

Making Men of Action / Making Women of Action (MMA / MWA)

Location: Dominican Republic

Focus: Discipleship, Leadership Development, and Life Skills Training for Young Adults

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...” – Matthew 28:19

MMA / MWA is a two-year Leadership Academy located in the Dominican Republic with a mission rooted in full obedience to the Great Commission. Through a transformative focus on **discipleship, leadership, and job skills**, the ministry equips young men and women—ages 16 to 19—to become Christ-centered leaders in their homes, churches, and communities.

Their Story

In 2018, during a short-term mission trip to the Dominican Republic, one of MMA’s founders felt a clear calling from God—not just to “go,” but to **“go, make, baptize, and teach”** as Jesus commands. While working with local churches, he noticed a concerning absence of young men in church life—a pattern that mirrored his own journey away from faith as a young adult. This sparked a deeper mission: to reach young people before they walk away from Jesus and to raise up a new generation of Godly leaders.

What began as **Making Men of Action (MMA)** in 2020 soon grew. Young women in the community, inspired by what they saw, began asking to be part of the movement. Their prayers and persistence led to the launch of **Making Women of Action (MWA)** in 2021.

Who They Are

Manny Tucen (Dominican Republic Director – MMA / MWA)

Manny is a local leader in the Dominican Republic with a passion for raising up young men and women to follow Jesus wholeheartedly. After years of ministry involvement in his community, Manny co-founded **Making Men of Action (MMA)** in 2020 and **Making Women of Action (MWA)** in 2021, responding to a clear call to make disciples and develop Christ-like leaders. He brings cultural insight, spiritual depth, and hands-on leadership to every part of the ministry.

Michael VanDriel (U.S. Co-Founder – MMA / MWA)

After a life-changing mission trip to the Dominican Republic in 2018, **Michael VanDriel** felt called not just to go, but to fully live out the Great Commission—**Go, Make, Baptize, Teach**. Burdened by the spiritual needs of young people, especially young men, Michael partnered with Manny to launch **Making Men of Action (MMA)** in 2020, and later **Making Women of Action (MWA)** in 2021. With a deep commitment to discipleship and leadership development, Michael remains actively involved in guiding the vision, planning, and support of the ministry from the U.S.

Overall Mission

MMA / MWA exists to **identify, train, and equip** spiritually hungry and servant-hearted young adults to become leaders who live out their faith boldly. Students are nominated by their pastors and commit to meeting every Saturday from January to November, with additional outreach and mission opportunities in the summer.

Core Areas of Formation

- **Spiritual**
Students dive deep into God's Word, learning theology, evangelism, and how to lead Bible studies and make disciples in their churches and communities.
- **Leadership**
As a true leadership academy, MMA / MWA trains students in servant leadership, character development, public speaking, team dynamics, biblical manhood and womanhood, family life, and church involvement. Topics include everything from etiquette and conflict resolution to dating with honor and preparing for future roles as husbands, wives, and parents.
- **Job Skills**
The program also equips students with practical, hands-on training in fields such as electrical work, plumbing, welding, landscaping, administration, computer skills, cosmetology, entrepreneurship, and college prep—empowering them to support their families and communities with dignity and excellence.

Beyond the Classroom

From field trips and outreach events to physically climbing Pico Duarte, the highest mountain in the Dominican Republic, MMA / MWA encourages students to step out of their comfort zones. The academy also sponsors a citywide 5K race in San Pedro, drawing hundreds from the community.

Our Church's Partnership

We support MMA / MWA through prayer, giving, and shared mission efforts. Their work reflects the heart of the Gospel: making disciples who make more and better disciples.

Prayer Requests

- Wisdom and strength for students and leaders

- Financial provision and resources to grow
 - Spiritual protection and boldness in evangelism
 - God's continued favor as they develop future leaders
-

Making Men of Action / Making Women of Action (MMA / MWA)

Dominican Republic | Discipleship & Leadership Academy

MMA / MWA is a two-year leadership academy equipping young men and women (ages 16–19) to become Christ-centered leaders in their churches, homes, and communities. Founded in response to the Great Commission, the ministry focuses on three core areas:

- **Spiritual Growth** – Biblical training, evangelism, and discipleship
- **Leadership Development** – Character, servant leadership, and life application
- **Job Skills** – Hands-on training in trades, technology, and entrepreneurship

Students meet weekly and participate in summer mission work and outreach. Since launching in 2020 (MMA) and 2021 (MWA), the ministry has raised up dozens of young leaders passionate about living for Jesus and making disciples.

Prayer Needs:

- Wisdom for leaders and staff
- Continued spiritual growth among students
- Resources to expand the academy's reach

Scripture Foundation: *Matthew 28:18–20 – Go. Make. Baptize. Teach.*

