she turned it down. She chose to stay with E2E not because it was easier, but because she wanted more than a degree. She wanted tools to come back with.

That commitment is already taking shape. With plans to enter university in 2027, Yixi has begun designing a reading camp for 6th and 7th grade students at two local primary schools helping those who struggle with literacy before transitioning to secondary school. She is already building the path for those who will come after her.

"I want to grow, but I also want to bring my community with me."

Yixi Merlo, San Juan

Tony Gómez, Pajarillos

Tony Gómez - *Leading The Way Forward*

" If you don't dare, someone else will do it for you. "

Today, Tony Gómez stands in front of a classroom of kindergarteners in his home community of Pajarillos the first person in his family to finish high school, now shaping the next generation of learners in the same village where he grew up. He is 20 years old.

Getting here wasn't straightforward. As the youngest of seven siblings in a rural community where secondary school was never guaranteed, Tony could easily have become another statistic. Instead he graduated at the top of his class, went on to university, and returned home not to escape what he came from, but to invest in it.

Through E2E's youth leadership program, Tony led reforestation campaigns, dengue prevention initiatives with the local health center, and community clean up efforts. His team's project ranked in the top four at the Fabretto Innova competition. He also volunteered in a municipal program for children and youth with hearing disabilities, using his knowledge of sign language to create more accessible learning environments in his community. None of this was required. All of it was chosen.

"These projects gave me confidence, a sense of competitiveness, and prepared me to face any challenge not just as one more person in the crowd, but as someone who makes a difference."

Tony now recruits new E2E students from his community while teaching full time. He is, in the most literal sense, the multiplier effect rural education makes possible.

In rural Honduras, finishing secondary school is not a given.

Fewer than half of all young people complete lower secondary school (grades 7 through 9). By upper secondary school (grades 10 and 11), that number drops to just 27%, compared to 56% in urban areas. The barrier isn't motivation. It's distance, infrastructure, and a school system that was never designed with rural youth in mind.

E2E's answer is to bring secondary education directly into the communities where it has never existed staffing it well, supporting it with resources, and removing every barrier possible.

For students who still travel up to 37 kilometers on foot, by motorcycle, or on horseback our programs are often the closest option they have. Sometimes the only one.

E2E students are nearly 4× more likely to graduate.

27%
of rural youth graduate from high school.

95%
E2E students graduate after starting high school.

Source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2023

Distance is the first barrier

Programs That Empower Rural Youth

Secondary School Academies

Every year without access is a year lost. We're changing that.

In rural Honduras, secondary education is often simply unavailable. E2E partners with communities to launch secondary school programs directly where students live, using a flexible alternative model that makes quality education possible even in the most remote areas. Each of our 17 academies serves not just one community but an average of 5 surrounding communities, extending access to 85 communities in total. While only 27% of rural Honduran youth complete upper secondary school nationally, 95% of E2E students do.

Aula Viva Youth Leadership

Students becoming the change their communities have been waiting for.

Aula Viva is E2E's leadership and community service program for 7th through 9th grade students, focused on civic engagement, teamwork, and social impact. Students don't just learn about leadership they practice it, designing and carrying out real projects in their communities around environmental protection, public health, and local development. In 2025, 336 students participated in Aula Viva 58% of our entire student body leading initiatives that reached thousands of community members across rural Honduras.

VOLAR Career Pathways

Building bridges to higher education, careers, and economic mobility.

VOLAR prepares 10th and 11th grade students for life after graduation university, technical training, or employment. Through our NIDO centers, community based digital hubs with tablets and offline learning platforms, students gain access to technology and skills often unavailable in rural areas. Partnerships with universities including UNICAH and Universidad José Cecilio del Valle bring campus visits, volunteer facilitators, and career guidance directly to students. In 2025, 122 students were enrolled in VOLAR across our academies.

Cumbre RuralED
Advancing Rural Education Together

For the first time in Honduras, the people who needed to be in the same room were in the same room. In July 2025, E2E convened the Cumbre RuralED, a national gathering focused on rural education and youth employability. Ninety-four participants. Thirty-seven organizations. Eight sectors: rural youth, NGOs, universities, government ministries, and private sector leaders, all convened around a single question: what will it actually take to transform the lives of rural youth?

Over two days, participants moved from dialogue to action through panel discussions, a youth participatory forum, intergenerational exchange, and collaborative sessions that produced concrete proposals with named organizations committed to follow through.

The Cumbre also gave rise to Red RuralED, a national network designed to sustain what the room started: cross-sector coordination specifically focused on innovating and expanding rural education in Honduras.

