



PLAY. LEAD. INSPIRE.





## About me

- ▶ Hometown: Wheeling, WV
- ▶ Founded Open Field, 2010
- ▶ Named one of Pittsburgh Magazine's 40 under 40, 2018
- ▶ Union of African Communities SWPA Humanitarian Award, 2019
- ▶ Fun Fact: Traveled to Cameroon, Africa 14 times in the last 15 years!



# About Open Field

- ▶ Mission: To improve the lives and futures of youth through sport.
- ▶ Sport-based youth development
- ▶ 4,000+ youth engaged over the last 10 years
- ▶ 1,000 youth currently participating in Cameroon, Africa / Pittsburgh, PA







## Alignment with UN Sustainable Development Goals

**3** GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



**4** QUALITY EDUCATION



**5** GENDER EQUALITY



**8** DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



# Our Approach

Youth-led, community-based soccer activities that provide



**EDUCATIONAL  
TOPICS**



**LEADERSHIP  
EXPERIENCE**



**MENTORING  
& TRAINING**



**COMMUNITY  
SERVICE**



**SAFE SPACES  
TO PLAY**

# Video

- ▶ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e\\_ZbHHUCmXU&t](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e_ZbHHUCmXU&t)



# Pittsburgh Sessions

- ▶ Consistency (structure)
- ▶ Positive relationships / Coach Mentors from community
- ▶ Youth leading stretching / exercises
- ▶ Learning activities
- ▶ Fun / soccer
- ▶ Snacks 😊



# 2019-20 Pittsburgh Program Highlights

- ▶ **150** youth participants
- ▶ **9** part-time summer jobs
- ▶ **25** coach mentors
- ▶ **62** in-person sessions in Summer/Fall 2020
- ▶ **61** virtual soccer + life skills sessions in Summer/Fall 2020





# Pittsburgh Partners

- ▶ ARYSE - Alliance for Refugee Youth Support and Exchange
- ▶ JFCS - Jewish Family Community Services
- ▶ Somali Bantu Community Association of Pittsburgh
- ▶ Bhutanese Community Association of Pittsburgh
- ▶ Casa San Jose
- ▶ Pittsburgh Public Schools





# Outcomes

- **100%** of youth said the program helped them to feel healthy
- **94%** of youth feel that they belong at the program
- **85%** of youth made friends with someone they did not know before
- **94%** of youth feel that the coach mentors are here to help them
- **97%** of youth increased their confidence in themselves







# Contact

Justin Forzano, Founder & CEO

[justin@openfieldintl.org](mailto:justin@openfieldintl.org)

304-281-5649

[www.openfieldintl.org](http://www.openfieldintl.org)



@openfieldintl



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