



**USAID**  
DEL PUEBLO DE LOS ESTADOS  
UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA

**EMPLEANDO  
FUTUROS**

# LABOR COACHING: ESSENTIAL SUPPORT FOR YOUTH IN TIMES OF ADVERSITY

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded Empleando Futuros project's labor coaching team has provided crucial support to project youth during a trying year. To date, five coaches provided support to 945 youth beneficiaries at the national level, including follow-on training and monitoring. This support proved crucial in the wake of Hurricanes Eta and Iota, as well as among other emergencies project beneficiaries faced last year, including the COVID-19 pandemic and drought caused by climate change. These emergencies all impact youth employment in Honduras.

In the wake of the November 2020 hurricanes, several project beneficiaries and their families found themselves unemployed and, in some cases, homeless. Despite the multitude of emergencies faced by project beneficiaries, job coaches were able to identify employment opportunities for various project beneficiaries, including Evelyn Jakeline Luna, and direct them to the opportunities. Evelyn is a single mother living on the banks of the Chamelecón River just outside of San Pedro Sula. She lives in a floodplain and her neighborhood is highly vulnerable during the rainy season. Her family home was flooded during the hurricanes and her community suffered extensive damage.

However, despite the storm clouds gathering overhead, a silver lining emerged. Evelyn was offered a job with COPECO, the national emergency management organization. Today, she is a zone coordinator for COPECO, directing disaster relief in her community and making sure much-needed supplies are delivered.



*"Thanks to USAID and Empleando Futuros, I can put into practice the skills I learned with the project," says Luna.*

*"I thank the labor coaches at Empleando Futuros who have assisted me throughout this process. They always supported and motivated me." -Evelyn Luna*

Through Empleando Futuros, USAID strengthens its commitment to training youth in workforce skills so they may improve their communities. Empleando Futuros is dedicated to providing follow-on coaching to beneficiaries and increasing their employability as well as protective factors, particularly for at-risk youth in areas with high crime and high rates of migration.

*"My biggest satisfaction is knowing that what I do changes young people's lives, as well as their families and communities. Our job could change the country." -Javier Rodriguez,*



*Evelyn Jakeline Luna, Empleando Futuros beneficiary, delivers food kits to persons affected by the hurricanes in November.*