



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Working to overcome division
and violence and promote the
potential of young people in
disadvantaged communities



www.fightforpeace.net

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A group of approximately ten children of diverse ethnicities are lying on their stomachs on a light-colored wooden floor. They are all wearing white t-shirts with a circular logo that reads 'FIGHT FOR PEACE' around a central graphic. Most of the children are smiling and making peace signs with their hands. The image has a blue tint.

MISSION STATEMENT

Fight for Peace uses boxing and martial arts combined with education and personal development to realise the potential of young people in communities that suffer from crime and violence.

N.B. This 2015 Annual Report summarises the activities of the Fight for Peace Group (Associação Luta pela Paz, Fight for Peace (UK) and Fight for Peace International), throughout 2015, including statistics and testimonies, which demonstrate the impact of the work done with young people around the world. Financial statements and annually audited accounts are available on request.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

In 2015 Fight for Peace completed 15 years of activity. When we began with a small project of 15 adolescents in the Nova Holanda community in Complexo da Maré back in 2000, I couldn't have imagined how much our organisation would grow.

Looking back, I see how far we have come since then, not only in offering support for young people in areas affected by high levels of crime and violence, but also in developing to offer mentoring and training support to like-minded organisations to do the same all over the world.

Our staff and young people have achieved a great deal this year, and have much to celebrate. As well as consolidating our global partnerships in 2015 and completing the majority of our London Academy new build and refurbishment, we have expanded our work via new downtown offices in Rio de Janeiro, and opening a new staffed country office in Kingston, Jamaica, as part of our collective impact SCI (Safer Community Incubator) programme.

We received important recognition this year too, with on-going national and international press coverage and awards from Beyond Sport for conflict resolution and a Leaders of Brazil Award from Grupo Doria, presented in London and São Paulo respectively.

As you will see from the following Impact Highlights section, our London Academy maintained a very high level of youth participation in Boxing and Martial Arts, while the Rio Academy significantly increased the number of young people they support. Female participation in Rio has maintained steady at 34%. With the support of our dear Ambassador, Olympic champion Nicola Adams MBE, we will work to increase this percentage across the Group next year.

In addition to advancing our partnerships with the International Olympic Committee, and British and Brazilian Olympic committees, our youth champions in both countries have brought home more medals than ever before, with an amazing 347 competition podiums in Brazil during the year - most notably from the judo team who are now ranked 9th in the country -, and with the UK also producing a record number of competitive athletes.

Employability was a big focus for us this year, with the launch of our job fairs in Rio accessing over 670 people from the wider community, and an amazing 124 of 151 young people supported by our employability staff at the London Academy gaining employment during the year.

We finished the Special Project in Rio in December after a two and a half year pilot

project that aimed to support 40 young people to leave full time employment in Rio's drug factions. Full results from the independent evaluation by Cândido Mendes University are to follow in 2016, although I can share with you that the project met almost all the aims and targets it set out to, helping the majority of participants to start sustainable new lives away from crime and violence. A special thank you to the mentors and other staff members on this very intense and at times challenging project, your dedication and commitment to the participants of the programme could not be surpassed.

The Impact Highlights and the Fight for Peace International section in this year's report will also highlight very tangible results from the community-based partner organisations we have trained at the organisational and programme levels, who are now supporting over 240,000 young people in 25 countries. We feel this growth strategy has really proved itself and will continue to build and invest in our Global Alumni Network. In addition to partners increasing outputs around personal development, youth leadership, education and employability programmes, to name a few, there have also been clear improvements in their monitoring and evaluation processes. Furthermore, we have helped our partners in 12 countries to raise a total of £2.8 million of financial support since the programme started.

2016 promises to bring yet more exciting times and new experiences. We will be expanding our presence by opening new offices in South Africa, and we look forward to our global partnership with Reebok really taking shape as our joint communications strategy will be launched and built on throughout the year. And of course, the Olympic Games is to be held in Rio de Janeiro this year. We look forward to participating in the Games with our Olympic partners, although as I write this I learn that, as with the military occupation during the football World Cup, our community of Complexo da Maré will receive an armed military and police cordon that will ring-fence the entire favela. We can only hope that the rights of residents are respected and the Games are peaceful and enjoyable for all members of society, regardless of where they live.

I thank you all for your unwavering and crucial support.



Luke Dowdney MBE
Founder & Director

PHASES ONE AND TWO OF THE NEW LONDON FIGHT FOR PEACE ACADEMY



2015 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

Rio de Janeiro

A total of **1,913** young people attended Fight for Peace in 2015, 34% of whom were girls; one of the highest percentages of female participation recorded in the history of Fight for Peace. Fight for Peace has strived to increase female participation in recent years by increasing services to support women and girls.

Highlights from Fight for Peace's Five Pillars included:

Boxing and Martial Arts: The Open Access project benefitted a total of **1,826** young people through the following sports: boxing, capoeira, wrestling, judo, taekwondo, jiu jitsu, muay thai, MMA and karate. This **66%** increase on 2014 figures highlights the success of the Satellite Academies in Marcilio Dias and Baixa do Sapateiro as part of Maré United.

2015 was also a breakthrough year for our **235** competing athletes, with **347** medals won; **45%** of these gold. The judo team was particularly successful, winning **114** medals and finishing 9th in the National Judo Federation ranking.

Of the young people participating in Open Access:

- **92%** reported feeling more confident about themselves
- **61%** say they are more engaged in their studies since joining FFP

Education: **45** young people participated in Pathways, a programme for young people who have been out of the school system for two or more years. They benefitted from fast-track primary education courses alongside personal development classes aimed at helping them build a base for educational and career progression. Fight for Peace also continued to provide education courses for ex-gang members as part of its Special Scholarship Project.

Results from the Education pillar included:

- **12** young people who were eligible to be in school, but had dropped out, were supported to return to the Public School System
- **67%** of young people on the Special Scholarship Project completed their education
- **87%** of young people participating in Pathways say they feel more confident about the future since they joined the programme

Employability: Of the 183 young people referred to job opportunities by Fight for Peace, 15% were hired. 2015 was the first year that Fight for Peace opened its Employability pillar to the wider community, organising job fairs which offered help with documentation and careers

guidance. **670** people from Maré attended these events. Also as a result of participating in Employability activities, **83%** of young people on the Special Scholarship Project secured employment.

Support Services: The social services team carried out **555** social work visits, to identify the individual needs of young people at Fight for Peace. They also continued to offer round-the-clock support to participants enrolled on the Special Scholarship Project.

Youth Leadership: **15** new young people joined Fight for Peace's Youth Council in 2015, with each Pillar and all three Academies represented by at least one elected member. The Youth Council represented the organisation at a number of events in 2015, including the launch in Sweden of the Save the Children film "Rio Stories", which featured Fight for Peace.

Other highlights:

A new office was inaugurated in Rio city-centre in September 2015, which will double as an office for Fight for Peace's global fundraising, marketing and communications teams, as well as a space to be used for job training courses for young people from Maré.

Fight for Peace was again recognised for its innovative methodology, winning the Beyond Sport award in the category "Sport for Conflict Resolution". Luke Dowdney also received a "Leaders of Brazil" award for being a "Leader in Sports Management".

Fight for Peace appeared in the Brazilian media throughout 2015, with features in the top-selling Brazilian magazine *Veja*, newspapers *O Globo*, *Extra* and *O Dia*, as well as an appearance on *Fantástico*, one of the most viewed programmes on Globo TV. International websites such as *The Guardian*, *Sky Sports*, and *Partners of the Americas* also reported on Fight for Peace's work in Rio. Finally, in late 2016, Reebok began to communicate their partnership with Fight for Peace through their social media channels in the US, Brasil and Europe.

The Rio Academy also received a number of high profile visits in 2015. In April, the National Security Minister of Jamaica, The Hon. Peter Bunting, visited, in advance of Fight for Peace expanding its presence into Jamaica. In July representatives from the World Bank and the Chicago Crime Lab toured the Academy to see first-hand Fight for Peace's contribution to youth violence prevention. In December, the Rio Academy hosted Team GB's Olympic boxing team, who took part in a training session with a group of young people.

"The sustainability of the project is what I find so impressive. You see a lot of organisations

2015 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

who begin and work for one or two years and then end. Fight for Peace is in its 15th year and only getting stronger – that is a real feat."

Hon. Peter Bunting, Jamaican National Security Minister.

"Fight for Peace has shown us that it is never too late to work with children or young people that are normally overlooked for being considered unreachable or beyond hope. This organisation has a truly strong methodology and very well developed local knowledge".

Joan Serra Hoffman, Senior Development and Violence Prevention Specialist, The World Bank.

London

A total of **1,015** young people attended Fight for Peace in 2015.

Highlights from the Five Pillars included:

Boxing and Martial Arts: This Pillar continued to deliver boxing, muay thai, mixed martial arts (MMA) and fighting fit gym sessions, with the addition of two new sports in the second half of 2015 following completion of the new dojo and extended weights room - Olympic weightlifting and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu (BJJ). A total of **895** young people attended Open Access sports, of which **451** were new members.

- **66%** of young people involved in Open Access sports said they are more engaged in their studies since joining Fight for Peace.

Education: The Pathways Module 1 and Module 2 education programmes offer nationally recognised qualifications in English, Maths, Active and Healthy Living, Community Sports Leadership and YMCA Gym Instruction. In 2015, a total of **34** learners were recruited onto Pathways programmes, from which **80%** completed. The programmes continued to attract young people from a wide variety of backgrounds and at point of entry, **77%** were NEET, **32%** had offending histories or were gang affiliated, and an additional **24%** were at risk of offending, entering a gang, or exclusion from school.

The average pass rates on Module 1 were as follows:

- **74%** gained English writing, speaking and reading
- **78%** passed Maths
- **70%** achieved the Community Sports Leadership Level 2 award and 67% achieved the Active and Healthy Living Level 1 award

For Module 2, results were:

- **86%** passed Level 2 English writing, speaking and reading
- **72%** achieved Maths Level 2
- **71%** gained the YMCA Gym Instructor Level 2 qualification

Overall, **88%** of the **34** Pathways learners in 2015 progressed into further education, employment or volunteering roles. A tracer study published in August 2015 confirmed the positive impact of the Pathways programme. *"The research findings show that the Pathways programme at FFP has exceeded its targets over a sustained period of time and has a discernable and significant longer term influence on the lives of young people who attend"*.

Employability: In 2015, the Information and Guidance Officer supported **151** young people, **92%** of whom successfully progressed into further education, training and/or employment.

Progression outcomes included:

- Gaining work - **124** young people
- Completing vocational and employability training - **27** young people
- Entering further education - **10** young people

Additional opportunities provided to Fight for Peace members included an employability programme with Morgan Stanley, a business start-up programme with Goldman Sachs, and CV workshops and interview training with State Street Bank. **19** new partnerships were also established in 2015 in order to enhance the employment and training opportunities available to members.

Support Services: The Support Services team worked with a total of **382** young people, providing holistic support based on individual need. **84** young people received intensive case work support, meeting weekly with a Youth Worker; this support is aimed at the hardest to reach and highest risk young people. Fight for Peace also made the most of its partnerships with external organisations, referring eight young people to the accredited LEAP programme, aimed at young people with anger issues, and four to LIFEbeat, a week-long residential programme aimed at cultivating the potential of young people.

Youth Leadership: In 2015, **9** new Youth Council members were elected, taking the total to **15**. **10** Youth Council trainings were delivered and topics including media training, report writing, presentation skills, communication, conflict resolution, employability-related skills, and networking. The Youth Council also supported the delivery of the following events,

2015 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

representing Fight for Peace and acting as ambassadors for the Academy: two Fight for Peace England Boxing shows; two Fight for Peace Muay Thai and MMA Interclub events; and the Beyond Sport Global Summit in October 2015.

