



1.3 Million Students 32,000 Teachers 2,600 Schools/Centers 16 Countries



Computers in the Classroom: Technological Literacy for Secondary School Students in Caracas, Venezuela



About Fe y Alegría:

The International Federation of Fe y Alegría (IFFyA) is the largest and most successful education provider in Latin America and the Caribbean outside of public education systems.

IFFyA is a Jesuit-sponsored network of schools, vocational training centers, and community services that reaches over 1.3 million of the poorest and most isolated members of society. It works in close partnership with the Education Ministries of 16 countries.

The first Fe y Alegría organization was founded by much-loved Jesuit José María Vélaz of Venezuela in 1955. It has inspired similar programs all over the world, including the Cristo Rey Catholic schools in the U.S.

Background Information

Out of all of Fe y Alegría's schools in 16 countries, only 15% have computer labs, and even fewer are connected to the Internet. Many schools that do have computers are using old, outdated models that were donated years ago. The Fe y Alegría schools struggle to make do without, using typewriters to teach typing skills and appealing to corporations for donations.

The International Federation has made technology a priority, as they realize that their students must be technologically literate to truly move up in society. They are turning more of their attention to equipping more schools with computers, connecting them to the Internet, and training their teachers to use them and teach them effectively.



Project Description:

In one of the poorest neighborhoods in Caracas, Venezuela, Fe y Alegría runs the Andy Aparicio junior high and high school that welcomes 945 students. The school has three computer labs where all students have computer class at least once per week. However, most of the computers are out-of-date and though they have a wireless Internet connection, it is extremely weak and often disconnected.

The school would like to receive 60 new computers and would like help in funding the installation of broadband Internet into their labs. This would allow them to improve the quality of computer lessons, better preparing these older students who need to be technologically literate to move on to university or to many good jobs.

Computers will be purchased new and installed professionally. Up to three teachers at the school will also be trained in the use of these computers, how to teach students to use them, and how to help teachers of other subjects integrate computer and Internet use into their lessons

Cost of the Project:

\$24,000	Total requested for 60 computers, purchased locally, including auxiliary costs such as installation and wiring (\$400 each)
\$1,000	Cost of training 2 teachers
\$25,000	TOTAL

Impact:

- 945 more students each year with better access to computers and receiving better education
- Computers used in basic education classes to improve the quality of math, writing, reading and science education
- Technologically literate students and teachers who will share their knowledge with others