



**WPI**

# **DEVELOP A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR AN EXPERIENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM IN PIÑONES, PUERTO RICO**

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# **Presentation Outline**

- **PROJECT GOAL**
- **IMPORTANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**
- **OBJECTIVES**
- **RESULTS/FINDINGS**
- **RECOMMENDATIONS**



March 2022



March 2022

## PROJECT GOAL

Create an outline of an environmental education program, so that a full curriculum, specific to Piñones, can be developed.



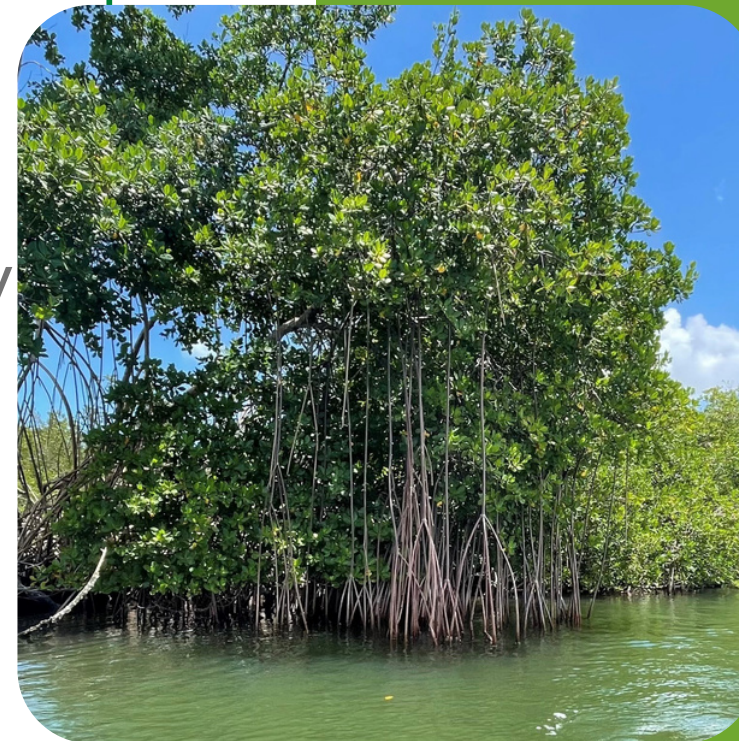
# WHY IS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IMPORTANT?

"You can't care about something you don't know about." –Jami Claypoole

"Early childhood environmental education programs improve environmental literacy outcomes such as environmental cognition, attitudes, and behavior, while building knowledge and skills that lay the foundation for more environmentally responsible and engaged adults." –NAAEE



Rocket 2019



March 2022



March 2022



## **OUR** OBJECTIVES

**Understand  
LimPiaR's  
Mission**

**Gain  
Community  
Perspective**

**Research  
Environmental  
Education  
Organizations**



# LimPiaR's Mission



- Our Goals
  - Understand the overall mission of LimPiaR
  - Understand each person's role within LimPiaR
- Methods
  - Conducted interviews
    - Jami Claypoole
    - Auraluz Guzmán
    - Roberto Lopez



# COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE



- Our Goal
  - Understand the state of environmental education from a local point of view
- Methods
  - Surveyed community members
  - Interviewed individuals from local organizations and community centers



# Environmental Education Organizations



- Our Goals
  - Develop environmental lesson plans
- Methods
  - Research organizations and their lesson plans
  - Adapt premade lesson plans to relate to the Piñones environment



# RESULTS & FINDINGS





# **LIMPIAR'S** **MISSION**

Achieve a cleaner and greener Puerto Rico for everyone who lives and visits the island while also providing educational information geared toward raising environmental awareness.



