Today, we are one of the largest youth serving NGOs in Botswana. We dreamt it, but never imagined it would happen so quickly. We initially started with the goal of running a rigorous study to see if a successful program in Kenya would replicate in Botswana. Now we run rapid trials monthly and are transitioning two programs to scale, hand-in-hand with government.

This year a few achievements stand out. First, we partnered with the National Service Program, a government-run scheme which deploys 15,000 youth in schools and clinics throughout the nation. Fifteen similar schemes exist across sub-Saharan Africa with over $240 million annual investment, presenting an exciting scale model. Evidence shows that the messenger matters: young people are often most effective at delivering life-saving information to other young people. In 2014-2015 we ran one of the largest randomized trials demonstrating this effect. Harnessing government-run youth service schemes is a promising route to both high-impact and scale, and one we are pursuing.

Second, we’re converging on a dual delivery model in partnership with government. We now have ‘direct delivery’ where we hire and train young people to pilot and pressure test programs and deliver them at grade-A quality. This enables us to (a) continually innovate, (b) rigorously adapt and test programming, (c) provide a north star for possible impact, (d) generate grassroots demand among communities who see the program working, (e) simplify delivery into a scalable package. We also have ‘government-led’ delivery where we hand off a codified, pressure-tested package to both the National Service Program and teachers and support delivery at scale. This is where impact can reach millions. So far, this dual delivery model is working.

Third, we ran over a dozen rapid trials this year, monthly. We’ve learned how to test our programs 10x faster and cheaper, and design iteratively, improving our programs with each new cycle of data that flows in. It’s a fusion of some of best practices, including randomized controlled trials, A/B testing as used in the technology and business sector, and human-centered design. We’ve called it Rapid Impact Assessments.

Fourth, our team. We have grown to over 100 strong. Our offices, now decentralized across the country, are filled to the brim with the most remarkable, hard-working, motivated people on the planet. Of course, we admit we’re biased. But it’s true. This is the engine for the entire operation.

We hope you enjoy our Annual Report which provides a brief view of the last year, including a timeline of the last 5 years to mark our fifth birthday. It’s been fun, lesson-filled, and impact-obsessed. Here’s a glimpse of where we’re headed: over the next decade, we aim to become one of the largest, highest impact NGOs in Africa. Millions of youth deserve to thrive and we won’t rest until they do.
Mission
Connecting youth to proven life-saving information.

What we do
We translate rigorous research into high-impact health and education programs delivered by young people for young people.

OUR FOOTPRINT

FAST FACTS

2 Programs
Health and Education evidence based programs

+68K Students Reached
Over 68000 students reached with proven life-saving information

556 Schools
Primary and Secondary schools in Botswana

13 Technical Working Groups
13 scalable partnerships

329 Facilitators Trained
Innovators for impact

134 Staff Members
To connect youth to proven life-saving information

OUR REACH

REGIONS IN BOTSWANA
South-East
Kweneng
Southern
Kgatleng
Ghanzi
Chobe
Central

South Africa
Zimbabwe
Zambia
Botswana

Young 1ove
Connecting youth with proven life-saving information
PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

It has been 5 years since the rollout of our inaugural anti-sugar daddies program. This 1-hour intervention warning girls of risks associated with “sugar daddies” was inspired by evidence taken from a previous randomized trial in Kenya that showed a 28% reduction in teen pregnancies after a similar intervention. Since then, our anti-sugar daddies program has evolved into Zones - a more targeted, effective intervention encouraging youth to safely date agemates while making informed decisions about their sexual and reproductive health. If this shift occurs, girls would shift from dating older partners with a 25%-45% HIV rate to dating younger partners with only a 5% HIV rate.

Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL) focuses on basic literacy and numeracy. The program was pioneered by Pratham in India and proven to work through multiple randomized trials conducted by J-PAL. The TaRL approach evaluates student proficiency using a 1-page assessment tool and then groups students according to their learning level instead of age or grade. After re-grouping students, youth facilitators use fun, level-tailed activities during a 30-day after school class. Teaching students at their ability level rather than at grade level curriculum is shown to be one of the most cost-effective interventions at improving basic literacy and numeracy.

BUILDING A YOUTH MOVEMENT

“Our first anti-sugar daddies program started with building a robust team to reach a third of schools in the whole country. It was important to tighten operations and build a recruitment-at-scale system that will absorb passionate and uniquely gifted facilitators and surveyors. With expanding to a second program, TaRL, we have cumulatively recruited and trained over 400+ Batswana youth, who are young professionals in various fields, and some belonging to the National Service Program. I am most proud of building a talented team who are experts in training, facilitation and research.”

Moltshepi Matsheng
Country Coordinator & Co-Founder

#JustKeepitSafe
#EveryChildCan
#Ngwanamongwelemongweonalebokgoni

#SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 3

Zones

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 4

Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL)
Our Values

Youth First
Everything we do is by the youth for the youth. We listen to and put young people first in all that we do.