In 2015, Fight for Peace made significant upgrades to its London Academy, creating state-of-the-art facilities in which to deliver services. These include: 'Blue Box' Education and Training Centre: includes a new dojo currently being used for BJJ and MMA sessions, with other sports planned to be introduced in 2016. New classrooms: flexible classroom space with a movable dividing wall was successfully used for the delivery of the Pathways Module 1 education programme. Extended weights and equipment room: a new, larger space to house free weights equipment to aid the development of existing sports and provide the space needed to introduce a new sport – Olympic weightlifting.

The refurbished London Academy received a number of notable visitors during 2015. Olympic gold medalist Nicola Adams MBE visited in March, and became Fight for Peace Ambassador shortly after, representatives from Sony Music toured the Academy in April, and delegates from Beyond Sport came to see activities taking place in October.

Staff and young people also participated in various external events throughout the course of the year, widening Fight for Peace's visibility. In January, Fight for Peace staged a pop-up boxing and fitness event at Westfield Stratford City shopping centre. In February, young people visited Manor Park, east London, offering free boxing and martial arts sessions and engaging with young people from the local area. In April, young people participated in a sparring session with the British and Cuban national boxing teams at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

"I like the fact that there is an organisation out there that is helping young people get off the streets and try to do something better with their lives. It hits home with me, I would have loved something like this because I would have been able to do my education and train all at the same time. I feel really, really passionate about the organisation and being able to be an Ambassador and to inspire more people and more girls to get involved is absolutely an honour to me."

Nicola Adams MBE, Olympic Champion and FFP Ambassador.

Fight for Peace International

The Fight for Peace Global Alumni

The Fight for Peace Global Alumni is a way of scaling our methodology and creating impact

in cities beyond Rio and London. Rather than build new Fight for Peace Academies around the world, the Alumni allows us to partner with community based organisations (CBOs) who are experts in working with young people affected by crime and violence in their cities, and to build their capacity to deliver services locally that are based on the principles and practices of Fight for Peace.

By the end of 2015, **132** CBOs from **25** countries had become Fight for Peace Alumni. Collectively they have reached over **240,000** young people in communities affected by crime and violence. During 2015, new partners joined the network from the UK (**6** CBOs), Colombia (**10** CBOs), and Mexico (**11** CBOs), and we continued to support **49** partners from Brazil, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, South Africa, Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

In addition, Fight for Peace has helped CBOs in **12** countries to raise over **£2.8 million** for new and improved programming based on FFP's methodology, and with FFPI consultancy support.

GAP achieved the impressive milestone of having helped partners to raise more money in new funding than the programme originally cost. To date GAP partners have raised more than **£2.8 million** for new and improved programming based on FFP's methodology, and with FFPI consultancy support.

The Fight for Peace Alumni Programmes

The Alumni Programmes provide a 12 month package of training and consultancy, designed to transfer the Fight for Peace methodology to CBOs and support them to adapt it to be effective in their community. Selected CBOs receive:

- Five day intensive training in all Fight for Peace principles and practices at the Fight for Peace Academy in Rio de Janeiro or London.
- 12 months of bespoke consultancy to support adaptation of the FFP model, and build organisational strength and sustainability.
- Access to the Fight for Peace toolkit, containing a wide range of delivery-ready tools and templates.
- Membership of the Fight for Peace Alumni community, providing opportunities for peer learning and partnership with other aligned CBOs around the world.
- Increased profile through use of the Fight for Peace Alumni brand, and use of Fight for Peace's researched evidence base to help build credibility with supporters and funders.

2015 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

In 2015 there were three different Fight for Peace Alumni Programmes:

- **The Global Alumni Programme (GAP)** – for CBOs outside of Brazil and the UK, delivered by Fight for Peace International, funded by the IKEA Foundation and Comic Relief, originally developed with funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage, The Laureus Sport for Good Foundation, and UK Sport.
- **Rede Brasil** – for CBOs in Brazil, delivered by Fight for Peace in Rio de Janeiro, funded by Petrobras and ChildFund.
- **UK Alumni Programme (UK AP)** – for CBOs in England, Scotland and Wales, delivered by Fight for Peace (UK), funded by Comic Relief, The Paul Hamlyn Foundation, and Monument Trust.

Impact at a Global Level

In 2015 across the **70** CBOs being supported by FFPI trainers and consultants, a wide range of changes were made to programme design and delivery based on Fight for Peace's Five Pillar approach:

- **94%** are providing Support Services and delivering targeted personal development or life skills programmes for young people
- **77%** are supporting young people with their education
- **70%** of CBOs have added or strengthened boxing and martial arts
- **64%** are helping young people to access employment
- **40%** have introduced Youth Councils and are developing young people's leadership skills

Progress was also made in terms of increasing CBOs' strength and sustainability based on Fight for Peace's organisational model:

- **98%** are taking a more holistic approach to their work with young people
- **78%** are networking with other Alumni locally and internationally to share skills and resources, and increase impact
- **71%** have improved their Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning approach
- **45%** have strengthened their branding and identity or improved their delivery space

GAP partners who participated in evaluations in 2015 ranked the top 3 impacts of joining GAP as being:

1. Focussing our operations to where we can make the biggest difference
2. Increasing the quality of our work with young people
3. Giving us access to new contacts

FFPI supports Alumni to evaluate the impact of their programmes using tools based on those we use in our own Academies. Some highlights reported by partners who carried out evaluations this year include:

In Jamaica, of the **86** young people participating in programmes at Rise Life Management Services:

- **88%** feel more self-confident
- **86%** say they have improved self-esteem
- **84%** feel more accepting towards others
- **83%** feel happier about life and 81% feel more motivated
- **81%** say they are less likely to commit a crime
- **75%** say they are less likely to join a gang

In Trinidad, out of **131** young people involved in programmes at **5** partner organisations:

- **100%** feel more positive about the future
- **97%** say they respect others more
- **93%** say they cooperate with others more
- **93%** feel more motivated
- **90%** feel more self-confident and have improved self-esteem

Across Rede Brasil, out of **199** young people involved in programmes at **7** partner organisations:

- **100%** feel more positive about the future
- **94%** feel more self-confident
- **93%** feel more motivated
- **90%** say they respect others more
- **Over 80%** say they have stopped getting into trouble at school, at home or in the streets

2015 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

In Colombia, out of **62** young people participating in **4** partners' programmes in Cali:

- **94%** feel more positive about the future
- **93%** say they respect others more, and are more accepting of others
- **89%** feel more motivated and happy about life
- **89%** feel safer in their local area
- **79%** say they are less likely to join a gang
- **73%** say they are less likely to carry a weapon

In the UK, out of **81** young people attending Tamworth Boxing Club:

- **100%** feel more positive about the future
- **89%** feel more motivated
- **78%** say they have improved self-esteem
- **76%** feel more self-confident
- **67%** say they are more likely to 'respect the rules'
- **63%** say the club has helped them to 'think before they act'

Highlights of what has been achieved in 2015 include:

- **Bulldogs BCA** (BBCA) have designed an adapted version of the FFP 5 Pillar methodology, and secured funding to add classroom space and new reception in the gym. BBCA are now a hub of youth and community development activities having developed a partnership with **46** local organisations to cover education/vocational skills, employability, mentoring/personal development, working with long term unemployed, substance misuse, offenders, young people and veterans. BBCA ran a pilot employability programme funded by Job Centre Plus with a target of getting **10** young people into work. BBCA were so successful, **21** young people into work, that they have had confirmation of continuation funding for 2016.

- **Tamworth Boxing Club** (TBC) have secured funding from Staffordshire local authority to cover all costs for the running of their education and support programmes, increased their staffing from **2** tutors/mentors to **4** tutor/mentors, and built **2** new classrooms to deliver more intensive support for PRU referrals. TBC have also identified and articulated their values and have re-developed their M&E process through FFP support.

- **Achievement Through Football** (ATF) have developed a partnership with a local boxing and martial arts gym and secured seed funding. They have also delivered a boxing and personal development pilot for ex-offenders.

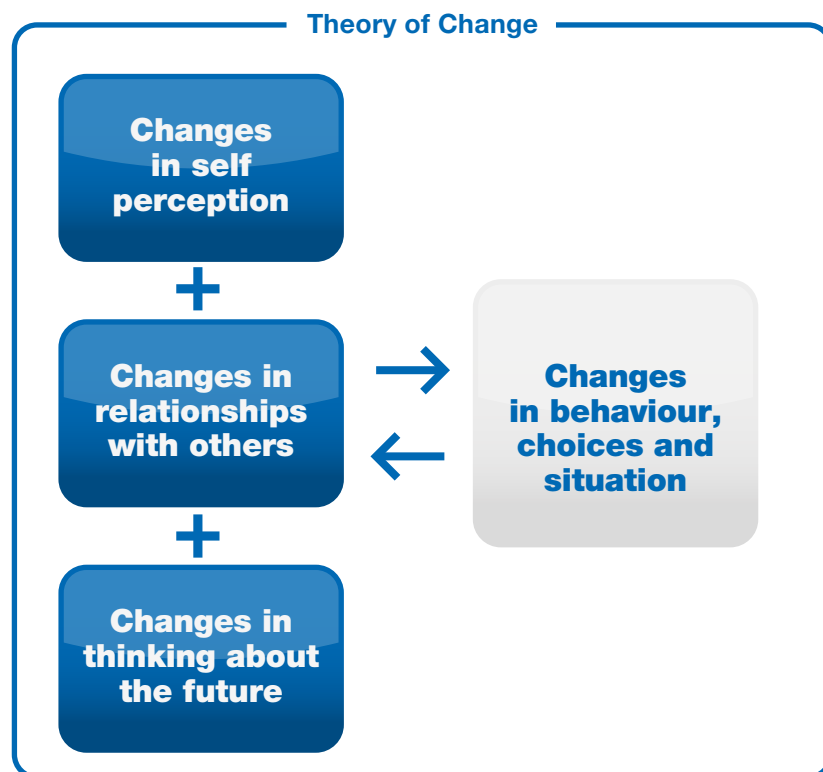
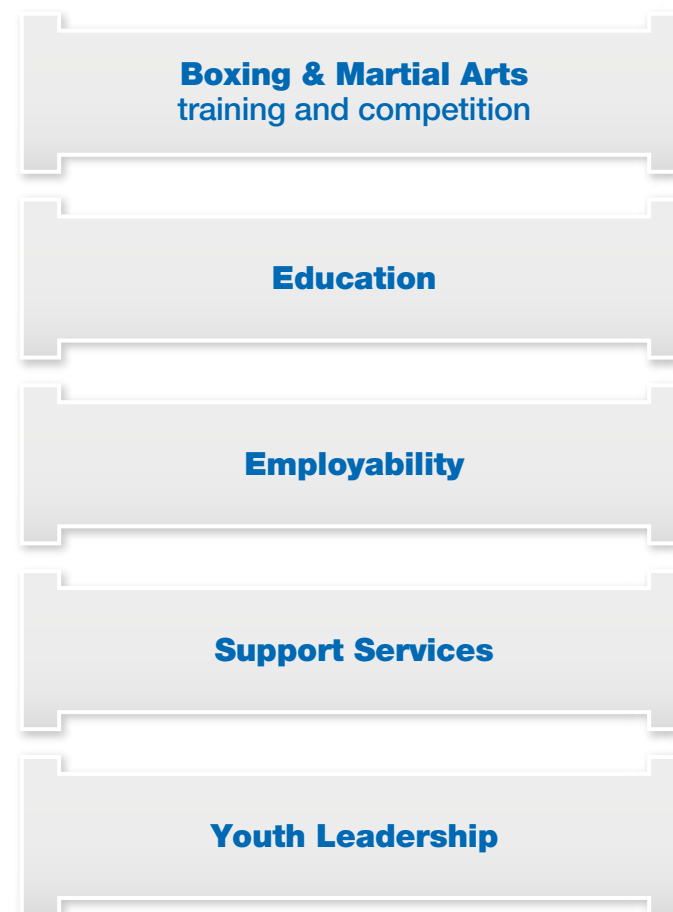
- **Vulcan Learning Centre** (VLC) have more than doubled their PRU intake since attending FFP to 27 spaces, and increased their paid staff from one to three. They have also identified and articulated their values, developed M&E systems and designed a new post-compulsory education programme.

