

# CHANGE A LIFE THROUGH CULTURE + TRAVEL

## THE MISSION

**We believe international travel isn't a luxury – it's a powerful tool for education, equity, and transformation.**

The mission of BravoPlus, Inc. is to empower youth—especially African American and Latino high school students from underserved areas of South Florida—through international cultural experiences that foster leadership, global citizenship, and lifelong learning.



## GRANT PROPOSAL

### **Global Pathways Málaga: Two-Week International Homestay & Cultural Immersion Program for Underserved Youth**

BravoPlus, Inc. requests \$500,000 to fund Global Pathways Málaga, a two-week, all-expenses-paid summer homestay and study program in Málaga, Spain for 90 African American and Latino high school students from underserved communities in South Florida, accompanied by 10 trained chaperones. Partial funding is also welcome.

This immersive international experience combines Spanish language practice, cultural education, and supervised homestay living with local host families. Students gain global awareness, language confidence, leadership skills, and academic motivation—benefits that are often inaccessible to youth from low-income communities. Each student scholarship costs \$5,000, covering all travel, lodging, meals, programming, and supervision. Grant funding will fully remove financial barriers and ensure equitable access to this life-changing opportunity.

## STATEMENT OF NEED

High school students in underserved communities rarely have access to international travel or cultural immersion programs due to high costs, limited institutional support, and lack of exposure. These barriers disproportionately affect African American and Latino students, reinforcing educational and opportunity gaps.

Research shows that international study experiences:

- Improve academic performance and graduation outcomes
- Increase confidence, independence, and leadership capacity
- Strengthen language proficiency and cultural competence
- Expand college and career aspirations

Despite these proven benefits, most cultural exchange programs remain financially inaccessible. Global Pathways Málaga directly addresses this inequity by providing a fully funded, academically aligned, and supervised international experience to students who otherwise would never leave the country.

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Global Pathways Málaga is a two-week summer homestay study program located in Málaga, Spain. Students live with vetted host families and participate in structured educational and cultural programming, including:

- Daily Spanish language immersion
- Cultural workshops and historical site visits
- Community engagement activities
- Guided reflection and leadership development sessions

All activities are supervised by trained adult chaperones to ensure safety, accountability, and educational quality.

## STUDENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Participants must:

- Be at least 16 years old at the time of travel
- Have completed the equivalent of at least two years of Spanish
- Maintain a minimum "C" average in Spanish coursework
- Provide a teacher recommendation
- Demonstrate commitment to academic growth and cultural learning

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

### Goal 1: Expand equitable access to international education

- Objective 1.1: Provide fully funded international scholarships to 90 underserved students
- Objective 1.2: Ensure 100% of participants complete pre-departure cultural and safety orientation

### Goal 2: Strengthen language skills and global competence

- Objective 2.1: Increase students' Spanish confidence and usage through daily immersion
- Objective 2.2: Improve cultural awareness and global perspective as measured by post-program surveys

### Goal 3: Foster leadership and long-term academic motivation

- Objective 3.1: Increase participants' self-reported confidence, independence, and leadership skills
- Objective 3.2: Encourage continued academic and global engagement following program completion

## TARGET POPULATION

**The program serves African American and Latino high school students (ages 16–18) from underserved communities in South Florida who demonstrate academic potential but lack access to international enrichment opportunities.**

## TIMELINE

### ACTIVITY

Student Recruitment & Selection  
Pre-Departure Education & Orientation  
Two-Week Málaga Program  
Post-Program Evaluation & Reporting

### TIMELINE

January – March  
April – May  
June – July  
August

## BUDGET

### Cost per Student Scholarship: \$5,000

Student Scholarships (90 × \$5,000) - \$450,000

Chaperone Travel & Program Costs (10) - \$50,000

### Total Requested - \$500,000

### Budget Justification:

Grant funds will cover airfare, lodging with host families, meals, educational programming, cultural excursions, local transportation, insurance, staffing, and supervision. All program costs are necessary to ensure safety, quality, and equitable access.

## EVALUATION

Program outcomes will be measured through:

- Pre- and post-program surveys assessing confidence, leadership, and global awareness
- Spanish language self-assessment and instructor feedback
- Student reflection essays or presentations
- Participation and completion tracking

A comprehensive evaluation report will be provided to funders.

## ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

BravoPlus, Inc. has professional expertise in international travel coordination, cultural programming, and youth engagement. The organization maintains strong administrative systems, financial controls, and safety protocols to manage large-scale programs responsibly and effectively.

## SUSTAINABILITY & LONG-TERM VISION

BravoPlus, Inc. intends to establish Global Pathways as an annual program, expanding to 10 U.S. cities and serving 1,000 students per year. Long-term sustainability will be achieved through:

- Multi-year foundation partnerships
- Corporate sponsorships
- Individual donors
- Strategic school and community partnerships

This scalable model ensures long-term impact and national reach.

## CONCLUSION

Global Pathways Málaga opens doors to the world for students who have historically been denied access to international education. By investing in this program, funders will empower the next generation of leaders with the skills, confidence, and global perspective needed to succeed in an interconnected world.

## PARTNER WITH US!

Your support will directly fund scholarships and program costs, making global learning accessible to students who might otherwise not be able to travel abroad. Join us in empowering the next generation of global leaders.

### Lou Dinnella - Director

BravoPlus, Inc. | 3541 SE 4 Street, Homestead, FL 33033 | Phone: 201-960-7403 | Email: [lou@bravotours.com](mailto:lou@bravotours.com) | [bravoplus.org](http://bravoplus.org)  
EIN: 39-2411700 | IRS Status: 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (effective May 27, 2025)