

# FUTURE FORWARD

Disrupting in a Time of Uncertainty

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MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
ADVANCED MANUFACTURING CENTER  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Operated by Georgia Tech

## Overcoming Disruption

# Global Paint for Charity

Changing Lives and Coloring the World, One Gallon of Paint at a Time!!

### Problem

Did you know that most developing countries do not have paint? Usually, people burn trees for wood stove heat to dissolve river stones, soil, and fruits and vegetables (i.e., beets, limes, strawberries, etc.) to make color powders for paint.



- Many cannot afford to paint their houses due to poverty or natural disasters. It is estimated that 80% of the world's schoolchildren in third world countries face a dreary reality of unpainted classroom walls, and more than 1.5 billion families have never had access to a painted house.
- According to the World Health Organization, 1.5 billion seniors are living in impoverished homes, and 3 million children die each year from diarrhea and harmful germs from unsanitary conditions on interior surfaces including unpainted walls.



By contrast, in the U.S., home is where the pollution starts: over 150 million gallons of paint end up as waste every year. According to paint industry sources, each resident in the United States has over 10 gallons of unwanted paint stored in basements and garages. Improper paint disposal can lead to serious environmental problems.

- The EPA has found that paint can be a source of both air and water pollution—especially if it ends up in landfills. Improper paint disposal can have disastrous effects. If one gallon of paint is improperly disposed of in the ground, it can pollute up to 250,000 gallons of drinking water, which can endanger humans, animals, and fresh produce.



### Solution

The Global Paint for Charity, Inc., (GPC) is focused on the future of our children and their environment by creating the first sustainable paint waste management program in the United States and Canada. GPC recovers paint leftovers from homeowners, businesses, and paint industries, processes and repackages the assets, and works with distribution partners and NGOs to ship and distribute it to vulnerable populations worldwide.

We have mobilized over 200 companies across 25 states in the U.S. and five countries to donate their non-consumable paint for the humble cause. This is one of the most efficient ways to get rid of unwanted or unsold products.

Our decisions today are responsible for determining the outcome of our planet in the future. With responsible recycling practices, we can ensure the reduction of resource consumption, healthy ecosystems, and a healthier society.

### Innovation and Future Vision



As many as 5,000 to 6,000 gallons paint have been shipped at a time to 44 countries in Africa, Central and South America, the Caribbean, Asia, the Middle East, and beyond. The paint beautifies churches, schools, and family homes marred by war or severe natural disasters. GPC believes in keeping these hazardous materials out of landfills and transforming paint into a valuable resource available in areas where it is scarce. The process of recycling unused paint and reusing it as a resource to help those in need makes Global Paint an invaluable cause to support.



### Process



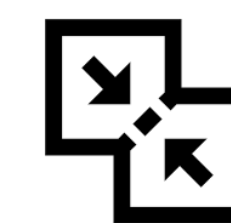
**COLLECT:**  
We collect leftover paint from businesses and residents



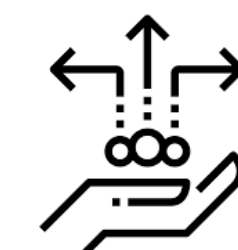
**STORE:**  
Our partner organizations store the paint in storage warehouses



**SHIP:**  
The paint is shipped to our collection center and reprocessing facility



**CONSOLIDATION/ REPURPOSE:**  
At the warehouse, the paint is sorted by color, type (exterior/interior, full/ 1/2 full cans), and consolidated by color



**DISTRIBUTE:**  
NGO partners are the final distribution channels to people in need, painting schools, orphanages, family homes, women centers and clinics

### Benefits:

For every gallon of paint donated, there are six tangible areas of savings:

- Tax savings-** Assuming a tax rate of 10% and the average value of a new gallon of paint to be \$28, using donated paint saves \$2.80 in taxes.
- Storage savings-** The average cost to store a gallon of paint is \$5 per square feet.
- Disposal savings-** The average cost to dispose of a gallon of paint is \$2.50.
- Reduced carbon footprint**
- Sustainability efforts-** Repurposed paint is used to brighten communities and keeps toxins out of the environment's soil, water, and other natural resources
- Social good & community impact-** Global Paint actively searches for ways to improve the quality of the communities where people live and work



### Our Company



The founder of Global Paint for Charity, **Rony Delgarde**, is an immigrant who arrived in America over a decade ago with only five dollars on hand, a holy Bible in his pocket, and a dream for education.

In March of 2010, he aimed to collect 500 gallons of paint for those affected by the earthquake that killed over 200,000 people and left a million others homeless in Haiti. When 6,000 gallons poured in at a paint drive at Gwinnett Braves Stadium in metro Atlanta, he faced a positive problem that would spark the nonprofit's focus of paint recycling and global redistribution.

Now, as many as 320,000 tons of discarded paints have been removed from the waste stream, repurposed, and shipped to 40 cities right here in the United States and 44 countries in Africa, the Caribbean, Central & South America, Asia and targeted areas in the Middle East.

Mr. Delgarde and his team often travel to recipient countries to deliver not only the shipment itself but also the organization's heartfelt sense of support and partnership. Throughout the world, there are thousands of success stories of individuals who have found hope and happiness through his work.

GPC won the "Energy Globe Award" in 2017, one of the most prestigious environmental awards in the world, a testament to the incredible dedication and hard work by Mr. Delgarde and the Global Paint family. Rony's selfless story has been featured on CNN, and he has received dozens of awards, state proclamations, and citations for his work.



For more information, please contact:  
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www.globalpaints.org  
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