- **Redditch Community ABC** (RCABC) have been through a process to highlight and articulate their values and have developed their gym space into a more positive environment through imagery and positive messaging. RCABC are being supported to develop their own life skills programme and are now developing stronger relationships with schools, PRUs and Youth Detention Centres to deliver these programmes once fully developed.

- **Switch Up** (SU) have been supported to raise funds from corporate sponsors for employability, education and support services, and to develop their M&E systems. These advancements have significantly increased the sustainability of the organisation.

FIGHT FOR PEACE'S THEORY OF CHANGE AND THE HOLISTIC FIVE PILLARS MODEL

Fight for Peace exists to realise the potential of young people in communities affected by crime and violence by creating new opportunities for them and supporting them to make the most of existing opportunities. Providing different opportunities for young people is not enough, however. Our Theory of Change is based on the assumption that a young person's behaviour, situation, and the choices they make, are dependent on the way the young person sees themselves, how they relate to others and how they see their future. Therefore, we focus on personal development throughout our work with young people in order to have an impact in these essential areas. Fight for Peace creates an enabling environment within which this personal growth and development can take place, through our Five Pillars methodology and by living our values.

**Fight for Peace's Five Pillars**

FIGHT FOR PEACE ACADEMIES

Fight for Peace's Five Pillars model is an integrated approach which encourages young people to take up opportunities and develop themselves in different areas:

- 1. Boxing & Martial Arts (training and competition)**
- 2. Education**
- 3. Employability**
- 4. Support Services**
- 5. Youth Leadership**

The Five Pillars model is implemented via interrelated projects and services within the Fight for Peace Academies in Rio de Janeiro and London. Current projects and services in both the Brazilian and UK Academies are:

- 1. Open Access Project (Atletas da Paz)**
- 2. Pathways Project (Novos Caminhos)**
- 3. Services: Individual Mentoring and Casework**
Education & Employment Workshops
Career Advice

The following diagram outlines how these are integrated within the Academies:



RIO DE JANEIRO ACADEMY

Boxing & Martial Arts

Boxing, capoeira, judo, wrestling, taekwondo, jiu jitsu, muay thai, MMA and karate are all offered to young people ranging from **7 to 29** years old, promoting positive values, helping participants acquire higher levels of self-esteem, concentration, respect towards others, as well as empowering them to aim for a better future for themselves and their families.

Throughout 2015, **1,826** young people, a **66%** increase on 2014's figures, attended the Open Access sports at Fight for Peace in Rio de Janeiro. This statistic demonstrates the consolidation of Fight for Peace's satellite Academies in Baixa do Sapateiro and Marílio Dias (see the section related to the Maré United project on page 11).

Separating the respective sports offered at Fight for Peace in Rio, **866** young people trained in boxing, **234** in judo, **423** in muay thai, **155** in taekwondo, **212** in jiu jitsu, **210** in capoeira, **129** in wrestling and **87** in MMA.

All young people enrolled in Fight for Peace's Open Access activities have to attend weekly personal development sessions where they are encouraged to broaden their horizons and are given the necessary skills to do so.

Every year, Fight for Peace conducts an annual survey with all its participants to analyse the impact of its work. Some of the results from the 2015 survey show that after joining Fight for Peace:

- **87%** of members feel more positive about their future
- **77%** of members have better relationships with their family
- **66%** of members improved their performance in school
- **60%** of members say they are less likely to commit a crime

Champions

Fight for Peace members who show a natural aptitude in their respective sports are invited to compete if they wish to. By attending more intensive training sessions and with the guidance of Fight for Peace's professionally trained coaches, many of these young people can and do achieve high levels of competitive success.

2015 has been a great year for Boxing & Martial Arts athletes. We witnessed an amazing increase in the number of medals our competitors scored in the many competitions they attended locally and nationally – a **61%** increase in comparison to 2014. Gold medals increased by **32%**, Silver medals by **72%**, and Bronze Medals by **131%**.

Victor Hugo Costa, Wanderson Oliveira, Pablo Vitor and Douglas Andrade all won the most important title for an amateur Brazilian boxer: National Champion. Just as rewarding, Michel Soares and Matheus Mendonça ranked second place in the same competition, the most prestigious event in the Brazilian boxing scene.

Our judo team was placed in **9th** position in the official Judo Federation ranking, after winning 114 medals compared to 44 in 2014. Cleiton Soares, Paulo Vinícius Almeida, Jefferson Teixeira and Matheus Melo won their titles during the year, a reward for their competence and skillfulness.

Of our jiu jitsu athletes, Douglas Marques and Pablo Rodrigues displayed an impressive performance by winning the Regional Championship. Maria Jordânia Ferreira, Glenda Rezende and Leonardo Vasques won the South-American Championship.

Wrestling athletes have also delivered incredible performances. There were **31** consecutive matches without defeats. All together, they brought home **4** team trophies for Fight for Peace.

Our MMA athletes debuted in MMA competitions for the first time, with good results as well – both Jefferson Felix, Roberto Santos and Jonas Cheyman fought several matches and remain undefeated.

Quotes from athletes

"Last year my performance was outstanding in all competitions I fought! My sensei always tells us that 'the position we achieve in a competition doesn't really matter – instead it is the desire to give our best on the tatami that defines who we are as an athlete'. The will to fight is the most important thing I've learned since I joined. Fight for Peace encourages us a lot to compete, because life is an eternal competition: an attempt to access university, to find employment, to raise a family.... We need to be prepared to face these challenges with confidence and focus – things I am proud to learn every day at Fight for Peace."

Ewerton Leandro Manoel Pena, 15 years old, Open Access (judo) – Nova Holanda Academy.

"I have to confess that when I started training wrestling at Fight for Peace I was afraid of not achieving my goals... But when I looked at my first medal I understood that it was worth all the efforts I made, and everything I had to give up to achieve that victory. It was worth every bit of adrenaline, countless sleepless nights, intensive training... I have to thank Fight for Peace staff, my coach and my friends for their faith in my strength."

Jaqueline, 21 years old, Open Access (wrestling) – Nova Holanda Academy.

"It has been two years now that I am a member of Fight for Peace... Everyone can see the difference FFP had in my life. Before joining the activities, I had a very erratic, aggressive and explosive behavior towards everything. Nowadays, I always think a lot before answering to any situation in my life, and that fighting back is not the best choice all the time. Fight for Peace offered me a chance to think twice, to make new friends and to get along with everyone."

Maria do Socorro de Melo, Open Access (muay thai, wrestling) – Nova Holanda Academy.

"Before joining Fight for Peace, I used to be one the streets most of the time, because I had nothing else to do. A lot has changed in me since I came here: I used to have a really low self-esteem and little interest in anything – but nowadays I have clear goals for my life. I want to train harder and earn my 'black belt' title, compete, thrive and, one day, represent the favela in the Olympic Games. Here at Fight for Peace I have found the meaning of true friendships and loyalty, things there are hard to come by these days... Here I had the chance to attend several qualification courses, learn new things every day, opportunities that are not usually offered to kids in the favelas. I am very grateful to what FFP help me achieve during this time"

Keyla, Open Access (judo) – Nova Holanda Academy.

Education

There are an insufficient number of schools to support the people in the age range **16 to 29** years old in Complexo da Maré and so, in 2008, Fight for Peace was able to broaden its Education Pillar with the Pathways (Novos Caminhos) education project. After a successfully evaluated pilot-project, Pathways started its activities offering two classes of **35** students each in Primary and Secondary fast-track education.

The programme supports young people who have not been studying for at least two years and its success in the local community has meant there is currently a waiting list, which further illustrates the lack of educational opportunities in the area.

In 2015, the Pathways project in Rio de Janeiro continued incentivising a number of young people to return to the classrooms. In total, **45** young people attended Primary and Secondary classes.

Just as in the Open Access project, students from Pathways have to attend weekly personal development sessions, which, combined with individual mentoring from the social support

team, offer broader learning and a stable base of support for the participants as they work towards building better opportunities for their futures.

Those enrolled in Pathways are also asked to complete Fight for Peace's annual survey questionnaires. In 2015, since joining Fight for Peace's activities:

- **90%** feel more motivated
- **85%** feel more independent
- **81%** say they accept other people's differences
- **87%** feel more confident about the future

Personal Development

Fight for Peace's Five Pillars working methodology consists of a holistic approach aiming to promote the personal development of marginalised young people living in communities that suffer from crime, violence and a lack of socioeconomic opportunities. All the members enrolled in Fight for Peace's activities have to attend weekly personal development sessions where they discuss a variety of issues related to their daily lives using a wide set of resources and tools, such as the use of books and films, relevant external visits, lectures and group workshops.

Maré United

The Maré United project aims to break down the invisible barriers enforced by rival drug factions and to integrate the 17 communities of Complexo da Maré and its residents by combining the positive effects of sport, education and personal development and by offering opportunities to young people in areas that Fight for Peace was not previously able to reach. Launched in 2011 with the opening of two new satellite Academies in Complexo da Maré, the Maré United project has achieved good results over the past four years. In 2015, more and more young people crossed the 'invisible barriers' enforced by drug traffickers thanks to movement between the communities in which Fight for Peace works.

In Baixa do Sapateiro, **213** young people enrolled in the Open Access project, which is composed of four sports – boxing, capoeira, jiu jitsu and muay thai.

In Marcílio Dias, **289** young people arrived at Fight for Peace through the Open Access project, to take part in boxing and taekwondo.

Of the **1,926** young people who participated in the Open Access project at Fight for Peace in 2015, **27%** came from the satellite Academies.

Quotes from Maré United participant

"Fight for Peace has changed a lot in my life. As an athlete, but mostly as a member of the Youth Council, I learned that everyone – each and every single one of us can compete and thrive in all areas of our lives. By participating in the Youth Council I learned to be much more responsible, to interact more with people, to support my peers, to help other young people... I even had the chance to make an English course! I hope I continue here for a long time, because I love Fight for Peace and appreciate every moment here."

Poliana, 14 years old, Open Access (taekwondo) – Marcílio Dias Academy.

Support Services

A key element in the success of Fight for Peace's projects in Rio de Janeiro is the individual support offered by the Support Services staff to its members. Upon joining the project, all young people and their parents meet with the Support Services staff, who gather important information on the background and needs of every member, referring them (if necessary) to further in-house support. Such support includes Fight for Peace's psychologist and lawyer, who are both available to offer guidance to each and every member whenever they might require assistance. During the course of the year, Fight for Peace's Support Services staff also undertake measures to prevent members from dropping out of activities due to personal problems; helping them to face their issues and remain actively pursuing a better future for themselves and their families. This work is carried out by street outreach, by telephone or by home visits.

In 2015:

- **555** social work visits were carried out
- **52** psychology appointments were carried out

Employability

In 2015, further progress was made in the area of employability including one specific activity targeted at young people from all over Maré – with excellent results: The Employability Fairs.

Over the course of the year, five fairs were held at the Rio Academies (Nova Holanda, Baixa do Sapateiro and Marcílio Dias), reaching more than **570** young people and other members of these communities. During the fairs, the local population was given support in acquiring employment documents and offered orientation and job referral services.

Fight for Peace's Employability Pillar continued to support participants to access work experience, training and employment opportunities. In 2015, the Information and Guidance Officer supported **183** young people, from which **27** successfully progressed.

Courses offered in 2015:

- **Administrative Assistant**
- **Receptionist**
- **Basic Human Resources Routines**

Youth Leadership

The Youth Council is a group of young people at Fight for Peace who have been democratically elected to represent the members from each activity and project at the Academy. In 2015, **18** young people were part of the Youth Council, **15** of which joined that year. The Youth Council act as intermediaries between Fight for Peace's young people and staff, giving voice to any suggestions, complaints and queries. The Youth Council members also have an important role representing Fight for Peace at external events and during visits to the Academy as well as helping with several other tasks.

