

## Generation Peace Academy Overseas Dominican Republic Begins Witnessing

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Hello, all! It's been a very busy week or so here in GPA Dominican Republic, so I'd like to jump right in and let you all know what we've been up to!

Since our last blog, GPA has really kicked it up a gear in helping the DR community. The day after the last blog, we spent some time at the all-girls Madalaes orphanage to bond with the kids and give them a great afternoon. Within that time, we performed a song and dance to the kids, and they paid us back in kind. After gifting food and supplies to the orphanage, we left to attend a small but beautiful Blessing Ceremony.

In the days following, our group! We went to the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo, inviting people to a multicultural event that GPA and CARP co-hosted. Interesting side note -- witnessing and talking to strangers in the DR is pretty different compared to the U.S. People are so much more willing to hear you out and even give their contact info without question -- something that would almost NEVER happen back in the States.

Moving along, we traveled to and stayed at a Unificationist-owned sanctuary called La Finca, a stunning

stretch of land surrounded by vast mountains, inhabited by friendly animals, and in need of some service work from our hands. We worked on digging out an area for a basketball court, repainting buildings, and generally fixing up the place. Unfortunately, I was sick during the time and couldn't participate, but I could easily tell how much work other members were putting into their assignments. The rapid progress and tired yet smiling faces of my peers was incredibly inspiring, and La Finca looks all the better for their investment!



We swung back by the Santo Domingo CARP center on Saturday for the witnessing/multicultural event, and it was a huge success! Various presentations on countries all over the world and amazing cooking from our members drew quite a crowd, and the mingling afterwards had a lot of guests wondering when was the next potential event.

After a fun outing to Isla Saona, a beautiful beach island, we've come back to La Finca. Once we finish a little more service work here, we've got a lot planned for the future, so stay tuned! Adios!

