

Annual Report 2020

fundación



Taking the Crisis
as an Opportunity
for Development

Make the dreams of children and adolescents
come true

www.prominadoresdesuenos.org

An integral offer for all ages

The year 2020 began as usual with the Fundación taking care of 140 children and adolescents. Not only in its buildings, also in the day care centre, where the children from the age of two played and enjoyed themselves every day. The four-year-olds did their activities, and the school children accomplished their homework in the Fundación's homework support. In addition to the school homework and support tasks, the children also always had the opportunity to do activities in the playroom or playing games on the nearby football pitch. The circus project, which took place over several months, was a highlight for the children and teachers. The adolescents became familiar with working out a new project, which they started after the summer holidays. Their task was to carry out targeted activities and courses with the younger children throughout the year. This concept enabled them to have an ongoing learning process in leadership and the children to have more variety in their daily lives as well as for them to learn new skills in play.

Encountering hunger with food baskets

The Covid-pandemic conditioned lockdown and its accompanying state curfew deprived the basis of life of many families in the neighbourhood Rancho los Pinos. Under those measures, they could no longer pursue their work in the informal sector. They lost their small daily income and they were lacking money to buy food. The Fundación acted immediately and the emergency project "food baskets" was born overnight. Basic food was delivered in trucks, packed into portions and distributed weekly to the 200 beneficiary families of the Rancho los Pinos neighbourhood. For four months, the families received the 10 kg heavy food baskets. By the end of July 2020, the Fundación was able to distribute over 1600 baskets or, in other words, over 16 tonnes of food to families in need.

We felt the gratitude for the food baskets, which the families shared through their kind words and many small gestures. One father summed it up: "Throughout my life I have earned our daily bread with hard work, today I am very grateful that Minadores de Sueños provides us this food so that my family does not go hungry."



A New Tutoring Concept and Unusual Holidays

Our trip to the swimming pool during the school holidays in February was the last for a long time. Because what no one anticipated became reality in mid-March. Suddenly, everything was closed and the schools switched to digital home schooling, although many children do not have access to computers at home. The Fundación was also forced to close its doors for an unknown period of time. Instead of looking forward to the summer camp at the beginning of July and the summer holiday programme, the children had to make do with an alternative programme at the Fundación. It was not until June that the first children were able to re-enter the buildings of the Fundación. The teachers had worked out a carefully thought-out school concept in which the hygiene regulations prescribed by the state could be considered. The concept included the most important school subjects, new pedagogical approaches and leisure time activities. With the use of digital support programmes in mathematics, there was also a digital inclusion in the children's everyday life. In the first phase, the children worked in small groups and were able to do their schoolwork accompanied by a teacher.

Many of the children hardly worked for school during the lockdown because the necessary infrastructure was not available to them. In addition, it became clear that their parents were overwhelmed with the general situation. It soon became apparent which children had deficits and needed more intensive support, which we prioritised in the second phase. The children with major school deficits and learning difficulties were taught individually this month, so that they would be able to catch up in the next school year. Due to further lifting of the restrictions in August, we were able to further increase the day care programme for the children. We focused on children who were home alone during the day, as their parents could pick up their work as street vendors again. During the lockdown, we also offered creative handicrafts and carefree play. Experiencing various activities through the day indeed ensured the children to remain motivated. From August, the children were once again able to enjoy the rich, home-cooked lunch, which was reconciled by a varied snack during the crisis: "Finally a warm and tasty meal again" rejoiced the soup-slurping children. It was also important for us to know that the Fundación's children were now having healthy and enough food again.



A Bright Spot for the Fundación

During the distribution of the food baskets, the Fundación was the only bright spot for many families in a hopeless situation. After difficult months at home, the children also looked forward to the safety and security of the Fundación again.

The crisis and the new nationwide regulatory framework enabled the Fundación to rethink its working methods and develop new concepts. It was a ray of hope to see that the new ways of working produced many qualitative improvements. More than ever, we see the crisis as an opportunity. We have been able to use our years of experience and attitude to create something new and, furthermore, to improve our work once again.

Ecuadorian schools will remain closed until the end of the year. For the many children without internet access, the situation remains tense. The Fundación offers a way to compensate for the resulting school deficits by transforming itself into an informal "school" and taking on new challenges. Our ambitious, motivated staff is a bright spot for Minadores de Sueños.

Through this adaptability and in line with the requirements of our work, the Fundación can contribute to making children's and adolescents' dreams come true. The Fundación is a bright spot for many families from the Rancho los Pinos district who are in difficult life situations.



Donations in Ecuador:

Banco Pichincha
Fundación Minadores de Sueños
Account number: 3410632504
Swift-Code: PICHECEQ
ABA-code: 021 0000 89
Quito - Ecuador -

Donations in Germany:

GLS Bank
Verein „Sueñitos e.V.“
BIC: GENODEM1GLS
IBAN: DE60 4306 0967 8240 8623 00

Contact:

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Donations in Switzerland:

Hypothekbank Lenzburg
5102 Rupperswil, Schweiz
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Together for dreams of children and adolescents