Members of the Youth Council also participated in Fight for Peace's annual survey and the following results were discovered:

- **88%** say they have regular contact with young people from Fight for Peace
- **75%** feel much better after joining the Youth Council
- **60%** have improved their performance in school
- **100%** say the Youth Council makes a real difference to Fight for Peace

Quotes from Youth Council member

"Fight for Peace changed my life in so many ways! I used to be very shy, hardly ever interacting with other young people... but since I joined the project, that has changed dramatically – I talk to everyone and get along really well with my peers. I am also much more disciplined and committed to my goals. The Youth Council is a family to me. Whenever I'm in trouble, I know I will always have a place to go and people to take good care of me."

Eduardo Silva, 16 years old, Open Access (MMA) – Baixa do Sapateiro Academy.

Parents and guardians

Parents and guardians of Fight for Peace's members are invited to take part in quarterly meetings at the Academies in order to maintain strong levels of communication and mutual understanding. The parents and guardians are also invited to participate in Fight for Peace's yearly survey by answering questionnaires that aim to evaluate different aspects of the young people's development as well as how Fight for Peace is perceived in the local community.

Some of the results from 2015 include:

- **98%** say that the organisation has a positive influence on the community
- **93%** say that their children are more confident
- **93%** say their relationship with their children has improved
- **94%** say their children are more optimistic about the future

Local partners

Associação de Moradores (PU, NH and RV), Atento, Burger King, Cinemark, Citycol, ChildFund Brasil, Caminho Melhor Jovem, Centro de Estudos e Ações Solidárias da Maré (CEASM), Confederação Brasileira de Luta-Livre Esportiva, Colégio Daltro, Dream Learn Work (DLW), Grupo DSRH, Federação de Boxe do Estado do RJ (FBERJ), Federação Paulista de Boxe (FPB), Federação de Judô do Estado do RJ (FJERJ), Federação de Jiu Jitsu do Estado do RJ (FJJ-Rio), Fundação Getúlio Vargas, Inove Serviços, Intercontinental, Isbet, Kinoplex, Liga Carioca de Muay Thai (LCMT), Lojas Americanas, Organizações da Maré Unida (Abraço Campeão, Todos por 1 and Maré de Paz), Pão de Açúcar, Qualitá RH, Rede Cidadã, Redes, Rodovidária Matias, Seconci, Senac, SindRio, Simetria, Sport Jiu Jitsu South American Federation (SJJSF), Supermercado Guanabara, Supermercado Mundial, Supermercados Princesa, Vencer RH and Zetabyte.

FIGHT FOR PEACE LONDON ACADEMY

Boxing & Martial Arts

The Open Access sports provision continued to deliver boxing, muay thai, mixed martial arts (MMA) and fighting fit gym sessions, with the addition of two new sports in the second half of 2015 following completion of the new dojo and extended weights room - Olympic weightlifting and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu (BJJ). Open Access sports are available to young people aged 14 to 25 years every weekday evening from 5 to 9pm. A total of **895** young people attended Open Access sports, of which **451** were new members.

In addition to attending Open Access sports, members take part in personal development sessions, an intrinsic component of Fight for Peace's Theory of Change. Personal development is delivered within the individual sports sessions or as a larger group session, providing an opportunity for participants from across the sporting disciplines to come together. Topics are identified through consultation with members and staff, and in 2015 topics included motivation and inspiration, team building, self defence, hygiene and sexual exploitation. An average of **64** young people attended personal development per month while members regularly benefited from ad hoc personal development delivered by coaches. The annual Awards Ceremony and End of Year Celebrations also provided an opportunity for participants, staff, parents/carers and funders to come together to recognise and celebrate the achievements of young people across all the Five Pillars.

Participants play a crucial role in evaluating the quality and effectiveness of Fight for Peace's work via self-completion questionnaires, completed annually. The feedback provides Fight for Peace with the opportunity to build upon positive results and identify any areas for improvement. 108 Open Access participants completed a questionnaire in 2015 and reported the following as a result of attending Fight for Peace:

- **91%** feel fitter
- **83%** feel more confident
- **71%** respect others more
- **100%** feel more positive about the future
- **85%** feel more motivated
- **71%** now avoid getting into fights
- **73%** are less likely to commit a crime
- **81%** are more likely to think before they act

Open Access quotes

"I like participating with youths in boxing. Love the people, they lift each other up. Loving the respect and progress."

Shamsi, Open Access (boxing).

"Fight for Peace has taught me that if I want something bad enough take it with both hands."

Mark, Open Access (MMA).

"Good way to spend time. I enjoy it. It keeps you fit and I like the coaches."

Toutvydas, Open Access (BJJ).

"I like boxing, I like the coaches, they are enthusiastic and I like them. I like hitting people and not getting hit. The feeling after, you feel good about yourself. When I go home I'm like yeah I have trained hard, I feel good. The coaches care, they want you to do well."

Yusuf, Open Access (boxing).

Champions

Fight for Peace encourage all young people to train irrespective of ability, whether they are interested in staying fit or want to compete. Progression opportunities are available for participants who wish to take their training to completion level, with Fight for Peace coaches

providing training and mentoring combined with sparring opportunities before entering young people into formal competitions.

The number of competitors significantly increased in 2015, with **35** young people taking part in a total of 66 bouts around the county. Jo Van Den Berg, Fight for Peace's first ever female competitor successfully won her bout at Fight for Peace's Boxing Show in February and was awarded Best Home Boxer. After five days of competition, boxer Daniel Evans became the first Fight for Peace member to win the London Regional Novice Boxing Championship. Kingsley Crawford and John McFadyen made their semi-professional MMA debuts in June and both competitors won their respective bouts. The Muay Thai and MMA Interclub event held at Fight for Peace in May saw seven athletes compete while the event in November saw an additional five muay thai competitors compete.

Steve O'Keeffe, Sports Coordinator, said of the home events: *"the Interclub events are an important chance for our young muay thai and mixed martial art fighters to compete in front of spectators and take on new challenges in the ring. All those who enter the ring draw on the skills and discipline they practice week in week out in the gym and show a great deal of determination and courage."*

Champions quotes

"I come to train at FFP because of Daniel [Head Muay Thai Coach], he is a role model. He trains me in positive energy and makes people think of their talents and to believe in themselves. When you go in the ring I know the opponent is coming to knock me out and I have to keep up and push really hard, even if I'm tired, to win or perform the best way I can. I try to be a better version of myself."

Ricardo, Open Access (muay thai).

"I compete so I can challenge myself to be the best. I like to challenge myself against other people's skills. Training is intense. I have learnt a lot, the coaches motivate me and push me."

John, Open Access (BJJ).

"I want to complete as a future career, I enjoy it and I am always learning new things. I've had four semi-prof fights, I keep improving, enjoying myself and keep learning."

Jawany, Open Access (MMA).

"I love boxing and I get in the ring because I want to be a professional boxer and the best thing is when you win. I always push myself in training because I want to push my human body to the max so I am always prepared for my next fight. They're good coaches, everyone is nice. There's good teamwork."

Khalid, Open Access (boxing).

Twilight programmes

Targeted Twilight is a tailor-made preventative programme for those aged 11 to 16 years, combining boxing or gym with personal development sessions, and is aimed at young people with offending histories, gang membership, and those deemed at risk of exclusion, offending or gang affiliation. The Open Access Twilight is an early intervention drop-in programme for those aged 7 to 14 years, providing young people from the local community with the opportunity to train and learn together. Personal development workshops continued to be delivered weekly to young people on both programmes, and topics included drugs awareness, gang membership and perception, victim awareness, motivation, team building, self-belief, bullying and online safety.

Targeted Twilight is delivered in partnership with external organisations. In 2015, young people from New Directions Pupil Referral Unit participated in two programmes while a third, newly developed programme targeted local 'need to reach' members of the community. A total of **131** young people attended the Targeted and Open Access Twilight sessions.

24 Twilight participants completed a self-completion questionnaire and reported that since attending Fight for Peace:

- **75%** are more confident
- **65%** find it easier to make friends
- **75%** are more motivated about the future and **78%** are more positive about the future
- **89%** have stopped getting into trouble at school

Twilight quotes

"Before I came to Fight for Peace, I only thought boxing was for boys because of TV and films as it's all I see. Now I feel that boxing is for all and it's not just about violence and knocking people down it's about team work, dedication, and commitment. Ever since coming to FFP I've become more confident in talking to different people especially with making new friends, and FFP has helped me discover more about my area. When I first moved to this area I hated it and I thought it was the worst place to live but now I'm enjoying living in the area. I feel so lucky that I'm a member because there is only one in England."

Amina, Open Access Twilight.

"I like Fight for Peace because Ebs, Allyson, Guy, Michael and Steve (FFP staff) are friendly. I also like boxing because I like to exercise."

Anais, Open Access Twilight.

Pathways

The Pathways Module 1 and Module 2 education programmes offer nationally recognised qualifications in English, maths, Active and Healthy Living, Community Sports Leadership and YMCA Gym Instruction while combining personal development, mentoring, and boxing and muay thai training. The holistic approach to learning supports members into their chosen career path – not only enhancing academic levels but also promoting personal and social development.

In 2015, a total of **34** learners were recruited onto the three Pathways programmes, from which **80%** completed. The programmes continued to attract young people from a wide variety of backgrounds and at point of entry, **77%** were not in education, employment or training, **32%** had offending histories or were gang affiliated, and an additional **24%** were at risk of offending, gang membership or exclusion.

The average pass rates on Module 1 were as follows: **74%** English writing, speaking and reading, **78%** for maths, **70%** achieved the Community Sports Leadership Level 2 award and **67%** achieved the Active and Healthy Living Level 1 award. Of the Module 2 learners, **86%** passed Level 2 English writing, speaking and reading, **72%** achieved Maths Level 2 and **71%** gained the YMCA Gym Instructor Level 2 qualification. Overall, **88%** of learners progressed into further education, employment or volunteering roles.

17 learners provided feedback at the end of the programmes via self-completion questionnaires. The benefits they gained from attending Pathways included:

- **75%** feel more confident
- **71%** cooperate with others more
- **100%** are more positive about the future
- **88%** are more motivated and believe they have the ability to achieve
- **86%** are less likely to commit a crime
- **83%** are less likely to be part of a gang
- **79%** are more likely to respect the rules

Pathways quotes

"Fight for Peace has improved me to become a better human, to value life properly. I enjoy Fight for Peace because no one judges you. I also enjoy Pathways which has improved my maths and English skills while being on an Active and Healthy Living programme."

Lola, Pathways Module 1 learner.

"I was introduced to FFP through my probation officer who suggested to me to embrace them in order for all my dreams to become reachable, achievable, and most importantly doable. As far as away from now as it may be, I believe the coaches here can take me to the elite level of boxing, possibly even a champion if I apply myself to the craft. My life was heading in two places one of which I am unfortunately no stranger to, Prison or in a ditch, from the stupid things I did for money as an adolescent as of recent years. This is the life I fought so hard to escape. FFP has opened my eyes up to better future since I was given a placement on the Pathways course. I used to think being in a gang and all the stuff that comes with it was all I'd ever amount to. FFP has taken me from rock bottom to above and beyond I couldn't dream of another place I'd rather give my blood, sweat and tears too. I want to bring my children here to see how beautiful strength in numbers can be, how martial arts or boxing can structure a code of conduct within oneself. I couldn't be who I am now today nor could I be this happy with life right."

Tyrone, Pathways Module 1 learner.

Employability

Fight for Peace's Employability Pillar continued to support participants to access work experience, training and employment opportunities. In 2015, the Information and Guidance Officer supported **151** young people, from which **92%** successfully progressed. Progression routes included: **10** young people entering further education, **9** attending vocational training, **18** attending employability training and **124** securing employment. Please note some members had more than one progression.

Additional employability opportunities provided to Fight for Peace members included an employability programme with Morgan Stanley, a business start-up programme with Goldman Sachs, CV workshops and interview training with State Street, an insight day at State Street, and work shadow days with **21** construction and the University of East London. On 25 November Fight for Peace held its third Careers Fair, which was attended by over **80** local community and Fight for Peace members. The organisations represented on the day were the University of East London, HireHand, AviationShake, City Gateway, HCT Group, the Construction Youth Trust, Circle Sports, the Royal Docks Learning & Activity Centre (RDLAC), International Services, and Catch22.