# JAMI CLAYPOOLE

## FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- Municipality does not pick up trash regularly
- Goal of implementing recycling/composting in every building within San Juan
- Wants to implement environmental education throughout Puerto Rico



Cleanup August 2019



# AURALUZ GUZMÁN

## CO-DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

- Specializes in hands-on education
- Communicates with other community centers and organizations







# **ROBERTO LOPEZ**

## **SOCIAL MEDIA DIRECTOR**

- Mainly creates content for Instagram and YouTube
- Working to expand to TikTok and Podcasts to increase influence online
- Grow volunteer base



# COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE

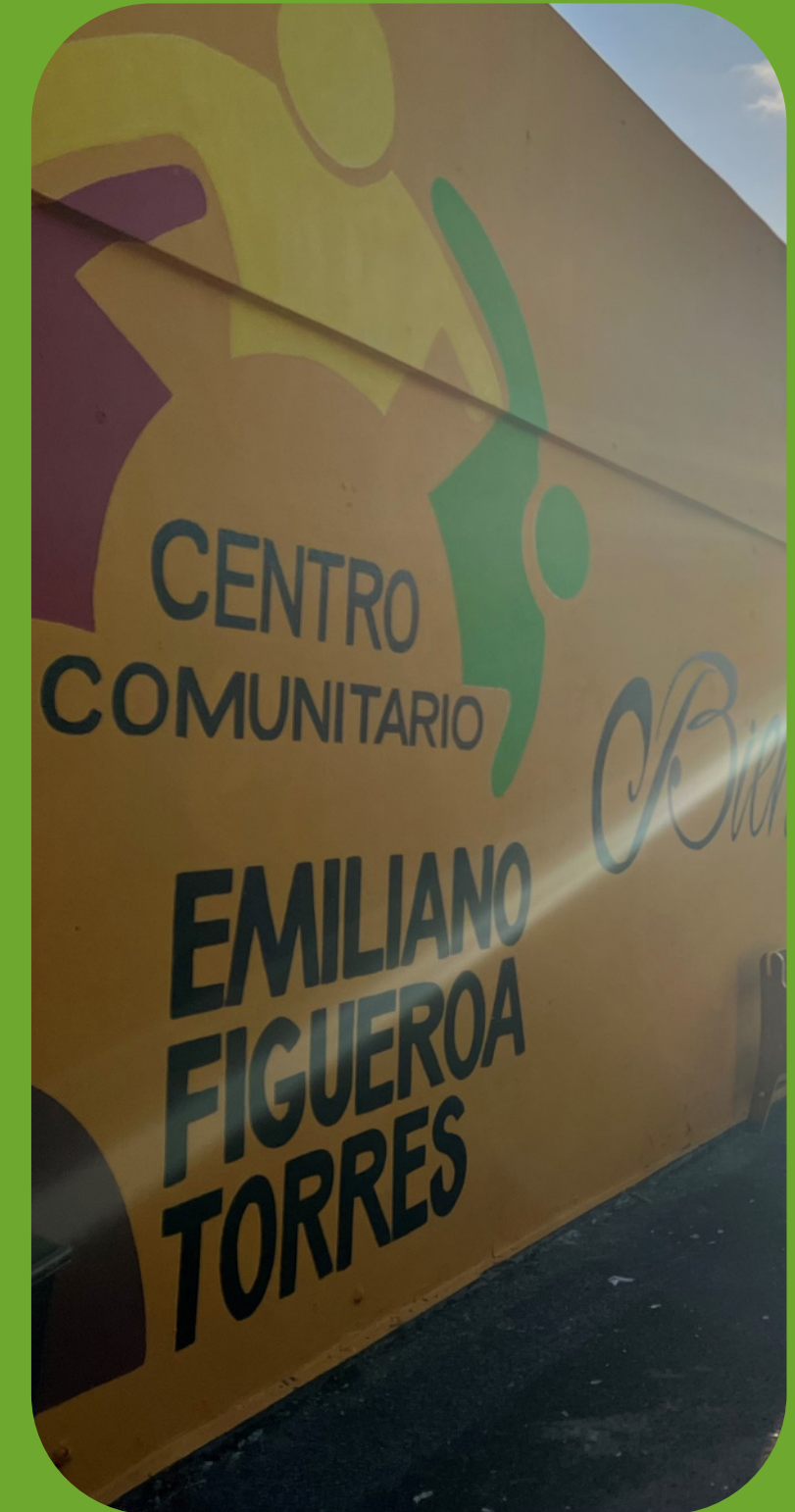




# TANISHA GASPAR

## FOUNDRESS OF P.A.Y.E

- Goal is to help kids understand how the community center was developed and the importance of a community center
- Planning a Summer program from June 20th–July 9th
  - Invited Auraluz to attend and teach from July 5th–8th
- P.A.Y.E provides a space for after school tutoring





