

# Help for the Andes Foundation

Uplifting humanity

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2021

*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, for the present and for future generations. 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 and diet, education, housing, and the distribution of clothing and other basic needs for the needy and disabled. 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.

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## Institutional Development in 2021

### Humanitarian Aid

#### Wheelchair distribution

This year in continued partnership with *Free Wheelchair Mission Inc.* we were able to bring 40-foot containers with wheelchairs for distribution in hospitals and medical centers of limited resources. We hired technical help to oversee the assembling of the wheelchairs enabling us to distribute 550 new wheelchairs to the health facilities.

(Since the beginning of our alliance with *Free Wheelchair Mission*, we have brought in 3 containers to Chile and have distributed a total of 1650 wheelchairs.) People who suffer from handicaps and need continual assistance were severely affected by the pandemic. These donated wheelchairs are an essential part of their mobility and transportation.

*Help for the Andes* has a long-term agreement with *Free Wheelchair Mission* that make these donations possible. We wish to specifically thank the collaborators and the volunteers who distribute the wheelchairs to the hospitals and medical centers in the most vulnerable communities in Chile: Universidad de Chile Clinical Hospital, Activa NGO, Barros Lucos Hospital and Diagnostic and Treatment Center, Lucio Córdoba Hospital, Roberto del Rio Hospital, Talagante Hospital, CESFAM (family public health center) Buin, Centro Laico, Ezequiel González Cortéz Hospital, Anestimagen, HUAPs (public emergency hospitals), and regional medical health care centers in the southern rural areas of Los Lagos, Castro and Chiloé.

The medical centers have all expressed their gratitude, as in this time of pandemic they have not had resources for other essential needs that are not covid related. We are blessed to be prove this basic need for the sick and physically impaired, the precious gift of mobility.

We especially want to thank *Free Wheelchair Mission* personally for their collaboration, dedication, and unique vision to provide, as they say, “hope, freedom, and renewed dignity through the gift of a wheelchair”.

## Education

### Social integration, workshops and courses

*Help for the Andes* foundation is fully committed to join forces with other organizations that share common goals to effectuate lasting programs for integral human development within needy communities.

*Human Touch* and *CrearSer* held workshops and online courses for 25 attendees continuing the same themes that were developed in 2021, conflict management, and child rearing. These seminars were held under the guidance of Janet Muñoz, founder of *CrearSer*, for vulnerable families in the impoverished areas of Lima, Peru. The purpose of these seminars is to give psychological support to young people, parents, and educators in these communities of limited resources and/or extreme poverty. We have seen the negative repercussions on mental health due to the

restrictions of the Covid pandemic, causing anxiety and worry with diminishing social skills and self-esteem.

Volunteers from *Help for the Andes Foundation* and *CrearSer* will continue to work with the most vulnerable areas of Peru during this pandemic.

## Presentations

With the collaboration of Jurgen Grothaus, Esteban Salazar and Victoria Cruz, presentations with documentation, activity reports, and visual displays of our programs and projects were made for national and international organizations in both English and Spanish. We were thus able to share our work in pursuit of sponsors and financial support from organizations and foundations in the United States and Europe.

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## OUR PROJECTS

### For 2022

*Help for the Andes Foundation* aims to make lasting contributions in the areas of health, education, housing, social adaptation, and resilience. In 2021 we procured donations from Global Giving and Airbnb Company that will be used for housing and the reconstruction of the communal kitchen, helping an estimated 100 families in the La Pradera camp in the region of Valparaiso.

This year we will continue to distribute humanitarian aid, wheelchairs, and medical supplies to the neediest areas of Chile.

#### Housing

In coordination with Global Giving, Help for the Andes seeks financing to build new permanent homes for two of the most vulnerable families in the La Pradera camp in Valparaiso.

The region of Valparaiso has a population of 1,995,538 (estimated by the National Statistics Institute, INE, for 2022). It is estimated that 19%, or 379,152 persons, live at poverty level. At the time of the 2017 Census there was a housing deficit for 34,615 families in the Valpo region. In the last 5 years this number has skyrocketed with the flood of immigrants have crossed the border with only what they can carry.

According to the last count in 2021, within Valparaiso there are 235 precarious informal camps lacking basic infrastructure, such as plumbing and electricity.

Although there are collaborative construction projects between the government, business groups and individuals, there is much to do. Therefore, the civil society takes the initiative with the ultimate goal that these families—by owning their own homes—can participate in community with a sense of belonging that is fundamental to lead them to discover personal potential and talents, develop skill competence, and acquire self-sufficiency. Our project is directed towards vulnerable groups and homeless people.

This project is aimed to provide a model program that assists families with need of permanent housing to raise their standard of living, health, and security.

#### In closing

Dear members of our Governing Board, we hope that this account of our year's activities will strengthen our resolve for the tasks ahead in 2022, providing the motivation to fulfill our statutes as we count on the valuable support of individuals, companies and foundations who have selflessly contributed to this cause.

Our sincere thanks to you all,

Rosita Raffo  
President  
Help for the Andes Foundation