

ON GOING PROJECTS

- Develop a network of volunteers and professional resources to provide the best possible assistance
- Partner international organizations with local school systems to provide and enhance educational tools and resources
- Work to partner cities in Kosovo with Sister Cities in the USA and around the world
- Facilitate relationships between local women's groups and international organizations
- Work with Kosovo NGOs to provide support and resources for their civic and gate-keeping projects

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**Providing
Education
for
Equal Access
and
Justice**

**PROGRESS THROUGH
PEACE, INC.**

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MISSION

Progress Through Peace, Inc. (PTP) strives to provide professional resources, learning aids, and educational materials to promote citizen understanding of good governance, human development, and individual potential.

The staff and volunteers of PTP work to “train the trainers” in fields such as democratization, transparency in government, community-driven development, and individual responsibility, so that those individuals may begin teaching the citizens of their own nation, region, or community. PTP partners with the citizens, non-government organizations (NGOs), internal organizations (IOs), private volunteer organizations (PVOs), and government agencies of these areas to provide this training. PTP does not involve itself in government decision-making at any level.



Members of INPO, a Kosovo NGO with which PTP partners in order to accomplish our mission there

Although PTP's ultimate goal is education, we recognize that success requires our participating in related projects. We consider capital improvements, material aid, and equipment to be some of the essential components of development, and we assist in providing them when possible. We do not “throw money” at any group or organization; rather, we consider clear and concise proposals for such projects, and require continuing accountability. An interdisciplinary committee determines proposal viability.

PROGRAM

PTP acknowledges that good governance and human development are cornerstones of a successful society. Our primary goal is to provide education toward that end within various countries and regions, filling vacuums left by recent or prolonged conflicts. Many of these areas have been struggling unsuccessfully, without direction or assistance, for many years.

PTP provides curricula in the following areas:

- Good governance
- Transparency in government
- Rule of law and equal access
- Civil society organization
- Community-driven development
- Citizen responsibility
- Human development

The concept of “training the trainer” is crucial to our strategy. We accomplish this by educating a core group who must then pass this knowledge on to others in their area. PTP provides the curriculum, materials, and support for this continuing education.

A post conflict region will go through four generally recognized phases of rehabilitation and reconstruction:

- Phase I** – Stability
- Phase II** – Security
- Phase III** – Elections
- Phase IV** – Adoption of a body of law based on local and cultural consideration of the governed that allows for equal justice and access of every citizen

International/security organizations such as the United Nations or NATO step in to assist with Phases I–III. Phase IV is the focus of PTP programs, projects, and activities—assistance not in adopting laws or developing policy but rather in educating the public on the role of citizen responsibility so that laws are enforced equally and without discrimination. Education is the means by which to accomplish this.

HISTORY

Progress Through Peace, Inc. was founded in 2005. Leta M. Carruth, PTP's executive director, traveled to Kosovo in the summer of 2005 to meet a group of young adults she had been assisting and supporting in their endeavors to make their homeland a more responsible and accountable society. Prior to that trip, she had neither been to Kosovo nor met any of these young adults. Within days after her arrival in Kosovo, Leta realized the need for education regarding democracy, basic economics, and health/hygiene, among myriad other “issues” the citizens of Kosovo face in their efforts to establish a working and successful democratic society.

The number of Kosovars Leta met who neither knew the law nor had ready access to it was astonishing. Furthermore, she was disturbed that no conduit was in place (or even planned) for educating the Kosovars about their duties and responsibilities as citizens in a democratic society. Kosovo seemed to be functioning in a vacuum.

After speaking with local, regional, and national leaders, as well as many ordinary citizens in Kosovo, Leta determined that exposure to these issues and to the necessity of acting on them brought new meaning to her trip. She began, upon her return to the United States, to form PTP primarily as a means to properly address these concerns as quickly as possible.

The level of acceptance of PTP and its goals by community leaders and government officials in Kosovo has been positive and overwhelming. PTP is moving forward by planning its first round of classes for the summer of 2006. Meanwhile, we have already begun to work with local NGOs on other related multiethnic projects within Kosovo.

For PTP, the phrase “Everyday something amazing happens!” has become something of a mantra. The volume of calls, emails, and chance “meetings” of people who are interested in contributing in various ways to PTP is incredible.