# **JULIO CÉSAR CARROMERO ALBANDOZ**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATOR AT COPI**

- Teaches children at COPI on Saturdays through art and interactive materials such as crab shells, binoculars, and ocean wildlife action figures
- Participates in mangrove restoration efforts after the effects of Hurricane Maria





**ENIEL DAVILLA**

**BOSQUE ESTATAL DE  
PIÑONES EMPLOYEE**

- Has worked in the forest for a year
- Views the forest as a wildlife refuge and doesn't wish to promote it as a community space
- Stated that LimPiaR could hold meetings at the forest with proper preparations





# **COMMUNITY SURVEYS**

- Surveys conducted at COPI and sent out in Piñones community chat
- 7 total responses
- Top environmental topics
  - Agriculture (4 votes)
  - Waste Management (3 votes)
  - Climate Change (3 votes)
  - Ecology (3 votes)



**Organizations  
with  
Environmental  
Education  
Programs**



**THE CENTER FOR  
ECOLITERACY**

**PROJECT LEARNING  
TREE**

**CORNELL WASTE  
MANAGEMENT  
INSTITUTE**

**OCEAN  
CONSERVANCY**

**THE SMITHSONIAN**



# LIMPIAR'S ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

6 Main Learning Topics

Ecology

Diversity and Interdependence

Water

Soil & Food

Solid Waste Management

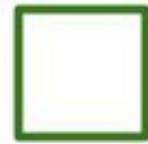
Climate Change



## La Búsqueda Del Tesoro



Mangles



Piedra



Zafacón



Coco



Bicicleta



Lagarto



Pollo



# SCAVENGER HUNT

- Adapted from Cornell Waste Management Institute
  - Originally a scavenger hunt for litter
- Developed into a scavenger hunt displaying living and non-living things found at COPI





# HOW TRASH TRAVELS INFOGRAPHIC

- Adapted from the Ocean Conservancy
- Displays the consequences of improper waste disposal
- Utilizes many textures and colors to engage the children





# HOW ORGANIC MATTER CYCLES

- Adapted from an urban gardening project at Sitopia
- Displays how organic matter cycles through nature
  - Connects to the topic of composting
- Turned it into a game where kids must put each piece of the cycle in the correct order



# RECOMMENDATIONS





# RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend  
LimPiaR  
continues  
developing  
interactive  
lessons for each  
main topic.

We recommend  
LimPiaR adapts their  
curriculum to be  
implemented at the  
P.A.Y.E after-school  
program at the  
abandoned Emiliano  
Figueroa Torres  
school

We recommend  
LimPiaR develops  
a way to  
evaluate the  
students'  
understanding of  
lessons.



# RECOMMENDATIONS CONT.

We recommend LimPiaR develops a pamphlet or PowerPoint that defines their mission, in addition to the macro-objectives developed.

We recommend LimPiaR updates their website to reflect current projects, media and environmental education resources.



The background of the slide is a vibrant, high-resolution photograph of a tropical forest. The scene is filled with dense green foliage, including various types of trees and large, broad-leafed plants in the foreground. In the lower-left corner, a group of people can be seen sitting on a rocky clearing, providing a sense of scale and context. The overall lighting is bright and natural, suggesting a sunny day. A solid green rectangular bar is positioned at the top of the image. A large, dark green rounded rectangle with a thin green border is centered over the image, serving as a backdrop for the text.

# THANK YOU

ANY QUESTIONS?



# WORKS CITED

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