19 new partnerships were established in 2015 in order to enhance the employment and training opportunities available to members. In addition, the Construction Industry Training Board delivered specialist vocational training at the Academy and five members completed the Construction Skills Certificate Scheme.

19 employability beneficiaries completed the self-completion questionnaires to provide feedback on their experience. The findings were as follows:

- **94%** are confident looking and applying for jobs
- **88%** are motivated to look for work
- **75%** feel ready to start work
- **89%** believe they have the ability to achieve

Employability quotes

"The Employability Pillar at Fight for peace has guided and given me the exposure I need to become an experienced professional in the working field. Because of this, as well as their links, I was successful in doing an apprenticeship at The Carlyle Group for two months as an accounts payable assistant. I believe this will be extremely useful in the long term, as I am not only qualified accounts payable assistant but I have networked with one the world's biggest asset management groups. Fight for Peace continues to guide and support me in finding a new job. I have currently been short listed out of 100+ candidates for an interview to work at the Kensington palace as an explainer. This would truly not have been possible with out the support from my second family Fight for Peace."

Ayah, Employability participant.

"I am a member of Fight for Peace since August 2014. Fight for Peace helped me in gaining confidence with the people and in building new relationships. I like Fight for Peace because it helps everyone despite the situation of every individual and also it does make everyone feel like a member of a big family from the very first moment."

Dario, Employability participant and volunteer for FFP's Fundraising team.

Support Services

The Support Services team worked with a total of 382 young people across a range of provisions, providing holistic support based on individual need.

Level 1 Plus profiling is provided to new members of Open Access sports. Within three weeks of attending their first session, a Youth Worker meets with the young person on a one-to-one basis to start building relationships while also serving as an opportunity to identify any additional support needs a young person may have. In the second half of 2015, **62** Level 1 Plus mentoring sessions were delivered following recruitment of a part-time Youth Worker.

336 Level 2 mentoring sessions were delivered to Open Access sports participants and focus on how the young person is progressing, both at Fight for Peace and across all areas of their life, with the intention of identifying if any support is needed. As a result, numerous internal referrals to other Pillars were made: **59** to employability, **43** for mentoring, **18** to education, and **2** to the Youth Council.

84 young people received intensive case work support; meeting weekly with a Youth Worker, the provision is aimed at the hardest to reach and high risk young people. Referrals from external partners were received from Newham's Youth Offending Team and Probation Services, Social Services, schools and other partners. The mentoring sessions support members to address a range of complex issues including anger management, risk of offending, housing, unemployment, financial issues, and low self-esteem. A further **53** young people received less intensive mentoring support by the team.

In addition, all Pathways learners received weekly mentoring support while the following programmes were delivered in partnership with external organisations:

- **Eight** young people completed the accredited LEAP programme, aimed at young people with anger issues
- **Eight** young people attended the Credit Suisse Money Management Programme
- **Four** attended LIFEbeat, a week-long residential programme aiming to cultivate the potential of young people

22 case work mentees filled in self-completion questionnaires and reported the following as a result of their mentoring:

- **71%** feel more confident and calmer
- **90%** feel more motivated
- **71%** have better relationships with family members
- **100%** are less likely to commit a crime
- **80%** are less likely to be part of a gang
- **88%** are less likely to carry a weapon
- **80%** are less likely to disrespect others

Support Services quotes

"It was good cos he [Youth Worker] listened to me and I don't know how to say it in words ...it's good for you especially for someone like me who keeps stuff in my head. I was comfortable, I could tell him anything, a problem or anything. If you have someone you can tell anything too, it helped my situation and me."

Malcolm, Support Services mentee.

"I remember what Leo [Youth Worker] was saying about finding that motivation to shift excess weight. I found it!"

Dean, Support Services mentee.

"I think after the LEAP course my confidence level has changed and become better because before I didn't really feel comfortable around people who I didn't know but now I don't mind being around people who I haven't met before. I wouldn't say my confidence is very good but it is better than before. In the future I would want to get on the right path and get into a good college and probably do something in child care or something in sports. I want to get good levels in college, then I would want to get in a good university and get a good job. Before coming to fight for peace I wasn't sure what I wanted to do in the future but being here has helped me to be more positive about the future."

Zulakha, LEAP participant and Support Services mentee.

Youth Leadership

The Youth Council plays a crucial role in ensuring Fight for Peace responds to both the wants and needs of its members, representing members of Fight for Peace and keeping staff informed of their feedback and suggestions. Youth Councillors attend staff meetings and host visits to the Academy, including potential and existing funders, sports people, government officials and many others.

As part of the Youth Leadership Pillar, Youth Council members receive training that not only helps them in their roles but also in their wider lives. In 2015, **10** trainings were delivered and topics included media training, report writing, presentation skills, communication, conflict resolution, employability-related skills, and networking.

The Youth Council also supported the delivery of a range of events, representing Fight for Peace and acting as ambassadors for the Academy: two Fight for Peace England Boxing shows, two Fight for Peace Muay Thai and MMA Interclub events, and the Beyond Sport Global Summit in October 2015.

At the end of 2015, **9** new members were recruited to the Youth Council, bringing the total to **15** members.

Of the Youth Council members who completed a self-completion questionnaire for 2015:

- **100%** believe the Youth Council makes a real difference to Fight for Peace
- **75%** feel more confident speaking to the media and public speaking
- **75%** feel more confident responding to racism and abusive behaviour
- **100%** have improved their performance at school or work
- **100%** agree the issues raised are taken seriously

Youth Council quotes

"I think Fight for Peace is great for young people and totally supports them. As a young person Fight for Peace has helped me stay away from a life other youth call the 'road man life' and open my eyes to an ambitious reality. Most importantly Fight for Peace has given me security where I'm not dependant on anyone but myself."

Kenny, Youth Council member and Open Access (fighting fit gym).

"I like the fact that as soon as you enter the Academy you are instantly part of the family. No matter how alone you feel they will make you feel like you're part of something and you no longer feel that way. The Youth Council has built me up a lot and I'm thankful for that."

Alla, Youth Council member and Twilight.

"For me, being part of the Youth Council allows me to be a role model for young people at Fight for Peace and take part in helping others to find their direction and offer encouragement with their decisions."

Nico, Youth Council member and Pathways learner.

Building development

Having operated at capacity for the past three years Fight for Peace's capital project was designed to ensure that all young people who want and need to access Fight for Peace are able to do so. On completion, the state-of-the-art sports and learning facilities will double the size of the Academy and will also provide the space needed to extend Fight for Peace's reach via the UK Alumni Programme (UK AP). To date the completed works include:

- The new 'Blue Box' Education and Training Centre: this space includes a new dojo which is currently being used for BJJ and MMA sessions, with other sports planned to be introduced in 2016. The upper training floor temporarily housed all staff while the office space was renovated.
- New classrooms: the flexible classroom space with a movable dividing wall is now operational

and has been successfully used for the delivery of the Pathways Module 1 education programme and hosted the most recent UK AP cohort.

- Extended weights and equipment room: a new, larger space to house free weights equipment has been created to aid the development of existing sports and provide the space needed to introduce a new sport – Olympic weightlifting.

Local partners

AviationShake, London City Airport, Showforce, Jobcentre Plus, City Gateway, HCT Group, Circle Sports, International Services, Construction Industry Training Board, Clean Slate, HireHand, HCT Group, Construction Youth Trust, Spotlight, State Street, DiVA Training, Circle Sports, Reprezent Radio, University of East London, 21 Construction, 15 Billion-epb, Grainger plc, City Developments Limited (CDL), Barclays Bank, Catch22, Reebok Gym, Credit Suisse, Morgan Stanley, YMCA, Boxing Award, British Weightlifting, SHINE, St Christopher's Fellowship, Inclusive Support Ltd, Spurgeons, Kingsford Community School, London Borough of Newham Enforcement and Safety Division, Communities Together Strategic Engagement Team, Islington Law Centre, We Are Spotlight, WRAP, Drew Primary School, The Royal Docks Community School, LEAP Confronting Conflict, LIFEbeat, St Giles Trust, New Directions Pupil Referral Unit, Newham Youth Offending Team, Newham Probation Services, Families First, Social Services, Cumberland School, Beckton Globe, Royal Docks Learning & Community Centre, Street Games London, and Aspire to Empower Youth Group.

Local partners quotes

"We have found Fight for Peace's work with our pupil to be excellent. The skills they bring to their work are of a high quality and the result has led to a change in motivation, attitude and aspirations for the young person concerned."

Serena Buchan - Cumberland School.

"Fight for Peace's work with disengaged young people at risk of exclusion from secondary school, has been invaluable for those referred to the Safety & Resilience Team. Having a service that provides the opportunity for young people to engage in a range of martial arts that increases their confidence, sense of achievement and self-control, has been of huge importance for young people at risk of CSE, gang involvement, violent behaviour and more that we have referred to Fight for Peace. Not only have students enjoyed attending the sessions at Fight for Peace, but they have also found the support of an allocated mentor to be a helpful way of exploring issues affecting them as well as gaining support and guidance. The Fight for Peace staff are happy to accept referrals for the most vulnerable and at-risk young people, and the way in which they work with the young people has been instrumental in turning some of their situations around."

Laurelle Brown - Safety and Resilience, London Borough of Newham.

FIGHT FOR PEACE INTERNATIONAL

The Fight for Peace Global Alumni

The Fight for Peace Global Alumni is our way of scaling methodology and creating impact in cities beyond Rio and London. Rather than build new Fight for Peace Academies around the world, the Alumni allows us to partner with community based organisations (CBOs) who are experts in working with young people affected by crime and violence in their cities, and to build their capacity to deliver services locally that are based on the principles and practices of Fight for Peace.

By the end of 2015, **132** CBOs from **25** countries had become Fight for Peace Alumni. Collectively they have reached over **240,000** young people in communities affected by crime and violence. During 2015, new partners joined the network from the UK (**6** CBOs), Colombia (**10** CBOs), and Mexico (**11** CBOs), and we continued to support **49** partners from Brasil, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, South Africa, Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The Fight for Peace Alumni Programmes

The Alumni Programmes provide a 12 month package of training and consultancy, designed to transfer the Fight for Peace methodology to CBOs and support them to adapt it to be effective in their community. Selected CBOs receive:

- Five day intensive training in all Fight for Peace principles and practices at the Fight for Peace Academy in Rio de Janeiro or London.
- 12 months of bespoke consultancy to support adaptation of the FFP model, and build organisational strength and sustainability.
- Access to the Fight for Peace toolkit, containing a wide range of delivery-ready tools and templates.
- Membership of the Fight for Peace Alumni community, providing opportunities for peer learning and partnership with other aligned CBOs around the world.
- Increase profile, including use of the Fight for Peace Alumni brand, and use of Fight for Peace's research led evidence base to help build credibility with supporters and funders.

In 2015 there were three different Fight for Peace Alumni Programmes:

- The Global Alumni Programme (GAP) – for CBOs outside of Brazil and the UK, delivered by Fight for Peace International, funded by the IKEA Foundation and Comic Relief, originally developed with funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage, Laureus Sport for Good Foundation, and UK Sport.

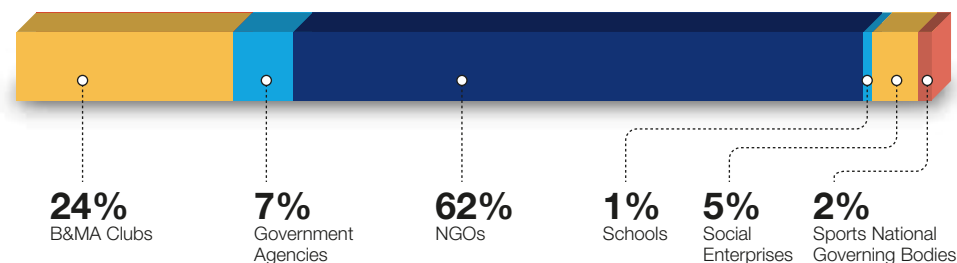
- Rede Brasil – for CBOs in Brazil, delivered by Fight for Peace in Rio de Janeiro, funded by Petrobras and ChildFund.