Truth
We don’t aim to feel good, we aim to do good. It is not about ego, it is about impact.

Greatest Good
We aim to do the most good we can possibly do. We optimize for the greatest net impact for the greatest number of people.

Deliver
We practice what we preach. We relentlessly do. We value outcomes over inputs. It’s not about engaging in an activity, it is about doing something with a meaningful outcome.

+ We are obsessed with adding value. We don’t aim to displace value and obtain credit, we aim to create real impact. We work hard, and our work is hard. Staying, optimistic and remaining positive (+) is paramount.

Memory lane...

Launch date: March 22nd 2014
First grant: D-Prize - Girls Education Challenge
Co-Founders: 2 Fulbright scholars: Noam Angrist & Brenda Duverce and University of Botswana students: Moitshepi Matsheng & Unami Moatswi
Office: Shared one cubicle amongst 8 team members at the University of Botswana
Young love on national television: Our team appeared on Silent Shout, a youth television show on BTV
March 22nd 2014 marked the launch of Young1ove during the Month of Youth Against HIV/AIDS.

A year later we went back to all 343 schools in our randomized trial to measure our impact on dropouts and teen pregnancy.

We conducted a randomized trial of our first program, an anti-sugar daddies program, reaching 42,000 youth in a third of the country and trained peer educators and guidance and counseling teachers to deliver the intervention.

We visited over 500 girls at their households who had dropped out of school to hear their stories and understand the risks associated with dating sugar daddies.

1,000 youth reached through new country pilots in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

We launched a local Advisory Forum – a sustainable high-level structure to ensure we are responsive to regional & government priorities.

Incorporated wealth of evidence from Botswana and Kenya trials into the development of the anti-sugar daddies program version 2.0.

Added a second program Teaching at The Right Level (TaRL), a learner-focused remedial education intervention designed to improve student learning in literacy and numeracy. TaRL is developed by Pratham in India and tested rigorously by J-PAL for 15+ years across 6 randomized trials.

We then verified the conditions on the ground, conducting an assessment with all Standard 5 students in Chobe and Kgatleng. The results were striking: over 85% could not do division and were not at grade level.

Signed an MoU with the Ministry of Basic Education to scale evidence-based programming to schools across the nation.

Launched the Young1ove Board and Executive Committee.

Botswana positioned as the Teaching at the Right Level Innovation Hub, building strong partnerships and innovating with TaRL implementers with the goal to contribute to the global learning agenda and scale-up effort.

Published a subset of results with a full set forthcoming on the BMC Public Health journal: Revealing a safer sex option to reduce HIV risk: a cluster-randomized trial in Botswana.
What’s Next? Looking Forward to 2020

- Continuing the RIA Process: Building on the success of our RIA process, we will continue to test evidence-informed innovations to improve our sexual health programming.

- New Country Pilots: We are developing partnerships with a variety of implementers in Southern Africa to expand our programming and support youth throughout the region to make healthy, informed decisions on dating and relationships.

- Links to Services: To accompany our core program, we plan to provide youth with information to access critical public health services such as STI testing and guidance on Botswana’s age of consent laws.

- Measuring long term impact: We will examine our long-term impact on HIV/STIs as well as pregnancy.
The Challenge

Students worldwide are sitting in classrooms but are not learning. In Botswana, 90% of standard 5 students cannot do basic division, and two-fifths cannot read a simple story, performing worse than regional neighbors. National data shows a majority of students are below grade level and do not acquire basic numeracy and literacy skills.

The Solution

Teaching at Right Level is a learner focused and 30-hour education program designed to ensure every child in Botswana achieves basic literacy and numeracy. TaRL is developed by Pratham in India and tested rigorously by J-PAL and affiliated researchers for 15+ years across 6 randomized trials.

Expanding Government-led Implementation

TaRL is being scaled in Botswana using two implementation models:

- A government-led model that equips teachers and the national youth service program to implement the program and serves as a sustainable model for national scale.
- A direct-delivery model that equips Young Love youth educators to implement the program and serves as a site for program innovation and testing.

This year, we expanded the government-led implementation model to three regions and trained over 100 national youth service participants to deliver TaRL.

What’s Next? Looking forward to 2020 and Beyond

We are rapidly innovating, building and growing our program systems and operations. We are preparing for 2020, a year of tremendous growth.

As we grow, we will continue to learn. In 2020, we are launching A/B tests - a rapid approach to learning that will help us identify program innovations that ensure we continue to improve student learning as we expand and scale.
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

MARCH
Young 1ove’s 5th Anniversary

During the Month of Youth Against HIV/AIDS, Young 1ove celebrated its 5th year! The theme on this anniversary was to share our values with our stakeholder and Young 1ove friends.

