

Activities report 2020

Working with the community

The pandemic hit Argentina in March, with the government declaring a very strict lockdown and restricting schools and any cultural activities. This had a direct impact in our work, that was set to start with community programs with 120 youngsters of Rosario the same month. From one week to the other, we had to reinvent ourselves to this emergency situation that was unpredictable.

Our focus turned directly to keep in contact with youngsters and their families, many of them facing income issues since they worked in informal jobs that were gone from one day to the other. Thanks to our local and international partners we've managed to stay close to the families and provide a contention platform for different issues. We've distributed hundreds of food bags during the year, facilitated health assistance with local institutions and ran eight virtual community programs reaching many participants.

The result of our actions are difficult to measure in such a difficult year, but we were able to support families that actually valued our comfort and companion, by knowing they were not alone or left behind. This also had a positive impact in our own team that was struggling to keep motivated in such a complex reality

Some numbers of our impact:

- 130 food bags (average 10kg food each) distributed to 34 families in need
- 8 virtual community programs (sports, creativity & coding) reaching 83 youngsters from 7 to 18 years old

Our sponsors and supporters

For the first time in our history, we really felt the impact of the economic crisis that the pandemic generated. In Argentina we've experienced a decrease of 28% of our individual donors, and in The Netherlands we saw similar figures. This however was compensated by big donations and sponsorships from organizations like Wings of Support and GlobalGiving USA, and private Argentinean companies like Bioceres, Sancor Seguros and La Segunda. Overall, we didn't have any financial issue during 2020.

Besides the financial alliances, we've worked together with Rosario government to articulate the needs and responses to the community, and we participated in citizen collaborative platforms together with other non profits and institutions.

Our team

Our well develop and thought planning was not ready for such change of conditions and context, however our team was prepared to rethink fast and react in a creative way. Therefore we put a lot of effort in training our team virtually for this new reality, making sure to also support them in such an stressful situation for all and keep them inspired.

We also took the opportunity to develop a new vision for the coming five years and the

transition to it in a collaborative and innovative process. The new vision will include some new programs to experiment and learn in the coming year, redefining what we understand by 'youth development' and creating a robust organization that can create, innovate, learn from youngsters and develop programs up to date with impact.

The transition period will be at least for the coming 3 years (2021 to 2023 included), creating new programs that will also try to answer new questions regarding the conditions youngsters need to learn and develop their dreams, interests and passions.