

Annual Report 2009



Help for the Andes Foundation
Michimalongo 107 P #2
Maipú, Santiago
Chile

Help for the Andes
FOUNDATION

Our Mission

Our mission is to enhance the quality of life for individuals and communities, through focusing on programs that strengthen organizations, reinforce networks of communication and increase knowledge.

Our primary objective is to improve the lives of the disadvantaged and the suffering by improving health, education, living conditions, communication skills, social behavior and social adjustment. We are committed to giving as many underprivileged people as possible an opportunity for a fuller life.

Our Foundation does not make distinctions based upon race, creed, religion, political beliefs or social class.

Letter from the President:

I feel extremely privileged to have the honor of working with such dedicated and unselfish team. None of this progress would be possible without the work of you who ask nothing more than to help.

M. Gandhi once said, “You must be the change you wish to see in the world.” I would like to thank all of you who live by these words and have contributed towards our mission. It has been very important that people like you help others to change their lives and achieve their dreams, your generosity will make a difference in the lives of so many in the years to come.

Help for the Andes has had an historical commitment to improve the quality of life of individuals throughout the Andes Region. Recent considerations of neglected problems on health and education have led us to renew our efforts and consolidated approaches to these needs.

In order to place the Development of our program’s specific experience within the broad framework of support to better the education and health in developing communities, the trustees of the Foundation have agreed that a review should be made of all of our programs in 2010.

In the following report we would like to inform you of the activities undertaken during the year 2009.

Rosita Raffo
President
Help for the Andes Foundation

Education and Training

To encourage the advancement of education in poor communities of the Andes Region and in particular promote educational opportunities for women immigrants; and to support training and development of skills of persons who through their social and economic circumstances are in need or are unable to access opportunities, our foundation has continued holding their educational courses and classes of First Aid, Nursing Assistant and Basic English. This project is self-supporting in that migrants and others of very low income (the majority women) can obtain an education at a very low cost.

The Training Program for the Migrant's Development and the Population of Limited Resources of Santiago's Communities, Recoleta and Independencia", has been developed in strategic alliance with educational institutions of Chile and of Peru.

This Program has the Certification of the Foundation Help for the Andes, the University Wiener of Lima (Peru) and of the Professional Institute Carlos Casanueva. The Module of Nursing is also the responsibility of professionals of the University Wiener, in Lima - Peru who come from Peru to dictate the workshops and to carry out the certification of studies for the graduating students.

A delegation of the University Wiener of the Peru visited us during the month of May, in order to reaffirm the acquired commitments with our organization. Together with this we carried out a Seminar/ Workshop at the beginning of the month of September, in which expanded on a special training course of Nurses Aids, which had a duration of 20 hours, with the primary objective of granting the examinations required for the double professional certification (validation in Peru).

In celebrating the Christmas season, on December 13th, our students and their professors organized a great celebration for 70 senior citizens of the Home Santa Verónica, in the community of Independencia, the home where our pupils complete their internship 'Course of Nursing Assistant'.

Education and Training

Our Foundation participated in the debate of: The Woman and the Economy, and Institutional Mechanisms, one of the critical areas of concern identified in the Platform of Action of Beijing in 1995, for the Division of Matters of Gender of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). These debates were moderated by the World Bank, in order to promote the economic empowerment of women.

In this opportunity the professors shared their knowledge, experiences, concerns and proposals, some of them being: the access to employment, adapted work conditions, the educational training (information and technology) particularly for the women of low income, their points of view on the breaches, challenges, and proposals for future actions to take, relating to the education and maternal health.

Officials of our organization participated in a study of 'investigación de alumnos de Ecoles des Hautes Etudes', University of Paris, one of the main investigation centers in social sciences in Europe. The following professors of the training courses of the foundation, such as Beatriz Rosas, Erika Contreras and Luz Paz Fiori contributed with reports and interviews about the Peruvian immigration in Santiago's community, specifically on 'woman's right to use the local basic services', and her capacity of "empowerment" for the demand of these rights.

Assist with medical supplies, hospital beds and equipment for the underprivileged

With our program of Humanitarian Aid Medical Development, six containers with medical supplies and 120 hospital beds, some for clinical and others for intensive care use were given. This valuable equipment was designated to the following centers of health: Public hospitals of Metropolitan Region; Hospital Sotero del Rio and Hospital Sanatorio San José de Maipo. This equipment was delivered during the months of August, September and December of 2009.

There is a desperate need to provide adequate medical equipment and hospital beds for public health services in the Andes region. We hope that our program of Humanitarian Aid will achieve to raise the standard of the quality of service for patients, and strengthen the assistance the hospitals offer.

Volunteers in Special Event for Children

In the month of December, nine international volunteers of the foundation carried out a Christmas presentations for 200 children of the Villas in the Maipú area. Christmas carols and hymns were taught and sung with the children, these songs never fail to lift up children's spirits.