



# 2016 Annual Report



GLOW Georgia summer participants engaging in an ice-breaker.

## HISTORY of GLOW Georgia

The first GLOW camp originated in Peace Corps Romania by three PCVs and four Romanian Volunteers. Over 80 girls participated and this project has now expanded to over 60 Peace Corps countries and has reached thousands of participants. The first GLOW Camp in Georgia took place in 2003.

GLOW Georgia's mission for FY 2016 was to educate and empower girls across Georgia, particularly in underserved communities, to develop their leadership skills, realize equal opportunities, and become agents of change.



# Letter from the Board of Directors

*Ina Vachiberidze*

I first became involved with GLOW in 2012, when GLOW was still holding its summer camps in a small guesthouse in Bakuriani. In the past four years, I've seen GLOW Georgia flourish into a registered NGO with a fully functioning board, actively engaged volunteers, and hard-working interns. What started as a Peace Corps initiative to raise awareness of gender and social issues has turned into an organization actively working to not only provide solutions to said issues but to train girls in Georgia and enable them to solve these issues with the help of their communities.

GLOW Georgia is best-known for its camps and hundreds of girls apply each year for a coveted spot in the program. Not only do the girls gain valuable information and experience from sessions and trainings, they are challenged to think critically and creatively and build long-lasting friendships and relationships with fellow attendees, guest speakers, and the hard-working staff.

But GLOW doesn't end with the conclusion of camp. Girls plan projects throughout the camp to "Take GLOW Home." Since September 2014, our alumni have reported completing 239 volunteer projects across Georgia! When the girls have completed at least three projects in their communities, they become Ambassadors and are invited to attend a conference where they are given further training and opportunities to network as well as eligibility for our Small Grants Program. There are currently 49 GLOW Ambassadors, which means 19% of the girls who have attended the last 5 GLOW camps have become GLOW Ambassadors and done at least three projects in their communities, a pretty amazing feat that we are all very proud of. GLOW Georgia would be nothing without the support we have received from our volunteers, board, interns, guest speakers, and more. As GLOW continues to grow, we hope to receive support from other organizations and businesses throughout Georgia who also believe in the empowerment of girls in Georgia.



# PEACE CORPS GEORGIA VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT IN GLOW Georgia

‘Every year Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) in Georgia are selected to join the GLOW Georgia team and work hand in hand with the Board of Directors to plan and organize our projects. The PCVs lead the following committees: logistics, recruitment, sponsorship, Taking GLOW Home and Small Grants, Curriculum, Grant writing, and Media and Marketing.



# 2016

## Project Highlights

# SUMMER SCHOOL

Tskneti, Georgia



GLOW Georgia held two summer camps this year, from August 23rd to September 6th. Each camp was preceded by a two-day Training of Trainers for seven camp counselors and two junior counselors. Our summer camps were held at Buckwood International School. 50 girls attended each camp.