- UK Alumni Programme (UK AP) – for CBOs in England, Scotland and Wales, delivered by Fight for Peace (UK), funded by Comic Relief, The Paul Hamlyn Foundation and Monument Trust.

The Fight for Peace Alumni Community

The Alumni Programmes are for established CBOs that have local credibility and expertise, access to young people affected by crime and violence, and the potential to adapt and implement the Fight for Peace methodology in their community. Many different types of CBO are selected, but they broadly arrive with two objectives: wanting to establish youth services around existing B&MA activities; or wanting to add boxing and martial arts to existing youth development programming in order to engage young people involved in crime and violence.

GAP PARTNERS BY ORGANIZATION TYPE:

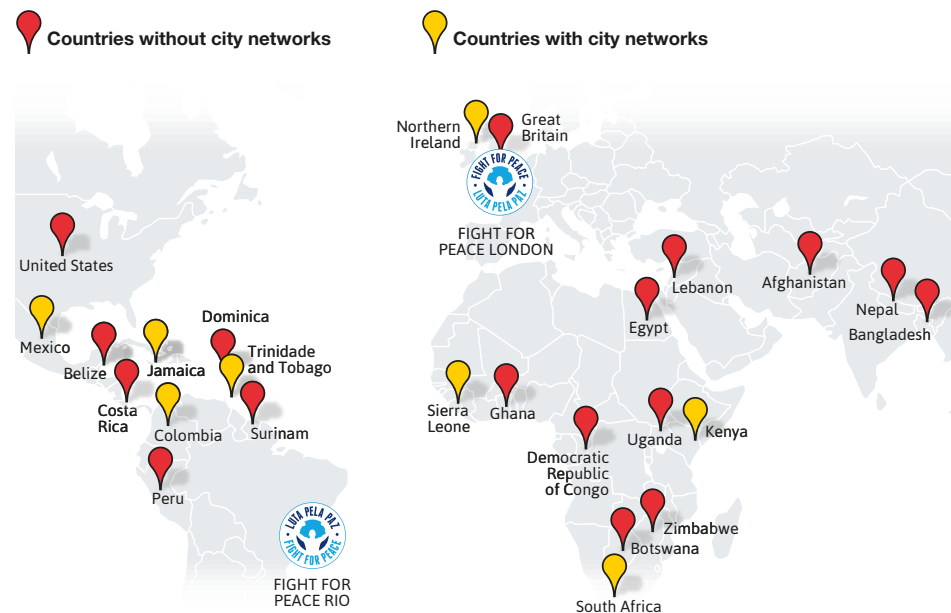


The Alumni Programmes are delivered to CBOs in city or country-based cohorts so as to build strong local communities of practice that can share resources, collaborate on service delivery, and present as a compelling network to local funders. Every CBO that is selected to become a Fight for Peace Alumni is already a leader in their community; Fight for Peace's support is designed to help them increase their impact and speed up their development.

Our vision for the Alumni

The CBOs that become Fight for Peace Alumni are all aligned in their use of boxing and martial arts-based approaches to reducing youth crime and violence. Fight for Peace's vision for the Alumni community is that it becomes an international network that pools evidence and presents a unified voice for alternative approaches to youth crime and violence around the world.

The Fight for Peace Global Alumni Community



Impact at a Global Level

In 2015 across the 70 CBOs being supported by FFPI trainers and consultants, a wide range of changes were made to programme design and delivery based on Fight for Peace's Five Pillar approach:

- **70%** of CBOs have added or strengthened boxing and martial arts
- **40%** have introduced Youth Councils and are developing young people's leadership skills
- **77%** are supporting young people with their education

- **64%** are helping young people to access employment
- **94%** are providing support services and delivering targeted personal development or life skills programmes for young people.

Progress was also achieved in terms of increasing CBOs' strength and sustainability based on Fight for Peace's organisational model:

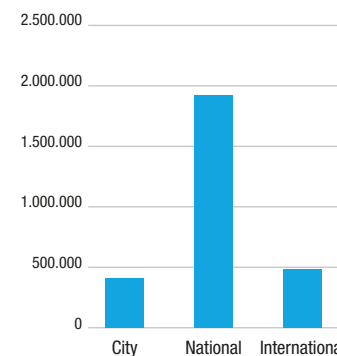
- **98%** are taking a more holistic approach to their work with young people
- **78%** are networking with other alumni locally and internationally to share skills and resources, and increase impact
- **45%** have strengthened their branding and identity or improved their delivery space
- **71%** have improved their Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning approach

GAP partners who participated in evaluations in 2015 ranked the top 3 impacts of joining GAP as being:

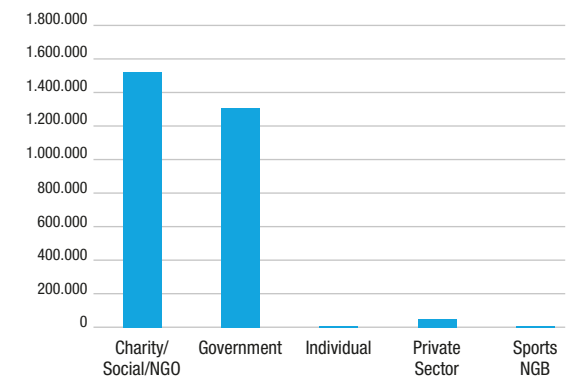
1. Focussing our operations to where we can make the biggest difference
2. Increasing the quality of our work with young people
3. Giving us access to new contacts

In addition, over the course of GAP, Fight for Peace has helped CBOs in 12 countries to raise over £2.8 million to introduce new programming, scale up successful approaches, bring new/specialist staff on board, work with new target groups, and upgrade their facilities and equipment.

FUNDS RAISED BY GAP PARTNERS BY FUNDING SOURCE



FUNDS RAISED BY GAP PARTNERS BY FUNDER TYPE



Those changes have resulted in the following increases in access to services for young people living in communities affected by violence:

- **36%** of CBOs are reaching more young people than they were before they joined GAP
- **48%** of CBOs are accessing new target groups and particularly at risk young people in their communities

FFPI supports Alumni to evaluate the impact of their programmes using tools based on those we use in our own Academies. Some highlights reported by partners who carried out evaluations this year include:

In Jamaica:

- **88%** feel more self-confident
- **86%** have improved self-esteem
- **81%** feel more motivated and **83%** feel happier about life
- **84%** feel more accepting towards others
- **81%** are less likely to commit a crime
- **75%** are less likely to join a gang

In Trinidad:

- **90%** feel more self-confident and have improved self-esteem
- **97%** respect others more
- **93%** cooperate with others more
- **93%** feel more motivated
- **100%** feel more positive about the future

Across Rede Brasil:

- Over **80%** said they had stopped getting into trouble at school, at home or in the streets
- **94%** feel more self-confident
- **93%** feel more motivated
- **100%** feel more positive about the future
- **90%** respect others more

In Colombia:

- **79%** are less likely to join a gang, and **73%** are less likely to carry a weapon
- **89%** feel more motivated and happy about life

- **94%** feel more positive about the future
- **89%** feel safer in their local area
- **93%** say they respect others more, and are more accepting of others

In Tamworth (UK):

- **78%** have improved self-esteem and **76%** feel more self-confident
- **89%** feel more motivated and **100%** feel more positive about the future
- **67%** of young people say they are more likely to 'respect the rules'
- **63%** say the club has helped them to 'think before they act'

Impact at City and Country Cohort Level

Cape Town

In 2014 FFPI secured funds from the BT Supporters Club, via Comic Relief, to extend our support of Cape Town Alumni for two years beyond the term of GAP. During 2015 FFPI have delivered a comprehensive package of support to those partners, including: Fundraising support from a local specialist including information about when opportunities arise and support to write bids; bespoke organisational strengthening support, to develop key areas of capacity and capability; mentoring for leaders responsible for organisational development; networking opportunities; MEL training and support to develop bespoke tools and systems; and access to seed-funding via a 'bridge fund' set up by FFP.

- Nika Kumalo Boxing Academy: Have expanded their coaching capacity, enabling other team members to focus on youth support, life skills and education, as well as increasing the numbers of young people benefiting from the project.
- Great Commission United Academy (GCU): 10 young people were trained to deliver basic boxing skills sessions with integrated lifeskills, to learners in 5 schools. New boxing equipment has been purchased for these groups and an interschool competition was held between the boxing groups motivating many young people to further to take part. GCU was also supported to secure a new grant to strengthen and expand their tutoring project across 5 the schools. The fund has enabled GCU to build the skills and management capacity of staff members who will now have increased responsibility to manage the programme in each of its sites.
- Future Champs: Life skills sessions were introduced to boxing training at the Future Champs gym. These were delivered initially by Alumni partner Oasis, but in the process an FC team member built their skills in delivering life skills and subsequently took over their delivery.

Northern Ireland

The cohort completed their 12 months of consultancy support in July 2015. Several new partnerships and pilot projects were initiated over the course of the year, with a number of partners working together to deliver B&MA plus personal development programmes for young people who were not previously involved in the sports.

- St Columb's Park House and the Strike Academy collaborated to raise significant additional funding for a three year programme based on FFP's Five Pillar methodology.
- The Dojo, successfully accessed local authority funding in Belfast to develop a martial arts hub where elite MMA coaching alongside with youth development programmes will be delivered. The Dojo has also introduced a programme to develop their own young coaches, who have then supported four of the Northern Ireland partners to deliver MMA-based youth work. In recognition of the great achievements of The Dojo, founder Danny Corr received the Get Inspired Unsung Hero award.

Jamaica

GAP partners in Kingston quickly formed a strong network following training in Rio, calling themselves 'the Jamaica Alliance'. The Alliance members supported each other throughout the year through meetings, site visits, and by attending each other's events. Several partnerships were formed between Alliance members to co-deliver new programmes and introduce B&MA to existing youth support services. The Jamaica Alliance will be key delivery partners for the Safer Communities Incubator to be established in 2016.

- YUTE - an employability and mentoring support provider for young people who are out of education and work - integrated boxing into their building and construction training in partnership with Boys Town.
- Capoeira Alafia expanded its capoeira group to include young people attending education support through Fletcher's Land Benevolent Society.
- Bred's Treasure Beach Foundation expanded its Edusport programme from 15 to 60 schools in their Parish. The programme involves teams of coaches providing game based learning activities during school for learners at all levels.

Trinidad and Tobago

By the end of 2015 all five CBOs had received funding from the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to develop and deliver new programmes, and all five organisations demonstrated improvements in their programme delivery and organisational capacity. In 10 months, across the group there was a 52% increase in the number of young people participating in activities. The five participating organisations also now have more contact with each other than they did before, increasing the potential for partnership working.

- East Port of Spain Development Company's boxing programme was expanded to two new communities, and integrated with other activities at local Community Impact Centres. Young people can now train boxing, receive homework support, perform spoken word poetry and take computing classes through the Fighting Chance programme
- Ryu Dan Dojo introduced martial arts training for young people who had been identified as having behavioural issues at their local Primary School in Enterprise. In addition to martial arts the young people received homework support twice a week and were able to join the Dojo after school for training and excursions.
- St James Police Youth Club introduced two new vocational training programmes - barbering and beauty culture, so that club members could develop the skills required to get work in these fields. The Club now plans to launch a salon at their premises in Petit Valley so that young people can earn an income using their new skills.

Colombia

Alliance and collaboration have defined the FFP Alumni organisations in Colombia. The cohort consists of groups in three cities, Cali, Medellin and Quibdó. In each, joint projects and initiatives have emerged with partners sharing resources and expertise. The Colombia cohort also benefit from the presence, resources and infrastructure of two municipal sports bodies, both in Cali and Medellin, representing the first time GAP has involved local government as an implementing partner.

