



2014 Report on Programs in Colombia

Dear Friends,

This newsletter provides a bird's eye view of CAPD's activities in Colombia this past year. We continue to live out our mission to promote participation and to build capacity through our three programs. The journey with our Colombian partners over the last 13 plus years has been beneficial to all concerned. We model planning and discipline and self sufficiency so now our partners are more cognizant of the importance of outcome reports, financial accounting, and seeking support from their local governments and communities. Our partners are making headway but Canadian financing continues to be necessary and we encourage you to donate to the program of your choice through a selection of options on page four. I invite you to read the articles presented and to view our webpage www.capdcalgary.org and blogs www.capdcalgary.org/blog.

Thank you for your support in the past year. *Marlene*

Safe Water Program



The group of 27 Rotarians attending the seminar on Household Water Treatment using the BioSand filter

CAPD co-sponsored a one day seminar on Household Water Treatment for Rotarians from five regions of Colombia. The attendees learned about the effectiveness of Household Water Treatment as a sustainable solution to improve health in rural populations without potable water. They observed the various steps of filter construction and had a lively discussions on how to organize and finance projects in their regions. See www.capdcalgary.org/blog posted Oct 25th for more information.

The impact the filter project has in a rural village is observed during follow-up visits. Not only is filter function assessed and hygiene teaching reinforced, but additional dangers to health in the village are observed such as sharing living space with animals and children going barefoot.

Providing clean water seems to be just the first step when confronted with the realities of village life but the training the villagers receive in hygiene, and having clean water to drink does make a difference. Children are healthier and have fewer bouts of diarrhea.



The Safe Water Program has provided 2500 families with filters in Cordoba, Santander, and La Guajira.. We thank Rotary Clubs in these regions for their enthusiastic and continuing dedication to the program.

Thank you to Canadian Rotary Clubs, the CanAgua Foundation and the COLMED Fund at the Calgary Foundation, for their commitment to providing Safe Water.



According to epidemiologists, more than 50% of acute diarrhea is caused by contaminated water so the bright blue filter in the picture ensures that children are at least 50% healthier.

A turkey contaminates the family kitchen (left) and children go barefoot on contaminated soil (right), both hazards to health.

GREEN LIGHT EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



The Education Assistance program encourages children to work hard in their studies and families to take pride in their schools. In order to stay in the program, students must maintain a 75% average and parents (or designate) must participate in school improvement projects. Their involvement produces a sense of ownership and pride as students achieve good marks and parents transform the school. In 2014, the Green Light program provided uniforms to 947 children in the states of Santander and Risaralda. Urban students (top two photos,) proudly display their day and sport uniforms received by the program.



A rural student and her mother (below) show their gratitude with smiles. This student, and over 400 rural students like her, received a pair of shoes, socks and T-shirts this year instead of a lunch subsidy. Our lunch subsidy program ended when the government started proving free lunches to all students. By receiving shoes and other items of clothing, the student receives an extra benefit that they did not receive in previous years.



Parents and students from rural schools (below) engage in a school improvement project such as the ones you see below—keeping the school yard tidy, planting flowers, grasses and trees, and refurbishing school desks. In urban areas, parents help their local school with tasks such as cleaning and fundraising. All these activities help to build community and a sense of ownership.

Thank you to the COLMED Fund at the Calgary Foundation for providing opportunities to young students in Colombia.



INTEGRATION PROGRAM

Our Colombian partners in the Integration program, FANDIC & ASODISPIE, provide opportunities for children and youth with disabilities through programs of rehabilitation, recreation, and special education. FANDIC now has two centres, the original centre in the North of Bucaramanga, and a new central location. ASODISPIE is located in Piedecuesta and their centre continues to expand through construction of new facilities such as a multi-functional salon and a technical aids workshop. Both organizations have very positive impact on children and youth with disability in their respective locations. Pictures below depict some of their activities.



Rocio, FANDIC's community promoter, visits a client in his home.

Thank you to the Community Initiative Fund of the Government of Alberta for their support of this program.

[2]



Erica Tatiana engages ASODISPIE children in recreational swimming.



Both organizations provide speech, occupational, and physical therapy to children with learning and developmental disabilities.



Handicraft class is always a favourite for Cristian who is making decorations for Halloween. He also loves to move his shoulders to the rhythm of the music in FANDIC's dance group.



Special education classes provide learning opportunities.



Artistic expression through painting is a favourite program for all ages.

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DONATE TO CAPD AND SUPPORT A PROGRAM OF YOUR CHOICE

Donate on-line using Canada Helps: www.canadahelps.org or use the Canada Helps button on our web page www.capdcalgary.org.



\$100 provides a family with a water treatment system, hygiene training and follow-up.

CAPD is planning to raise an estimated amount of \$250,000 this year. Our costs to raise these funds are estimated to be \$30,000. The money raised will go to support the projects and programs of CAPD in Colombia.

Canada Revenue Agency
Charitable Registration #
88711 5111 RR0001



\$100 per year provides a student with a uniform kit.



\$400 provides a child from a rural village with a customized stroller.



\$45 per month provides therapy for a child.