

## Raleigh Bermuda Follow-up Survey (2010)

### Background:

Raleigh Bermuda's programme began in 2004 and since that time over 60 young Bermudians have completed our year-long personal development programme, which included a 10 week expedition to Namibia, Borneo, India, or Costa Rica/Nicaragua. Those involved with Raleigh often speak about the 'changes' seen in the young people. Some changes are evident when they step off the plane after their amazing adventure – young men and women looking you in the eye, smiling and rejoicing in their accomplishments. Other changes are seen when they stand and address our sponsors at presentations, showing a confidence and maturity that they lacked before. And still others demonstrate their progress years later, when they enroll in college programmes, obtain scholarships, and begin their careers.

We see it. And in 2010, we wanted our supporters to see it too. So Raleigh issued a survey to our participants that completed the programme in 2005, 2006 and 2007, a total of 33 individuals. We asked them about the impact of the Raleigh programme on their lives, and what they've been up to since.

### Results:

We received responses from 22 alumni, which was a 67% response rate.

#### *The programme*

- **95% of the participants still felt the programme had an overall positive impact on their lives.**
- 100% said it had a positive impact on their understanding of their own culture and appreciation for other people's cultures and on their willingness to try new things.
- 95% said it had a positive impact on their sense of community responsibility, self motivation and confidence in their own abilities.
- 91% said the programme positively impacted their willingness to look out for other people, their job related skills, and their communication abilities.
- 82% felt that it helped them feel that other people can trust them and 77% said it positively impacted their employability.

"My expedition to Namibia was an experience of a lifetime. I met the most amazing people and developed many new friendships. I was constantly pushed outside my comfort zone and forced into novel situations. There were times that I felt like crying, moments that I did cry, times that I felt like quitting and going home and there were times when I thought I could never imagine leaving. This experience shaped the way I think because it reinforced my ability to help others. It also solidified my decision to do so. It increased my confidence as whenever I think I cannot do something I think to myself - "Kelly, you hiked across a desert - you can do anything."

Kelly, Namibia 2006



### *The participants*

- **82% are either working or in school**
- 55% are currently enrolled in school/training of some sort and 32% have already completed at least 1 degree.
- Almost half of those that went to college, received a scholarship.
- 55% have held down a job for a year or more and are currently employed.
- 73% say they are happy.

"With Raleigh, I feel I have matured in many aspects. I never knew how much of an impact it would have on my life. I have made new life-long friends and memories that will last a lifetime. Raleigh also helped me focus more on my future and really helped me get my life back on track. If it wasn't for Raleigh, I don't know where I would be."

Erik, Namibia 2007

### Conclusion

It's clear that the Raleigh programme changes lives. The young Bermudians who rise to the challenge to complete the training, the expedition, and the post-expedition activities prove to themselves and to others that they are capable of more than previously believed. Raleigh's goal is to continue providing this life-changing experience to other young people, especially those at-risk, and to ensure that our participants make the most of the opportunity.

"I am more open now. Really, at the end of the day Raleigh made the difference in my choices, and the skills I learned, I still use. It has only made me better still and stronger."

Terry-Lynn, Malaysia 2005