- INDER, Medellin municipal sports body have launched Box-Viviencia, a project combining boxing with personal development and discussion sessions for young people in a youth detention centre. After only 12 weeks the project was already producing significant changes in participants. One young person commented that: *"Sometimes I get to classes full of rage and frustration but the boxing sessions - hitting the bag and doing the exercises - gives me an outlet for all that stress and I leave calm."* Another described how: *"Since I entered the classes I have learned not to be provoked by others - but to stay calm. I now realise that the strength that I have can be used to do damage, or to do good".*
- Grupo Internacional de Paz spent six months designing a comprehensive new sport for development methodology using analogies from within boxing to help young people apply its lessons to their life. The project, Camino al Ring, is about to be launched in a community in Medellin populated by people displaced by Colombia's internal armed conflict.
- Cali Alianza por la Paz was a pilot project that brought together all the FFP partners in Cali enabling each to run boxing or martial arts sessions combined with psychosocial support. The alliance allowed for sports instructors to be provided by the local municipal sports body, with the non-sports inputs provided by each NGO. It allowed for centralised coordination, the application of shared measurement tools and comparative analysis of outcomes.

Mexico

Perhaps more than any other country, fight sports are part of the Mexican cultural DNA. After the Rio training, the Mexican FFP Alumni – which consists of a mixture of youth development NGOs, sports clubs, community organisations and city-wide sports associations – have not hesitated in opening new centres, piloting new projects and adding new sports.

As with the Colombia groups, there is a strong sense of shared identity in the Mexican cohort, who communicate and collaborate frequently. Alliances have emerged between a muay thai project and a boxing association, a Lima-Lama school and a youth development NGO.

- In September Mexican Alumni partner TRASO (Transformación Social) A.C. launched a new project CAPAZ (Campeones de la Paz) combining boxing training with individual and group therapeutic sessions for twenty five 7-11 year olds. The programme also involves the families in fortnightly 'parents group' sessions.
- The Women's Project added 15 new groups operating it's 'Sport is Your Gang' Methodology and, through a collaboration with another FFP Mexico Alumni member the Mexico City Boxing Association, expanded its sport offering to include boxing groups as well as their existing muay thai groups.
- Angels of Lima Lama, the only FFP Alumni member specialising in the new martial art of Lima-Lama, have had a particularly busy year since the Rio training, starting a new project targeting an identified group of young people involved in gang activity in their area, opening a new flagship centre, and offering free sessions to a group of young people from Casa Alianza, another FFP Alumni member who run homes for former street children.

Rede Brasil

The Rede Brasil programme began in 2014 to extend the Global Alumni Programme to organisations around Brazil. In the first phase of the programme, seven organisations from six Brazilian cities were selected. The cities were chosen according to an extensive analysis of their social reality in terms of urban armed violence. The CBOs were defined after a careful consideration of their structure and interests, 22 organizations were shortlisted, and the final participants of the Rede Brasil programme were:

- Grupo Educação e Desenvolvimento Apoio ao Menor (GEDAM) – Belo Horizonte
- Parque Alegria da Criança (PAC) – Caucaia
- Projeto do Bem-Estar Comunitário (PBEC) – Fortaleza
- Instituto Fatumbi – Salvador Grupo Cultural

- Grupo Cultural Arte Consciente – Salvador
- Espaço Progredir – Nova Iguaçu
- Oficina Escola de Lutheria da Amazônia (OELA) – Manaus

By the end of their first year the Rede Brasil organisations had introduced a number of programmatic changes:

- GEDAM introduced an integrated programme combining boxing and martial arts training with personal development classes. They also launched a Youth Council, developed their monitoring and evaluation capacity, and successfully raised funds for additional boxing and martial arts equipment.
- PAC introduced an additional sport, taekwondo, established a Youth Council, developed a work access pillar, and improved their monitoring and evaluation capability. They have also begun to integrate personal development lessons within their sport sessions.
- PBEC created a Youth Council and secured sport for development funding from Petrobras to introduce boxing, muay thai and jiu jitsu into their programming.
- Instituto Fatumbi combined two martial arts disciplines with their personal development sessions as a way to attract more young people to the organisation. They also created a Youth Council and improved their employability services.
- Grupo Cultural Arte Consciente improved their overall organisational capacity and have started to devise a monitoring and evaluation strategy.
- Espaço Progredir developed their monitoring and evaluation work and also their fundraising proposal writing skills. They gained support from Rotary International to begin offering boxing sessions together with personal development and create a Youth Council.
- OELA introduced judo as an additional activity within their sports centre and created a Youth Council. They improved their monitoring and evaluation strategy and integrated their personal development services within their sports activities.

UK Alumni Programme

The UK Alumni Programme (UK AP) was launched in 2014 as an extension of the Global Alumni Programme (GAP). Target cities were selected using a mapping provided by PwC, identifying where in the UK there are the highest levels of youth crime and violence and young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).

The following organisations were trained in 2015:

- Prince Of Wales Youth Club - Canterbury
- Vulcan Learning Centre (VLC) - Hull
- Switch Up CIC - Nottingham
- EMpower ABC - Derby
- Redditch Community ABC (RCABC) - Redditch
- The Hideaway Youth Project - Manchester

Highlights of what has been achieved in 2015 include:

- Bulldogs BCA (BBCA) have designed an adapted version of the FFP Five Pillar methodology, and secured funding to add classroom space and a new reception in the gym. BBCA are now a hub of youth and community development activities having developed a partnership with 46 local organisations to cover education/vocational skills, employability, and mentoring/personal development, working with long term unemployed, substance misuse, offenders, young people and veterans. BBCA ran a pilot employability programme funded by Job Centre Plus with a target of getting 10 young people into work. BBCA were so successful, (21 young people into work), that they have had confirmation of continuation funding for 2016.
- Tamworth Boxing Club (TBC) have secured funding from Staffordshire local authority to cover all costs for the running of their education and support programmes, increased their staffing from two tutors/mentors to four tutor/mentors, and built two new classrooms to deliver more intensive support for PRU referrals. TBC have also identified and articulated their values and have re-developed their M&E process through FFP support.
- Achievement Through Football (ATF) have developed a partnership with a local boxing and martial arts gym and secured seed funding / delivered a boxing and personal development pilot for ex offenders.
- Vulcan Learning Centre (VLC) have more than doubled their PRU intake since attending FFP to 27 spaces, and increased their paid staff from one to three. They have also identified and articulated their values, developed M&E systems and designed a new post-compulsory education programme.
- Redditch Community ABC (RCABC) have been through a process to highlight and articulate their values and have developed their gym space into a more positive environment through imagery and positive messaging. RCABC are being supported to develop their own life skills programme and are now developing stronger relationships with schools, PRU's and Youth Detention Centres to deliver these programmes once fully developed.
- Switch Up (SU) have been supported to raise funds from corporate sponsors for

employability, education and support services, and to develop their M&E systems. These advancements have significantly increased the sustainability of the organisation.

The Safer Communities Incubator (SCI)

In July, based on the success of GAP, funding was secured from the IKEA Foundation to launch the Safer Communities Incubator. This four-year programme will focus on Jamaica and Cape Town, and aim to facilitate a collective impact approach to reducing youth crime and violence. An FFP team will facilitate and build the capacity of a number of delivery partners to work together to offer holistic and integrated programming to young people in hotspot communities where FFP already has a presence through GAP.

Activities that took place following funding being secured included:

- In September a scoping visit was undertaken by the FFP Group Director, FFPI Head of Programmes and the GAP Trainer focused on Jamaica. During this visit the local Alumni and a number of key funding and government stakeholders were consulted on programme design and planning.
- In November the FFPI Head of Programmes presented the SCI model at the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative Conference in Kingston, hosted by USAID.
- In December the SCI team was recruited. Two existing FFPI staff are being relocated to Jamaica: a GAP trainer / consultant who will focus on building the capacity of local delivery partners; and the FFP Group MEL Manager who will focus on building a shared, multi-partner MEL framework that will underpin the collective nature of the project. Two Jamaican staff were also recruited: Programme Lead, who will take overall responsibility for the SCI in Jamaica, as well as lead the facilitation process and the engagement of partners in the government, funder and business sectors; and Programme Coordinator who will focus on engaging community level actors to participate in and support the SCI approach.

The SCI set-up phase for Jamaica is now complete, and delivery of SCI activities will start in the country from January 2016.

Plans for 2016

Fight for Peace International will conclude the current phase of GAP, funded primarily by the IKEA Foundation and Comic Relief, in April. An external evaluation is due to be published by the middle of the year. We will seek to extend GAP to new cities, most probably in Latin America, over the next three years to ensure we continue to support CBO partners working to reduce youth violence in their communities, and keep expanding and refreshing the existing Global Alumni network.

The UK Alumni Programme will continue to be delivered for the next three years via investment from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation (2016) and Sport England (2017-18). Rede Brasil will also continue supporting new partners via a partnership with ChildFund.

FFPI will seek establish structures to continue to support the existing Global Alumni Network. As the current phase of GAP comes to an end we can reflect on a having built relationships with and between over 100 CBOs across 25 countries, all aligned in their use of B&MA to support young people affected by crime and violence, and all using a related methodology. FFPI will now seek to capitalise on these relationships and alignment by formalising and coordinating the network, and working to unlock resources and further learning opportunities.

In Jamaica the FFP Safer Communities Incubator will deliver the first phases of that project, selecting hot-spot communities, mapping local actors and youth violence issues, planning collective and integrated programming across a number of delivery partners, establishing a shared MEL framework to track learning and impact, and building the capacity and resources of partners to deliver programming. In July a second SCI will be established in Cape Town, and by the end of 2016 we expect a team to have been recruited, the SCI model to have been adapted from Jamaica to be effective in South Africa, and initial planning to have been completed.

FFPI will also develop the Life Champions Programme to support combat sports coaches to become coach-mentors. Coaches will be trained to establish a culture of peace, tolerance and personal development in their coaching and their gyms and dojos, and provided with a curriculum of tools and activities that they can deliver to young people. FFPI will work in partnership with combat sports federations and other network organisations to deliver the Life Champions Programme to large numbers of coaches, initially in the USA and countries where FFP has a presence.

Fight for Peace in the media 2015

Throughout 2015, Fight for Peace featured in a wide range of websites, magazines, newspapers and television programmes. Some of the highlights include:

February

- Veja Rio - Luke Dowdney has created a project which unites combat sports and education in Maré
- Website Brasil 247 - Fight for Peace and Brazilian Olympic Committee provide capacity building to coaches in favelas
- Islington Gazette – Haris Najeeb competes in the semi-finals of the England Youth Boxing Championships

March

- Newham Recorder – Boxing champion Nicola Adams visits Fight for Peace
- Boxing News – ‘We need to offer young people a way out.’ The real fight is outside the ring
- The Guardian – Boxing may well have its cost – but our society owes it a debt

April

- Revista online - The Umbrella - Olympic Glimpses - Luke Dowdney

May

- Site Stars foundation - Recognising the power of sport for development
- Newham Recorder – Peacock pair show power

June

- Site Reebok - Fight for Peace
- Magazine MPD Dialógico - NGO fights for a peaceful future in Maré and the world
- Guts for Change – He teaches combative sports to fight violence and to promote peace
- Newham Recorder – Beckton youth worker helps teens achieve

July

- Book - 30 years of Criança Esperança
- Newspaper O Dia - Maré fights for peace
- Canal do YouTube - Boxing Evolution TV - Flave interviews Kingsley Crawford after his 2nd win on WCMMA
- TV Globo - Fantástico - Fight for Peace participates in 4 episodes of Paths of Hope on Fantástico
- Book - Overcoming - Roberto Custódio is one of the people profiled in the book by Gustavo Malheiros

- Website O Globo - Pan-American athletes profiled in book about expectations for the Olympics