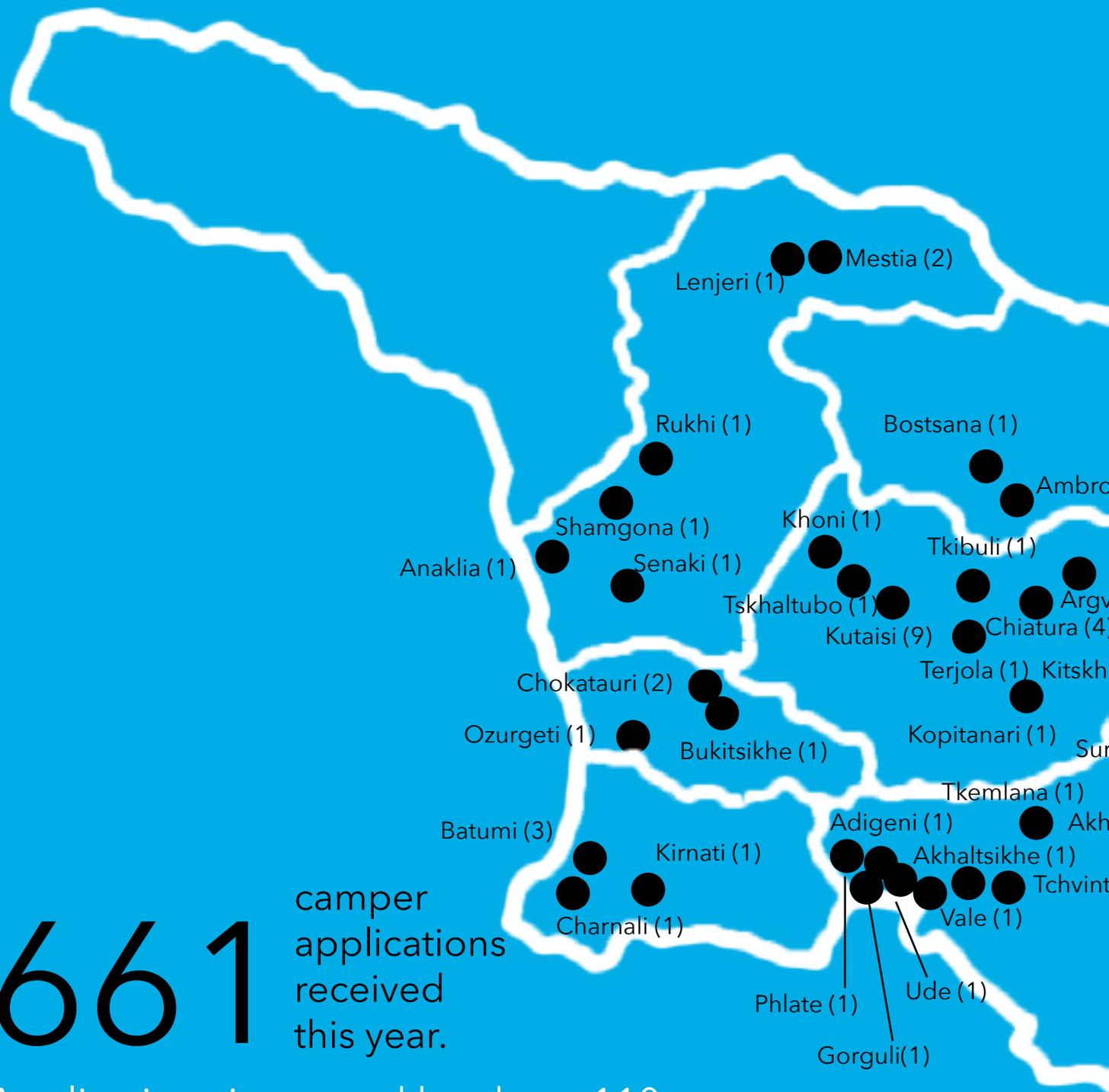


The goal of GLOW summer school is to educate and empower young women from across Georgia to become agents of change in their communities. The summer camp curriculum includes sessions on leadership, character building, self-esteem, peer pressure, problem solving, healthy lifestyles, women's health, diversity and acceptance, human rights, career opportunities, and project design and management. Sessions are delivered either in a large group, lecture format or in small "home" groups of 7-8 girls and two counselors. Although Peace Corps Volunteers are involved in all activities and sessions, everything at GLOW camp is conducted in Georgian. Additionally, campers participate in daily exercises, outdoor games and sports, and fun evening activities like movie night and murder mystery.



Daily questionnaires completed by campers indicated an overwhelmingly positive response to the vast majority of all activities, sessions, guest speakers and events at summer camp. GLOW Summer School's curriculum is intended to help campers gain valuable leadership experience and develop their critical thinking and problem solving skills. Based on camper and counselor feedback, we believe our curriculum succeeded in this respect.

# 2016 Summer Camp Attendance



Applications increased by about 110 applications from 2015. We accepted only 100 campers (14-17 years old).



# 2016

## Project Highlights

# AMBASSADOR'S CONFERENCE

## Tbilisi, Georgia



The Taking GLOW Home Initiative (TGH) began in September 2014. TGH encourages and assists girls in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of community development and social awareness projects in their communities.

Upon returning to their communities, if camp alumni complete three projects in four months, they are eligible to apply to become GLOW Georgia Ambassadors. As an ambassador, they receive recognition of their dedication and hard work, and are invited to attend the annual GLOW Georgia Ambassador's Conference.



