I still remember sitting in our living room 15 years ago, drafting our first mission statement. Glasswing was founded on a commitment to human dignity, and partnering with communities to build on their existing strengths and resources. This is still at the core of who we are.

We knew then - and still know - that investing in children and young people is key to transformation, by empowering them to envision and build a future that we may not yet imagine.

We started by mobilizing volunteers to do school makeovers, lead after-school programs, and be role models for kids. Now, the kids who were in our programs are actually taking the wheel, driving change in their own communities.

We know that we can't be effective in fostering hope and providing opportunities, if we don't create safe spaces for young people to be seen and heard. Over the years, we have asked young people about their priorities and vision. We've stayed flexible, adapting and aligning to what we learn.

All of these years, your support has made it possible for Glasswing to be responsive to those we serve.

Nayeli, one of our former students (and Debate champion), recently told me: “I've learned to dream big, drive my own personal growth, and become a volunteer and role model for so many kids, like my mentors did for me.”

Thanks to each of you, we now get to witness what it means to truly impact lives - exponentially.

Celina de Sola
Co-founder and President
This year, we turned 15!

We began as a small NGO with offices in San Salvador 15 years ago. We only had three employees. Today, we work in 12 countries, have regional and US-based offices, and a team of close to 600. Thank you for your support!
The Audacious Project announced Glasswing International as a 2021-2022 grantee and has catalyzed funding of $42M for the organization to expand access to mental health care and support at the community level in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. Glasswing is the first organization whose team and programming are based in Latin America to which The Audacious Project has committed funding, and its work will bring trauma-informed care to over 9 million Central Americans over the next five years through our SanaMente program.

Glasswing became The Audacious Project’s first Latin American grantee

Glasswing co-founder and president Celina de Sola spoke at TED2022 in Vancouver, BC, Canada about why we must expand access to mental health support in the Northern Triangle. Watch her TED talk “Mental Health Care That Disrupts Cycles of Violence” here.

We hosted our Second Annual Mental Health in Latin America Conference

For this year’s conference we partnered with USAID, UNICEF, Morgan Stanley, and Catalyst 2030, and centered on the theme “Exploring Global Innovations.” The event brought together 52 speakers from around the world to discuss the latest trends and solutions in mental health care through three tracks and simultaneous panels in Innovation, Equity, and Stakeholder Perspectives. The virtual conference took place on April 27th, with close to 1,200 inscriptions and over 500 attendees from more than 30 countries worldwide.

Celina gave TED Talk

Glasswing co-founder and president Celina de Sola spoke at TED2022 in Vancouver, BC, Canada about why we must expand access to mental health support in the Northern Triangle. Watch her TED talk “Mental Health Care That Disrupts Cycles of Violence” here.
We expanded mental health programs to Venezuelan families in Colombia

In partnership with Mercy Corps, Glasswing began the implementation of a project in Colombia to expand the scope and depth of mental health services for the Venezuelan migrant population. Working alongside other partner organizations that offer multidisciplinary services such as health, protection, gender, and livelihood, this comprehensive non-clinical approach provides tools to better understand the effects of trauma on themselves as well as help manage its effects on others.

The Howard G. Buffett Foundation recommitted to the Youth Leaders Initiative

The Howard G. Buffett Foundation renewed their commitment to young women and men in Central America, through an additional contribution of $36 million for the Central American Youth Service Corps: Jovenes Líderes de Impacto initiative. This exciting and innovative program is harnessing the power of young people to lead and drive transformation in their own communities. It provides them with a first work experience, through which they can improve their communities; leadership development and access to mentorship; and the opportunity to receive funding to carry out community impact projects. This initiative fosters optimism, hope, and pride, while demonstrating the incredible potential of youth.

Vice President Harris announced the government’s support of the Central American Service Corps program

Glasswing International co-founder and president Celina de Sola attended the Ninth Summit of the Americas in Los Angeles, California, where she met with United States Vice President Kamala Harris and other Central American women leaders while participating in the announcement of the Central American Service Corps with USAID and the Partnership for Central America. The initiative builds on Glasswing International’s Youth Impact Leaders program, which launched last year with exclusive support from The Howard G. Buffett Foundation. We are grateful to Vice President Kamala Harris, USAID, and the Partnership for Central America for believing in this shared vision.
Our Eighth Annual Benefit Gala raised $1.3M

On September 15th, Glasswing kicked off Hispanic Heritage Month by hosting its Eighth Annual Benefit Gala, honoring our first corporate sponsor Millicom (TIGO), and raising $1.3M for Glasswing’s education, health and youth empowerment programs in Latin America, the Caribbean, and New York City. Business leaders, fashion pioneers, social figures, and foreign dignitaries were greeted at Guastavino’s in New York City by Glasswing co-founders Celina de Sola, Ken Baker, and Diego de Sola as well as co-chairs: Carmen Busquets, Donna Karan, John Moore, Henry R. Muñoz III, Jana Pasquel de Shapiro and Host Committee members: Alexandra Araujo, Ariadna Gutierrez, Xitlat Herrera, Elizabeth Madigan, Fernando

We hosted a regional GenNow Forum & Festival

Our much anticipated Generation Now festival made a comeback this December in three countries: Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador! The festival consisted of a mental health forum with international and local speakers, a fair with mental health care stations, educational activities, opportunities for youth to explore vocational interests, competitions, and more. The event culminated with performances by local artists. GenNow Fest celebrates local heroes as well as encouraging and mobilizing young people to get involved and create change for themselves and their communities.
My story with Glasswing began in 2012, when I was just eight years old, in the Community Schools program. Since I was little, I had always dreamed of learning to speak English, but due to the economic limitations of my family, I was not able to attend an academy where I could learn it. Then, the clubs came to school and I signed up for the English Club. In the Club, not only did I find the opportunity to learn a second language, but I also met some of my best friends and an incredible team of volunteers. What has marked me the most in these 10 years of participating in the Community Schools program is having the motivation to challenge myself to learn new things that lead me to want to improve myself every day. Today I am 18 years old, I am about to finish my last year of high school and I am an English Club volunteer. I now have the opportunity to help others who are beginning their path with great enthusiasm and it is inevitable not to remember that I was also there wishing for the opportunity that I received.
Our Impact in 2022

Over the past 15 years, we’ve impacted the lives of more than 2.2 million people through our education, health, and youth empowerment programs as well as through our public spaces and volunteering initiatives. In 2022, we reached 139,975 individuals.

Community Schools & Education Programs: 14,465
Health & Mental Health Care Programs: 24,409
Youth Economic Opportunities: 3,135
Public Spaces: 97,966
Volunteering: 4,293
Our Financials

INCOME

PROGRAM DISTRIBUTION 2022

- Education: 29%
- Health: 26%
- Employability: 8%
- Migration: 19%
- Other Programs: 18%

YEARS OF
Thank you for being a part of Our Community!

As 2022 comes to an end, we wanted to thank you for your support over the past 15 years.

At Glasswing, we believe there are few things as powerful as seeing a young person become aware of, and harness, potential to transform their community.

Without you we would not be able to enable kids and communities to fulfill this potential.
Every child deserves a community that believes in them.