



LATIN AMERICAN REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

Argentina	Buenos Aires Email: ywca@sinectis.com.ar
Reproductive health education	The YWCA of La Banda concentrates its work in the Sgo. Del Estereo region where there is a high percentage of adolescent pregnancies due to lack of information and knowledge of reproductive health. This project targets at risk community groups including 14-17 year olds and students in shanty towns, aiming to discuss: adolescent pregnancy, STDs, HIV and AIDS, violence against women, and women's human rights. Activities include: round table discussions, school exchanges, excursions related to reproductive health issues, distribution of educational flyers, home visits, video shows, and joint work with hospitals including Maternity services.
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Care and Assistance to the elderly (Cordoba branch)	The course on Assistance and Care of Adults was open to any woman who was able to present a certificate of good behaviour, issued by the police of the province. Two three hour classes per week held for 22 unemployed women.
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Health Education, Health for Change	Two seminars and one workshop per month in Buenos Aires and Grand Buenos Aires for women leaders to raise awareness on characteristics and risks of each stage of life and strengthen each woman's self esteem, analyze family bonds and enable dialogue. Collaboration with an organization that helps patients with breast cancer: MACMA.
Bolivia	Cochabamba Email: retrom66@hotmail.com
Let's Learn to Write our Life	Courses took place in three different centres at the same time, discretion was used as some people are ashamed to admit that they cannot write. Some mathematics, biology civic education, religion, and music included. 65% of the participants did learn to read and write from the 132 registered. Students sat two exams and from the group 12 women were able to register for alternative education and four chose to have more practical training in income generating activities such as sewing, cooking, hair dressing (training provided by the government).
Bolivia	Cochabamba Email: retrom66@hotmail.com
Training in tailoring and volunteerism leadership	400 women were trained, 65% between 18 and 35, original budget was for 350, YWCA received free material and so could train more women. Participants each made trousers, skirt, blouse and formal dress. Lack of a building meant that the courses were often held in the houses of the women and this led to difficulties of transporting the machines, and a regular electricity supply.
El Salvador	San Salvador Email: acf-es@mixmail.com
Vocational skills for young people for insertion into the labour market	Facilitate the integration of young people into the labour market by providing skills training Young people (under 25 years old) in El Salvador make up more than 50% of the population and are facing many problems: violence (family violence, street violence, gangs called "pandillas" in El Salvador), poverty, unemployment, lack of access to formal education. This programme is taking young people from poor communities San Salvador, Olocuilta and Apopa and teaching them vocational skills in computers, sewing, accounting, management of a micro-enterprise, and cosmetics. In collaboration with various organizations who are also providing skilled trainers, the YWCA has created a network of solidarity to facilitate the integration of young people into the labour market. The YWCA of El Salvador has been training young people in San Salvador, Olocuilta and Apopa for the past 2 years and this experience will form the basis for the project.
El Salvador	San Salvador Email: acf-es@mixmail.com
Emergency	To respond to immediate needs of 200 families in communities near San Salvador On October 1, 2005 the Ilamatepec (Santa Ana) volcano erupted in El Salvador. At the same



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assistance following disaster	time torrential rains from Hurricane Stan's passage through the region caused flooding and landslides - approximately 50,000 people displaced. The YWCA of El Salvador responded to the immediate needs of 200 families in affected communities by providing volunteer labour, food, blankets, and other emergency supplies.
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Peru	Lima Email: ywcaperu@hotmail.com
Community Development and Democracy in Delicias de Villa	<p>General objective to encourage solidarity among youth and with the local community, fulfilled. 30 youth and adults worked together in groups to develop proposals - results included : 'a different kind of Christmas', to hold a summer camp, and income generating activities such as making marmalade and chocolate. Conferences held on self esteem, group dynamics, self confidence, HIV and AIDS, positive attitude towards life and how to write projects and organise a camp.</p> <p>Sonia Chacon Cueva - mother of two children, she took her children with her and participated in the marmalade project, she is now making and selling marmalade and is able to use the profit to buy better food for her family. The group have seen that she has become more outgoing and has shown strength and courage. Silvia Ventura Vera has three children and sells bags of crisps and is responsible for the programme 'a glass of milk' promoted by the Ministry for Women and supports 50 children, she is fighting to have fresh water in the community, she is in charge of the preparation of chocolate programme at the YWCA as a volunteer.</p>

Uruguay	Montevideo Email: acfurug@distri.net.com.uy
Self Confidence and Autonomy for Young Women	Twenty six students completed training in professions useful in the Punta del Este, a popular tourist resort. This was followed by practical experience in the hotels and spas and the students were then assisted in obtaining employment. The YWCA will still give them some moral support while they begin their jobs.. This has been a very successful undertaking for the young women and for the YWCA.