AUGUST
Sharing Evidence with Partners

Young 1ove, together with the Botswana Baylor Children’s Center of Excellence and the University of Botswana disseminated the findings of the ‘anti-sugar daddies’ study which was published in the BMC Public Health, a peer reviewed journal.

SEPTEMBER
Botswana STI and AIDS Conference Presentation

Our Program Coordinator for the health program, Zones, was in Francistown to present the Zones programs findings at the STI and AIDS conference which is held annually. The presentation gave insights on the program, its curriculum, and early findings.

SEPTEMBER
TaRL International Training

Young 1ove was honoured to co-host the TaRL learning journey and workshop with TaRL in September. The 1 day learning journey provided an opportunity for participants to see TaRL in action and to create a platform for participants to interact and share ideas. The 8 day workshop brought together organizations and individuals interested in implementing the TaRL approach in their context.

NOVEMBER
Eswatini scoping visit

Our Zones Program Coordinator, Training Manager, and Country Coordinator visited eSwatini to conduct sensitisation meetings with the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education. They had the opportunity to visit schools and meet with the Founder and the Program Officer of Super Buddies. Their visit is another positive milestone for the organisation as we continue to scale and push through for the breakthrough.

Moitshepi Matsheng announced as Botswana National Youth Council Chairperson

Moitshepi Matsheng, has been appointed by the Minister of Youth Empowerment, Sport and Culture Development to Chair the Botswana National Youth Council. She is the first woman to hold this seat, and we are excited for her and wish her the absolute success as she leads the country’s youth development agenda.

PAL Network and India Trip

Our Executive Director and Training Manager represented Young 1ove at the PAL Network conference that took place in Kathmandu, Nepal. The theme of the conference was ‘Ensuring all children learn: lessons on inclusion and equity from the South’. Following the trip in Nepal, they visited the Pratham organisation in India to see the roots of TaRL and various models of implementation.

Our partnerships are essential for scale and sustainability. We maintain an active presence in existing government, multilateral and strategic coordinating mechanisms.
PARTNERSHIPS TO SCALE

**National Service Program**
We partnered with the National Service Program, a government-run scheme which deploys 15,000 youth in schools and clinics throughout the nation. To date, we are working with the youth scheme as a promising route to both high-impact and scale, and one we are pursuing.

**Technical Working Groups**
We hold a seat in various platforms for action namely; the Global Fund Adolescent and Young People Constituency, Adolescent and Young People Coordinating structure, National Strategic Framework III Adolescent Girls and Young Women Thematic Group, Ministerial Commitment on comprehensive sexuality education and sexual and reproductive health services for adolescents and young people in Eastern and Southern African (ESA) Technical Working Group, DREAMS Technical Working Group, UNICEF Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Campaign Coordinating Structure.

**Our Board**
Our Board members in Botswana and the US have continued to play a pivotal role in providing support and strategic direction to our growth. We are deeply grateful to Gabatshwane Tsayang, Owen Pansiri, Charles Birungi, Norma Altshuler, Kirk Friedrich and Paul Youn.

**TaRL Scaling Lab Committee**
Through the strengthened partnership with the Ministry of Education and the Brookings Institution, this structure convenes education players in the country and is chaired by the Director of Education. We are playing an important role in converging education leaders in the country and documenting the scaling process in real time.

**Advisory Forum**
In August, our Advisory Forum had its 4th Annual Meeting. This sustainable high-level structure has representatives from; Ministry of Basic Education, Ministry of Health and Wellness, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sports and Culture Development, UN Women, PEPFAR, BERA, University of Botswana, Botho University and NAHPA.

**Government Ministries in Botswana**
Young love has continued to work closely with the Ministry of Basic Education to reach every school and learners in the country, and the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport and Culture Development to train over 400+ youth enrolled in the National Service Programme.

**UNICEF, TaRL Africa and PAL network Collaboration**
Our collaboration with UNICEF, Pratham, J-PAL, the PAL Network has been on-going for the past two years. We have signed a Letter of Agreement with J-PAL and Pratham to collaborate on the Botswana scale-up over the next five years and to build an Innovation Hub in Southern Africa that will be catalytic for the broader TaRL scale-up effort across Africa.

**PARTNERS**

![Partner Logos]
**Our Future**

- **Reach One Million** Youth in East and Southern Africa enabling them to thrive.

- Emerge as a global thought partner on how to connect evidence with action.

- Integrate, work and scale in partnership with government.

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**FINANCIALS**

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>18%</td>
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- **Foundations** 19%
- **Government** 12%
- **Retail & Other Fundraising** 18%
- **Multi-literal & Development Agencies** 51%
- **Education Program - Teaching at The Right Level** 38%
- **Health Program - Zones** 14%
- **Management & General Support** 14%

**BUDGET**

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<td>Growth in Annual budget</td>
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