

QUARTERLY REPORT

2025 Q3 IMPACT



When the tide rises, we all rise together.

This quarter, community members launched businesses that solve real challenges, young people connected with mentors who guide their journeys, and local teams led transformative programs in education, jiu jitsu, and entrepreneurship that are changing lives.

From the FLAME entrepreneurial cohort in Brazil where 15 women gaining clarity and confidence in their businesses, to Haitian students achieving 100% national exam success, to community-based jiu jitsu programs across Northeast Brazil building life skills, connection and community, these stories reflect the ripple effect of investing in people, place, and purpose. Together, we're creating lasting impact across communities, and this report shares a glimpse of that work in action.

MILESTONES

OD & LEADERSHIP TRAINING

COMMUNITY IMPACT THROUGH
JIU JITSU

GI DRIVE UPDATE

EDUCATIONAL IMPACT IN HAITI

WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP
COHORT

SIX YEARS OF IMPACT

VISITORS & GLOBAL
CONNECTION

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT & LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Our leadership development and organizational systems program in Brazil continues to grow as a model for community transformation. We are helping local organizations to apply values-based, adaptive leadership principles, development strategies, operational rhythms and ways to measure progress. These practices strengthen their effectiveness and resilience through the inevitable challenges of long-term development.

Adaptive Leadership Workshops

This quarter, our ongoing workshop series included three key modules designed to strengthen leadership capacity and team collaboration:

- **Workshop 1:** Explored unique leadership styles, building high-performing teams, and navigating conflict with confidence.
- **Workshop 2:** Focused on vision and alignment, how to set priorities, dream big, and move forward together with clarity.
- **Workshop 3:** Centered on self-awareness as the foundation for mutual awareness and stronger relationships within teams.



Our workshops are interactive and experiential, weaving in activities, reflection, and play. Science shows that play fosters emotional resilience, creativity, and problem-solving—essential qualities for leaders working in challenging contexts.

Leadership training doesn't have to mean lectures, it means engagement, practice, and transformation.



Community Impact Through Jiu Jitsu

These community-based jiu jitsu programs go far beyond physical training. They cultivate essential life skills such as discipline, perseverance, self-awareness, and confidence, while creating safe, supportive spaces where connection, belonging, and mentorship take place.

Highlights from This Quarter:

- **Candeias Bilingual Jiu Jitsu Program:** Americans and Brazilians train side by side, breaking cultural barriers and building mutual understanding. Tony, DreamRoot's Programs Director, leads the classes and is equipping a team of local instructors and coaches to carry the program forward.
- **Jiu Jitsu Leadership Network Trainings:** Two events brought together multiple BJJ programs across Recife to train, connect, and grow as a unified network.
- **Fortaleza Outreach:** Our Programs Director, Tony Passos, led a leadership development session and workshop in Fortaleza, training local leaders in personal growth, teaching, and program management.
- **Women's Self-Defense Workshop:** Hosted at the Arte Suave DreamRoot Training Center, this capacity-building event empowered 19 women with practical safety and prevention skills, creating ripple effects that strengthen families and communities.
- **Ongoing Classes:** Both the Arte Suave and Sertão DreamRoot Training Centers continue their weekly sessions, with students making tremendous strides in skill, confidence, and character.





Gi Drive Update

Earlier this year, in collaboration with the Team Passos Jiu Jitsu community, DreamRoot shipped 155 gis and belts to students across West Africa in partnership with Go! International, and the Lionheart MMA Initiative. This gear is now in the hands of young athletes who are training, learning, and growing.

One of the recipients was Karam Initaitive in Ivory Coast, which teaches Jiu Jitsu to local students. They've partnered with HubCity WoeLabs, an organization that teaches coding and IT skills. At their shared space, students spend part of the day in coding classes and then finish with BJJ. Building focus, problem-solving, and resilience in both disciplines.

We are proud of this community for making an impact and helping unlock opportunities for students both on and off the mats. Thank you for being part of this story!

The lessons learned through Jiu Jitsu don't stop at training. They help students grow in academics, careers, and life.



