



# ***Helping Communities Build Resilience and Self-Reliance***





***GFSC provides mentoring,  
methods, and materials to  
strengthen community  
resilience in times of  
crisis and change.***

# Rebuilding and Strengthening...

- *Social Networks*
- *Sense of Community*
- *Group Resilience*



# Enhancing Local Resources...

- *All those who help build a community*
- *Teachers, doctors, pastors, social workers, community elders, and many others*
- *Facilitators with important core skills*

**...with additional skills for crisis situations.**



# Strengthening Local Capacity

- ***Local leaders & local facilitators know local community, needs, culture***



- ***Outsiders may have limited ability, and sometimes, a dependence and rescue mindset***

# GFSC Model

- ***Based on social learning***
- ***Helps facilitators think and act effectively***
- ***Helps groups and communities move through crisis to rebuilding and recovery***
- ***Works alongside and continues after the work of other organizations***

# Social Learning Model

Group-based,  
experiential

Living and  
working  
together



New skills  
and ways  
to live

Develop as  
a person

Jacques DeLors  
1999

# Crisis

危機

Danger

Opportunity

- present in every change/transition
- reactions are normal, natural and necessary
- never takes away the ability to make choices

# Resilience...

**“The ability to face internal or external crisis and effectively resolve it, learn from it, be strengthened by it and emerge transformed, both individually and as a group.”**

**(Brenson-Lazan, 2003)**

## ***Requires***

- ***Personal Development***
- ***Interpersonal Development***
- ***Vision***
- ***Strategic Thinking***

# GFSC Crisis to Resilience Workshop

**Crisis** > **Change** > **Choice**:

**Building Personal & Community Resilience**

- *Learn as a community*
- *Recognize initial reactions*
- *Identify effective/ineffective behaviors and outlook*
- *Apply effective leadership styles*
- *Care for ourselves while caring for others*
- *Help local community plan how to share model (cascade throughout community)*



**For facilitators, agencies  
and community leaders**

# *GFSC Model at Work*

- **1986, volcano and avalanche, Armero, Colombia:** Facilitative Crisis & Disaster Intervention strategy developed in response to destruction of entire town and loss of 30,000 people.
- **1998, Hurricane Mitch, Nicaragua:** initially trained 28 professionals who then volunteered in communities reaching more than 11,000 people in one year.
- **1999, Earthquake, Taipei, Taiwan:** 200 facilitators trained to work with first responders and community leaders.



# *GFSC Model at Work*


- **2000, City Vargas, Venezuela:**  
20 facilitators trained to work with educators, psychologists and community leaders.
- **2001, New York, 9 /11 Terrorist Attack:** GFSC volunteers shared grief processing techniques.
- **2002, FARC terrorist attacks, Bojayá, Colombia:** 25 priests and social action leaders formed team to help survivors, reaching hundreds of community leaders.

# GFSC Model at Work

- **2004, Tsunami in Indonesia:** Virtual Mentoring to apply GFSC techniques and translate materials and intervention model into Bahasa.
- **2005, Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans, LA:** initially 4 local facilitators trained 20 more local volunteers; formed a local network and conducted 20+ workshops reaching hundreds.
- **2006, Quito, Ecuador, Volcano Tungurahua:** 25 facilitators trained to work with affected communities.



# GFSC Model at Work

- **2006, Los Angeles, CA, Mayor's Office of Emergency Preparedness:** 30 professionals trained, then volunteered to lead workshops in their communities, reaching 300+ within one year.
- **2007, Bush Fires, Melbourne, Australia:** 60 facilitators trained to work with local communities devastated by fires. 
- **2009, Typhoon Morakot, Taiwan:** Virtual Mentoring and distance learning seminar for 20 facilitators previously trained by GFSC.

# *GFSC Model at Work*

- **2010, after Earthquake in Haiti:** prepared 16 Haitian professionals for long-term work attending to psycho-social needs of Haitian population.
- **2010, after Earthquake, Santiago, Chile:** GFSC workshop for 20+ experienced facilitators, committed to working with devastated communities throughout Chile.
- **2010, Philippines:** disaster management workshop for education consortium of 11 Southeast Asian countries, and planning future collaborative disaster management training, facilitation and research.

- *We believe that people and communities are capable of self-determination and that facilitation is an effective catalyst to build, rebuild and sustain self-reliant communities.*
- *Through our support of volunteer facilitators worldwide, Global Facilitator Service Corps strengthens the capacity of communities to work through their challenges and create sustainable solutions.*
- *By sharing our knowledge, experience, and caring, we enable communities and the institutions that serve them, to identify and achieve their goals.*