Over the course of the three-day Ambassador's Conference, the participants develop a deeper understanding of project design, management, and monitoring and evaluation. After successfully participating in the Ambassador's Conference and drafting a small grant proposal, ambassadors are eligible to apply for grants of up to 600 lari through GLOW's Small Grants Program.

As of December 1, 2016, a total of two small grant proposals have been approved and are currently being implemented in Georgian communities. Since the Small Grants Program was initiated (December 2015), four total projects have been approved and two have been successfully implemented.



Finally, after becoming a GLOW Georgia Ambassador and attending the Ambassador's Conference, participants are eligible to apply to become Regional Ambassadors. As a Regional Ambassador, they are responsible for implementing one large-scale project, holding monthly regional alumni meet-ups and workshops, and acting as mentors to all of the GLOW alumni in their region. We currently have four active Regional Ambassadors in Shida Kartli, Kakheti, Imereti, and Samtskhe-Javakheti.

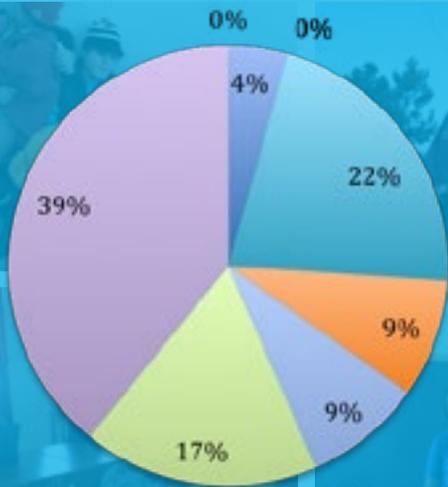


Nino Manvelishvili (2016 alumna) project aimed to promote healthy lifestyles. Vale, Samtskhe-Javakheti.

# 275

PROJECTS BY GLOW  
Georgia ALUMNI  
SINCE 2014

## 2016 Projects By Topic



- Human Rights
- Environmental Awareness
- Youth Intellectual Engagement
- Gender Based Violence
- GLOW
- Diversity and Tolerance
- Leadership
- Bullying and Peer Pressure
- Health
- Gender Equality



2016 winner of the TGH project and design management competition at the first summer camp.

# BUDGET

Summer Camps ..... \$23,140.00

Ambassador's Conference ..... \$2,492.28

Taking GLOW Home Small Grants Program .....\$187.63

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TOTAL SPENT:                    \$25,819.91

## 2017 PLANS

The GLOW team is collaborating with the BUILD (Boys United in Leadership Development) camp this year to carry out a joint GLOW/BUILD Gender Conference. The GLOW/BUILD Gender Conference will be open to all alumni of any GLOW or BUILD camp, provided they are between the ages of 14-17. The conference will include ten boys and ten girls from all over Georgia, and will be led by four Georgian counselors who have been counselors at GLOW and BUILD camps in the past.

The main focus of the conference is to delve deeper into what the participants learned at BUILD and GLOW camps about gender equality. The curriculum includes large group, small group, and gender-split sessions, as well as a professional panel of Georgians working in the area of gender equality in Georgia. Participants will be encouraged to think deeply about gender roles in their communities, and about gender relations in their society and the world. The conference will also encourage the participants to identify gender-related problems in their communities, and come up with a potential solution to one of these problems that they can implement when they return home.



As GLOW continues to grow, we hope to generate more support for projects like our summer camp (this year, we had over 600 girls apply for 100 spots!) and Ambassador's program. If you would like to contribute to GLOW Georgia, you can visit our website and donate through our donation button! All proceeds go towards securing supplies for Summer School and the Ambassador's Conference.

# DONATE TODAY!

[www.glowgeorgia.org/  
give.html](http://www.glowgeorgia.org/give.html)

## FUNDERS:

Democratic  
Commission  
Grant from the  
U.S. Embassy

Let Girls Learn

## DONORS:

Cory Greenberg

Youssef Zabarah

## SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Summer Camp  
2016 Counselors

Peace Corps  
Georgia

U.S. Embassy

Boost T-shirts

Buckwood  
International  
School (BIST)

We could not  
have done any-  
thing without the  
great work of our  
interns:

Mari Berianidze  
Tatia Rtveladze  
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