EDUCATIONAL IMPACT IN HAITI

The team in Haiti celebrated an **incredible milestone year**, a testament to the dedication and perseverance of their teachers, tutors, and local leaders in partnership with the **DreamRoot Tutoring Program** at the **DreamRoot Resource Center**.

This year's results speak for themselves:

- **320 learners** in grades 1–9 participated
- **90% pass rate** across all grade levels
- **100% success rate** on national exams — officially earning the school **national recognition**

This achievement marks a historic first for the program and a major step toward sustainable educational transformation. Congratulations to local leaders Rose and David and their dedicated teaching team for their leadership and perseverance!





WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURIAL TRAINING

We launched the 2025 FLAME Entrepreneurial Training Cohort, a hands-on, immersive program for 15 women entrepreneurs in Brazil designed to blend business strategy with purpose-driven leadership. This launch represents a major step forward in equipping women to lead purpose-driven businesses that create mutual value for people, place, and planet.

The event was filled with energy, learning, and genuine connection. Hearing participants share how refreshing and eye-opening it was to approach business and entrepreneurship from a personally calling and mutual value creation perspective was deeply rewarding.



Many expressed how this shift in thinking brought new clarity and confidence as they took tangible steps forward in their ventures, developing business models that not only grow financially, but also foster human and community flourishing.

We kept the training interactive, hands-on, and collaborative. From group discussions over a shared potluck meal to engaging in LEGO® Serious Play® exercises that sparked creativity and innovation, the atmosphere was alive with ideas and encouragement. Participants also explored the BlueCanvas business model tool, developed by our partners at Bluefields Accelerator, which helped them clarify their strategies, refine their market positioning, and align their vision with purpose-driven impact.

Already, these women are carrying forward what they've learned—supporting one another, sharing resources, and multiplying impact beyond the training. We're deeply grateful to walk alongside this inspiring group whose perseverance, humility, and courage continue to inspire us daily.

FLAME Testimonials

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What I learned is that business exists not just for the owner but about value creation for others. It requires us to be others-focused and observant of what they need and want so that you can tailor your business to them.

— Raphaela, FLAME participant & DreamRoot Leadership Accelerator alumna



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A huge takeaway for me is having clarity around my ideal client. We can think of a variety of things for our business but not identified an ideal client and not gain traction. Identifying different client types and which I will have the most credibility with was really helpful.

— Carol, FLAME participant & DreamRoot Leadership Accelerator alumna



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A highlight for me in this program is that it's not just about what my company needs. Rather than being inward focused it is about being outward focused. It's about seeing the person in front of me, understanding what they value, and creating an authentic relationship with my client.

— Jhessika, FLAME participant & DreamRoot Leadership Accelerator alumna



SERTÃO AND ARTE SUAVE DREAMROOT TRAINING CENTER AND LOCAL PROGRAMMING

At the Sertão and Arte Suave DreamRoot Training Centers, weeks are alive with learning, creativity, and movement, from literacy classes to jiu jitsu and tutoring and arts and crafts. These programs provide young people with tools, mentorship, and safe spaces to grow.



SIX YEARS OF IMPACT

As we celebrate our sixth anniversary, we're humbled by the journey so far:

- 30+ communities across 6 countries impacted.
- Thousands of students and leaders trained and mentored.
- Sustainable programs now led by local leaders.

To our global network of partners, leaders, and supporters: thank you for believing in this vision. Here's to the next six years (and beyond) of growth, purpose, and transformation.



Visitors & Global Connection

This quarter, we welcomed several special guests to Recife:

- Daniel and Michelle Kwak, DreamRoot board member and his wife, joined us for an immersive visit, touring local programs, training with students, sharing meals with leaders, and envisioning the future together.
- Andrew, a long-time DreamRoot supporter from Virginia, joined our jiu jitsu programs and experienced firsthand the deep community and connection that make this work thrive.

We love hosting friends, supporters, and potential partners who want to see the impact in action, and even jump in to participate. Our doors are always open!