- Newham Recorder – North Woolwich boxing charity marks 15th anniversary

August

- Japanese Newspaper - Documentary which introduces Music and Culture and what's going on in Rio De Janeiro, including Favela
- Globo News: - Olympic combat sports coaches participate in unique course
- Channel NBR - Petrobras report about Rede Brasil: Petrobras invests in project to take youths out of life of crime
- The Guardian: Sports for development: More than just fun and games?
- Luke on Corujão do Esporte: Corujão features Lars Graef, André Brasil, Luke Dowdney and Melanina Carioca
Luke Dowdney describes how he engages young people through boxing at Fight for Peace
Luke Dowdney remembers Laureus - The Oscar of sport: "platform for our work"
- Website REMS: URECE, Instituto Reação, Instituto Trevo and Fight for Peace had athletes representing Brazil at the Pan-American Games and the Para Pan American Games
- Newspaper Jornal do Brasil - NGO Fight for Peace benefits 6,000 young people in Brazil with sport and discipline
- Belfast Live – Kids to be taught mixed martial arts in bid to 'knockout' sectarianism
- The Guardian – Sports for development: more than just fun and games

September

- Newspaper Jornal Extra - Resident of Complexo da Maré, boxer Roberto Custódio becomes an example and hopes for a place at Rio 2016

October

- Paul Hamlyn Foundation – Fight for Peace and Working with Men Win Project Oracle's Evidence Competition
- Sport and Development – Merging charity and corporate values will enhance role of sport

November

- Philanthropy House – Fight for Peace, Brazil
- Goodwork – A fighting chance: the social enterprise leaving a legacy of hope to Rio's youth
- Credit Suisse – Boxing Toward a Better Future
- LandAid – Fighting for Peace: Marc Tevendale visits Newham
- International Boxing Association – HeadsUp lands in Brazil in scope of Rio 2016 Boxing Test Event

December

- Site Sky Sports - vídeo Orla Chennaoui on Olympic boxing dreams in a Rio favela
- Site Aiba - AIBA supports Fight for Peace in Rio
- Fight for Peace's notable mentions
- Partners of the Americas – The Fight for Peace Story
- Newtownabbey Times – 'Fight for peace' scheme hits streets
- GB Boxing – GB Boxing team visits Fight for Peace Academy in Rio de Janeiro
- International Mixed Martial Arts Foundation – The gifts of respect and friendship in MMA
- Sky Sports – Orla Chennaoui on Olympic boxing dreams in a Rio favela

Fight for Peace's notable mentions

"I like the fact that there is an organisation out there that is helping young people get off the streets and try to do something better with their lives. It hits home with me, I would have loved something like this because I would have been able to do my education and train all at the same time. I feel really, really passionate about the organisation and being able to be an Ambassador and to inspire more people and more girls to get involved is absolutely an honour to me."

Nicola Adams MBE, Olympic Champion and FFP Ambassador.

"The sustainability of the project is what I find so impressive. You see a lot of organisations who begin and work for one or two years and then end. Fight for Peace is in its 15th year and only getting stronger – that is a real feat."

Hon. Peter Bunting, Jamaican National Security Minister.

"Fight for Peace has shown us that it is never too late to work with children or young people that are normally overlooked for being considered unreachable or beyond hope. This organisation has a truly strong methodology and very well developed local knowledge."

Joan Serra Hoffman, Senior Development and Violence Prevention Specialist, World Bank.

"To see what happens at Fight for Peace is inspiring. The challenges that the organisation faces are immense and I left the Academy with the certainty and the hope that the work done in the Maré community is changing the lives of children and young people for the better."

Roseanna Anders, Executive Director, Crime Lab, University of Chicago.

"This is a visionary experience. It sends a message of hope and strength knowing that positive changes in day to day lives are taking place. Fight for Peace is extremely important as it inspires other organisations, on a global scale, to see that change is possible."

Cecília Anicama, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children.

"I am convinced that the work of the organisation will continue to inspire and change many young people's lives and I strongly support your work. With my renewed support for the organisation, I eagerly await the project's further evolution and results. I wish you every success in this endeavour and all the best in the continuation of your exceptional efforts throughout the coming year."

Mr. Wilfried Lemke, Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace.

"We are going to change the way of thinking about boxing and this is exactly what we want to achieve. We cannot do things like that without Fight for Peace...NGOs like Fight for Peace are critical to be able to promote boxing, to promote the values and, specifically for the kids, not only to stay in school but to stay within the values of boxing"

William Louis-Marie, AIBA PR and Communications Director.

VISITS AND SOCIAL EVENTS

During 2015, Fight for Peace received several visitors in both Rio de Janeiro and London. Some of the highlights are as follows:

Visits and social events at the Rio de Janeiro Academy

April

The Hon. Peter Bunting, National Security Minister of Jamaica, visits the Rio Academy, along with Major General Antony Anderson, Chief of Defense Staff of the Jamaican Defence Force.

May

Luke Dowdney, Founder & Director of Fight for Peace, collects the Local Community Support award from the Franco-Brazilian Chamber of Commerce.

June

Fight for Peace boxer Roberto Custódio fights his way to glory at the Pre-Pan American Games in Tijuana, Mexico.

July

Fight for Peace in Rio receives a visit from representatives of the World Bank, the Chicago Crime Lab and J-Pal State and Local Innovation Initiative.

Fight for Peace in Rio de Janeiro hosts a visit by Cecília Anicama, Child Protection Programme Officer of the Office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children.

For the third time running, the Criança Esperança campaign chooses Fight for Peace as a partner organisation.

Rede Brasil celebrates research study results - Research released during the closing ceremony of the Rede Brasil project – reveals positive results in those organisations which applied social technology and Fight for Peace methodology in their programmes.

August

Fight for Peace and the Brazilian Olympic Committee (COB) join together to put on an unprecedented free training course for coaches of Olympic combat sports who work in areas affected by violence.

Fight for Peace today hosts a visit by Baroness Verma Sandip, UK Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Department for International Development (DFID).

Representatives from the marketing department at Reebok pay a visit to the Fight for Peace Academy in Complexo da Maré.

Fight for Peace is proud to be a partner of Reebok's training business unit. Reebok's "Be More Human" campaign, which encourages people to better themselves through fitness, demonstrates our aligned values. Reebok's combat training product will directly benefit Fight for Peace's programmes by supporting young people in communities affected by crime and violence.

September

Projects in Jamaica and South Africa mark a new phase in Fight for Peace's work.

Fight for Peace in Rio de Janeiro hosts a visit by Porticus.

October

Fight for Peace receives a Message of Support from Mr. Wilfried Lemke, Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace.

Fight for Peace and the British Olympic Association (BOA), with the support of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, carry out a training programme for Academy coaches in areas of high performance and personal development.

Fight for Peace celebrates the opening of a new office in Lapa and recent achievements such as the organisation's global partnership with Reebok and the expansion of Fight for Peace's international work in Jamaica and South Africa.

Fight for Peace in Rio receives a visit from representatives of Comic Relief.

November

Fight for Peace in Rio de Janeiro hosted a visit by Jonathan Neill, Head of Sports/Entertainment Partnerships for Barclay's in the UK

Representatives from Team GB together with University Estácio de Sá director, Antonio Higino visit the Rio de Janeiro Academy.

December

Fight for Peace receives an award in the Leader in Sports Management category at the 5th Leaders of Brazil Awards.

The International Boxing Association (AIBA) makes official its support for five Fight for Peace athletes at the organisation's Academy in Complexo da Maré.

Visits and social events at the London Academy**January**

Fight for Peace stages a pop-up boxing and fitness event at Westfield Stratford City shopping centre.

February

Fight for Peace boxer Haris Najeeb is crowned ABA Youth North East London Regional Champion.

Young people from the London Academy take part in an Empowerment Day in Manor Park, east London, staging free boxing and martial arts sessions and engaging with young people from the local area.

Five Fight for Peace UK Alumni Programme (UK AP) partners (Cohort Two) from across the UK gathered at the London Academy to participate in a week of training.

March

Olympic gold medalist Nicola Adams MBE visits the London Academy and becomes a Fight for Peace Ambassador.

England Boxing accredited show takes place at the London Academy – seven Fight for Peace boxers compete including the Academy's first female boxing competitor, Jo Van Den Berg.

April

Representatives from Sony Music visit the London Academy.

Fight for Peace young people meet and participate in a sparring session the British and Cuban national boxing teams at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

May

Fight for Peace stages a muay thai and MMA interclub event at the London Academy – seven Fight for Peace members represent the organisation.

Boxer Daniel Evans receives the 'Best Visiting Boxer' award at the Peacock Open Air Boxing Show.

June

Seven youth and community organisations take part in an introduction day for Cohort Three of the UK Alumni Programme (UK AP) at the London Academy.

Fight for Peace MMA athletes Kingsley Crawford and John McFadyen make their semi-professional competitive debuts.

Fight for Peace Head muay thai Coach Daniel Sam secures victory in SuperKombat in Zurich, Switzerland.

July

Four Fight for Peace members complete a MyBank money management course at the Fight for Peace Academy.

August

Fight for Peace rewards members for their outstanding contributions and achievements at the Annual Awards Ceremony.

UK Alumni Programme Cohort Three members complete a week of training at the Fight for Peace Academy.

Fight for Peace launches the findings of its tracer study evaluating the longer term impacts of the Pathways programme at the offices of Global Partner Credit Suisse.

October

Boxer Daniel Evans becomes the first Fight for Peace competitor to win the London Regional Novice Boxing Championship.

Fight for Peace is presented with a Sport for Conflict Resolution award at the 2015 Beyond Sport Awards in London.

Beyond Sport Summit Delegates visit the London Academy to learn more about the organisation.

Fight for Peace holds a Careers Fair at the London Academy, with participating organisations providing careers advice, job training and job opportunities.

November

Fight for Peace launches the Champions Club – composed of individuals who commit to contributing towards the running costs of the London Academy.

The London Academy holds a England Boxing accredited show – four Fight for Peace boxers compete.

December

Fight for Peace hosts a muay thai interclub event – seven athletes represent the London Academy.

Fight for Peace's annual Talent Show is held, featuring a wide range of performances from the Academy's members.

DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

Associação Luta pela Paz – Donors

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 And a number of gifts from anonymous individuals.

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Quotes from supporters

"Luta has been a trusted, accountable partner since 2008, strongly aligning with EMpower's mission to reach at-risk youth and consistently delivering excellent results. Since EMpower first began supporting Luta, the organization has grown substantially, increasing its local and international profile, reach, and breadth of programming. This has been remarkable to see. We value our partnership with Luta, their high caliber team of professional staff, and their continuous mission to reach more youth in a highly effective way."

Carmen Morcos, Senior Program Officer for Latin America, EMpower.

"At the Swedish Postcode Lottery Sport Foundation we believe Fight for Peace is one of the organizations leading the way on how sport can be used to deliver positive social impact. Through their job training, education workshops, social support and youth leadership training they are transferring the lives of young people, and entire communities, in Mare and contributing to a better world for all. Based on a solid boxing program, which in itself has given the people of Mare a positive activity to engage with, it is the education training and social development that makes this program transcend sport and showcase how it can be used as a tool to achieve sustainable development. We are proud to partner with Fight for Peace and support them as they give young people the opportunity to realise their potential."

Martin Kihlström, General Manager, the Swedish Postcode Lottery Sport Foundation.

FIGHT FOR PEACE

Founder & Director – Luke Dowdney MBE

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Sport assistants - Alex Sandro de Oliveira Soares de Carvalho, Anderson de Jesus Santos, Genilson José do Nascimento, Jefferson Ferreira Da Silva, Milleide Marcelino Henrique da Silva, Pedro da Silva Dutra and Raissa Souza de Lima

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Sports Coordinator and Head MMA and BJJ Coach - Steve O'Keeffe

Head Muay Thai Coach - Daniel Sam

Muay Thai Coaches - Leslee Constable and Star Joyce

Head Boxing Coach - Marcus Forde

Boxing Coaches - Jeremiah Agbonifoh, Lance Cepal (volunteer), Silvino Domingos (volunteer), Abdul Rashid Bangura (volunteer) and Guy-Marcel Bahintchie (volunteer)

Head Fighting Fit Coach - Chris Cruze

Fighting Fit Coaches - Ismael Paulo, Reinaldo Dos Santos and Guy-Marcel Bahintchie (volunteer)

MMA and BJJ Coaches - Steve O’Keeffe and Chris Cruze

Twilight Coaches - Allyson Julien and Ebenezer Ayerh

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