MISSION: Our growing mission is to bring more diverse minds, talent, and innovation to the problems of global health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in our world through the lens of research, design and education because #everybodypoops.

This impact evaluation has been developed for the purpose of assessing the real effect and reach of Wish for WASH (W4W) over its first five years in operation. The W4W branch at Georgia Tech has regularly collected feedback at the end of most semesters for monitoring and development purposes. However, our five year anniversary has prompted us to seek a more comprehensive indication of W4W’s impact.

In 2019, the W4W management team conducted an internal survey that was inspired by our vision to meaningfully engage more youth (people under the age of 30) and women, particularly related to professional experiences and contributions to the WASH and social impact design spaces.

At W4W, we seek for each of our members to be empowered through their activities and responsibilities in the organization. The questionnaire used to inform this Impact Report was designed with the intention to understand the true benefits and opportunities for organizational improvements as recognized by the current and past members of W4W, who came to this organization with clear goals and interests. We conducted this analysis following a ~40% response rate from 100 people (ranging from members to contractors) which offered essential insights regarding W4W’s organizational impact over the past 5 years. The below outcomes reflect our high-level findings. We are thankful for our diverse team of passioneers that have enabled us continue bringing innovation to sanitation over the past 5 years.

5 YEAR IMPACT - BY THE NUMBERS

1. W4W is an organization where
   97% of its members are under the age of 30, and
   82% are young women pursuing higher education.

2. W4W has attracted members because of its unique focus on WASH and social impact design (specifically, design thinking).

3. All respondents felt that their involvement did enhance their knowledge and awareness of WASH and/or public health challenges. In addition, three-quarters of respondents felt their W4W experience led to professional development and increased knowledge of social impact design and design thinking.
4. W4W’s success in engaging young people for more than one semester of their studies is primarily reported to be due to W4W’s creation of a meaningful team- and mission-oriented space.

“I enjoyed the team vibe, believed in the mission, enjoyed watching progress from a local to international level.”

~ 4 Semester Member of Wish for WASH

5. More than 30% of responding members found opportunities to grow in their leadership skills with W4W by extending their time with the organization to serve in officer and/or executive positions.

6. Current and previous W4W members are now contributing professionally to the sectors related to W4W’s focus and mission, namely:

- WASH - 47%
- Health - 35%
- International Development - 32%
- Education - 24%
- Gender Equity - 24%

Through W4W’s 5 years of work, young people (especially young women) have been given a platform and opportunity to empower and work with other women in the name of social inclusion and diversity in the WASH sector. Additionally, the young men in the W4W community have not only been incredible team members, but have also aligned with the concept of gender equity. The themes represented in this Impact Report support W4W’s mission to help support the pipeline of innovative initiatives and diverse opportunities in the WASH sector; we seek to do this via a meaningful youth engagement and social inclusion approach with young professionals in not only the Atlanta area, but around the world who are connected and empowered through the remote, decentralized and autonomous nature of the team dynamic.

Thank you again to everyone who has and continues to support W4W, and we are looking forward to continuing to bring innovation to sanitation in the years to come.

Thank you to our supporters!

www.wishforwash.com
jasminekburton@wishforwash.com

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