"If we don't work together, we'll keep seeing the same statistics in ten years."

NGO Director, Intibuca, Cumbre RuralED closing dialogue

Youth Creating Change in 2025

When you invest in a young leader, the impact doesn't stop with them. Through Aula Viva, every student who led a project reached an average of 28 community members.

336

Students in active leadership roles

58% of our entire student body from diagnosing community needs to leading the projects that address them.

54

Community projects implemented

Projects spanning public health, environmental protection, literacy, and beyond every one led by students.

28

Average Reach Per Student

9,442

COMMUNITY MEMBERS REACHED

*When you invest in one E2E student, you invest in **everyone around them.***

Real impact led by youth, across rural Honduras

Youth Creating Change In Their Communities

E2E students don't wait to graduate before leading. Across 2025, young people in our programs designed and carried out community initiatives that reached thousands of families in public health, environmental protection, and local development. These are not school projects. They are real interventions, led by teenagers, with documented outcomes.

Dengue prevention, Colonia Los Laureles — Cantarranas

Students carried out an abatization campaign distributing larvicide to eliminate mosquito breeding sites across Colonia Los Laureles. The initiative reached 2,000 residents directly and an estimated 4,000 more indirectly, reducing the community's exposure to dengue and other mosquito-borne illness.

Forest fire prevention, Reserva El Chile — Cantarranas

Students led a protection perimeter effort around Reserva El Chile, a critical natural area in their region. The project reached 856 community members directly and an estimated 18,000 people indirectly through the ecological protection of a shared watershed. It also deepened environmental awareness among the students who led it many of whom had never seen their community organize around conservation before.

Dengue prevention and sanitation, Los Planes — Comayagua

Working in coordination with the local health center and municipal government, students in Los Planes conducted a combined abatization and sanitation campaign that reached 1,040 residents.
The result: a documented 15% reduction in dengue cases in the community. It is one of the clearest examples in our 2025 data of what happens when youth leadership and institutional support meet.

Financial Overview

The vast majority of every dollar raised goes directly to the students and communities we serve.

Our model is built for sustainability. Local governments and families contribute to school fees, and community led projects share costs at the local level ensuring that what we build together is designed to last beyond our direct involvement.

84.7%

of every dollar spent goes directly to programs.

Revenue 2025

$352,258

Foundations	78%	$276,528
Individual donors	22%	$75,730

2025 revenue reflects the receipt of a multi year grant, a portion of which is designated for programming in 2026.

Expenses 2025

$231,201

Programs	84.7%	$195,791
Administration	14%	$32,428
Fundraising	1.3%	$2,981

What Program Spend Covers

$195,791

Invested directly in programs.

- Teacher training and payment
- School operations across 17 academies
- Student meals and travel support
- Alumni support and scholarships
- Program oversight and quality

Where We're Going

In 2025, Educate2Envision completed a new three year strategic plan to guide the organization through 2028. The need for secondary education in rural Honduras has not shrunk. If anything, it has grown. Very few organizations work in this space, and the government's investment in rural secondary education remains critically insufficient. The demand for more programs is real and largely unmet. Our plan for 2026 reflects not a lack of ambition, but a funding reality: without the resources to responsibly expand, we are channeling our energy into delivering more for the students already in our programs, and into building the partnerships and evidence base that will make future growth possible.

Three priorities define 2026:

Investing In Our Teachers

Our programs are only as strong as the people who deliver them. This year we are strengthening continuous training and coaching systems for our teachers and facilitators, including peer learning models tailored to the specific infrastructure and context of each region.

Deepening university and private sector partnerships

Through our VOLAR and NIDO programs, we are expanding our network of university partners and private sector allies to create more pathways for rural youth into higher education, internships, and careers. The goal is not just access it is belonging. Rural youth deserve to feel that the world beyond their community was also built for them.

Measuring what matters

We are updating our assessment tools to track not just academic progress but the growth of social skills and their real world application. We are also strengthening our graduate tracking system to follow students beyond graduation: into university, technical training, employment, and community leadership. If we don't know where our graduates go, we can't claim to understand our impact.

Thank You

None of this is possible without the partners, funders, and individuals who believe that rural youth in Honduras deserve the same opportunities as anyone else. Thank you for seeing what we see: the immense potential of rural youth who, given the chance, transform not just their own lives but the communities around them.

OUR PARTNERS

We are grateful for the support of our partners.

Fabretto Foundation | Fundación

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