

Help for the Andes Foundation

Uplifting humanity

ANNUAL REPORT 2012

Help for the Andes is a non-profit organization established September 24th, 2001, with registration number 899 of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Chile.

The *Help for the Andes Foundation* seeks to improve the quality of life for the Chilean community, Latin America, and other needy parts of the world. As a civil society under the United Nations Economic and Social Council, *ECOSOC*, the Foundation contributes to the United Nations Millennium Goals, such as: eradicating extreme poverty, promoting gender equality, reducing infant mortality, improving maternal health, and developing global partnerships.

Our mission

Our philanthropic action is in the realm of health, diet, education, housing, and the distribution of clothing and other basic needs. We also work in the areas of social adaptation and communication.

The *Help for the Andes Foundation* serves as a direct link between those in need and those with the desire and means to give.

Social Health and Education

The Human Touch Courses/Training

Our “Human Touch” program, in collaboration with both public and private institutions, brought international experts to hold a series of seminars, lectures and meetings promoting quality of life and leadership skills.

Lectures

The “Human Touch” lecture series targeted more than 1,500 professionals from different areas, especially academics and students from various disciplines.

Along with expressing gratitude to the selfless daily service of the healthcare workers—the principal aim of the lectures was to encourage creativity and innovation when faced with the most socially vulnerable who require special care, including older adults,. Emphasis was given towards motivating each individual to develop skills necessary for their personal growth, in their relations with others in their fields of work.

Seminars

Help for the Andes Foundation, in collaboration with Valparaíso National Senior Service and Caja Los Andes, brought to Valparaíso the Uruguayan survivor of the tragic 1972 plane crash in the Andes Mountains, Gustavo Zerbino Stajano, to share his experience that still impacts the world. The theme of his motivational seminar was “The Meaning of Life and Leadership”.

In 1972, Gustavo, member of a Uruguayan rugby team, along with 15 others survived 72 days stranded in the snow after their plane crashed in the Andes Mountains bordering Argentina and Chile. This story was later recreated in the motion picture film “Alive” and has been a tremendous sample of overcoming that has been an inspiration to all that have heard the account.

Reflecting on the mountain tragedy and his successful business career, Gustavo has discovered many similarities between personal and corporate development—seeing that motivation and an overcoming attitude are vital to survive adversity. He gave a lecture to the Senate and was interviewed by the Senate Television Channel leaving us with valuable thoughts to ponder, such as this one; “The important thing is not what happens to us in life, but what we do with what happens to us.”

Migrant Training

The *Help for the Andes Foundation* in alliance with the Peruvian Ladies Association organized training workshops for 30 migrants each Sunday from 10:30 to 13:00 throughout October, November and December. The courses were coordinated under the supervision of Mrs. Katia Madrid.

Classes for *Office Word and Internet navigation* were led by Professor Maria Rosa Maurizi, Computer Engineer and professor at the University of the Andes. They were held at the Prosande Company.

Workshops were given at the Jesuit shrine of Father Hurtado on themes including: personal growth, use of the migrant's manual, personal hygiene, food hygiene, and industrial manufacturing of jams.

Nursing Assistant Certification

On May 2, forty-four students, mainly immigrants, received certification as nursing assistants after completing a six month course of 240 class hours. This certificate was granted by the *Help for the Andes* Foundation along with the Carlos Casanueva Institute and with the support of the Wiener University.

Many of our students who had not completed their secondary education in their home countries were able to finish their studies. This is a great achievement. The program coordinator, Ms. Erika Contreras, expressed how proud she was of the students, many of whom had already received job offers.

OUR PROJECTS

For 2013

Women's Health

We are coordinating the visit of Dr. Frank Cirisano, renowned obstetrician gynecologist, from Florida, USA. During the two weeks of his visit in July 2013, Dr. Cirisano will give lectures as well as conduct medical care visits in rural poor communities, including some of the health service centers in the Peruvian Andes Mountain region. His experience with maternal health care and prevention of uterine cancer in women will be a great contribution. Uterine cancer is still an alarming cause of many deaths among women in Peru and in neighboring countries. Dr. Cirisano will share his experiences in conferences and seminars aimed at health professionals, doctors, academics and students. He will address the needs of people in socially vulnerability situations who require timely diagnosis and special care for uterine cancer.

Medical Development

Assist International in California, USA, coordinated by *Help for the Andes*, is donating medical equipment valued at approximately U.S. \$ 600,000 to the Coronary Care Unit of the Clinical Hospital of the University of Chile. The Coronary unit, in addition to patient care is also the main specialist graduate training center in the country. The installation of this equipment is scheduled for July 2013.

Meetings

Meetings will be held for members of the Board of Directors of the *Help for the Andes Foundation* with the directors of not-for-profit organizations who are experts on the subject of philanthropy and the role of civil society. These organizations will include *Help for the Andes Inc.*, Florida, USA; *Harvard University*, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA; *El Faro Medical Center*, Lima, Peru; Janet Muñoz and *Crear.Ser*, Lima, Peru; *Assist International Organization*, California, USA; and the *Women's Cancer Care Fund*, Delray, Florida, USA.

Training

We also hope to continue to organize courses, seminars and workshops with the support and collaboration of international speakers, social entrepreneurs, and leadership with meaningful careers. The "Human Touch" program teaches personal growth skills, the formation of values, strategy in times of uncertainty and the importance of flexibility in order to continue to grow and change throughout our lives. We also provide resources for the elderly, who are our living link with tradition, and a powerful reminder of the universal human values.

Chile-Peru Integration

In partnership with the *Damas Peruanas en Chile*, *Help for the Andes* will hold a series of training workshops for young people in several of the towns in the Andean Region of Peru, including Ricardo Palma, Chosica, Malingas, Piura, and the Valley of Apurimac.

The workshops will provide incentive for community integration by stimulating creativity with education, art, cultural identity and personal acceptance. We hope

that by learning how to use tools such as books, internet, web design, art, and drawing techniques, the young people who attended the workshops will gain a higher sense of their own self-worth and improve their prospects for their future and the future of their families and communities.

Final words

Reviewing the activities in our Annual Report of 2012 strengthens our motivation for the coming year. We are most grateful to the valuable individuals and organizations that have selflessly contributed to making these projects a reality.

To all of you, my most sincere and enormous gratitude,

Rosita Raffo

President of *Help for the Andes Foundation*