

COLORS OF CONNECTION



“I feel good in my skin when I am doing art.”

*- Participant
Goma, DRC*

Who We Are

Colors of Connection is a non-profit specialized in girls and young women, mental health and psychosocial arts engagement, public mural making, and community building in conflict and post conflict areas.

Over the past 7 years we have invested in Eastern Congo, providing direct support to girls and young women who are at the frontlines of abuses and social change.

At a time when conflict and crisis have increased in both intensity and scale around the globe, innovative solutions are needed to support people in healing and rebuilding their lives. Investing in mental health and psychosocial wellbeing is a crucial component of restoring societies, yet it is often overlooked.



412,000 people reached

Through murals in public spaces



552 young citizens engaged

To collectively imagine and express their vision of a better future




21 sessions on average

Completed per participant



What We Offer



Innovative and easily replicable creative activities for youth. Designed for low-resource environments, activities mitigate trauma and promote mental health and wellbeing. Activities include drawing, theater, music dance, public murals and more.

Evidence-based tools and best practices for girl-centered programming including building-assets, program design, community resource and risk mapping, community surveying to understand girls' risks by age, and gender-based violence case management.


Community public art and engagement that amplifies young people's participation in social norms change and social cohesion.

Knowledge sharing with local partners in a cascading leadership model so our programming is informed by the lived experiences of the people within the community, and encourages co-leadership opportunities amongst partners.

Arts-based survivor support via trauma-informed arts activities that create safe spaces and facilitate trauma processing, emotional expression, and positive relationship formation.

Partners & Funders

- The Tides Foundation
- The NoVo Foundation
- International Rescue Committee
- Save the Children
- Oxfam
- The Population Council
- Tulizo Elle Space
- W.V.S. Tubman University
- The Government of Liberia



“Colors of Connection is doing important work with adolescent girls and young women in conflict-affected communities, such as in the DRC, by **providing safe spaces and supportive environments** in which **young women can build self-confidence and leadership skills** as well as expand peer networks by developing their own artistic skills and collaborating with other young women on a community-based art project of their own making and design.”



- **Elizabeth Graybill**
Former Women's Protection and Empowerment Program Staff, IRC - DRC



Project Highlights

- **Effecting social norms change and environmental transformation**
Reaching over 387,800 residents through public art created by young people in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, and Burkina Faso.
- **Supporting the wellbeing and self-efficacy of young people**
Facilitated over 400 psychosocial, arts-based and life skills sessions with 552 young people.
- **Trainings conducted in**
 - Trauma informed arts-based approaches to working with girls including drawing, theater, music and dance;
 - Gender-based violence case management,
 - Building-assets program design,
 - Community resource and risk mapping, and
 - Building power with women and girls.
- **Capacity building and knowledge sharing**
Strengthened the institutional capacity of local partners in resource mobilization, program and financial management, monitoring and evaluation, and made linkages with partners to funders.



Colors of Connection | Brooklyn, New York USA
& Goma, North Kivu Province DRC
Ph: USA +1 646-515-8589, DRC +243 813-499-511
info@colorsofconnection.org, colorsofconnection.org