



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



Computer Labs and Curriculum for Distance Learning in Bolivia



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

Distance learning is a fundamental tool for education in developing countries, and comprises one of Fe y Alegría's largest programs. By using radio and, where possible, the Internet to distribute course content and learning tools, Fe y Alegría is able to use a single program to reach thousands of adults in scattered rural areas, in different cities, and in places where there are no programs or schools for adults to learn.

Although most of Fe y Alegría's current distance learning programs are done over the radio, they are moving more and more towards using the Internet to connect with students. Though they would like to expand more through this medium, the fact that many people do not have computers—especially people in Bolivia, one of the poorest countries in Latin America—prohibits expansion.



Project Description:

Fe y Alegría Bolivia would like to create an Internet-based distance learning program to be implemented in five cities across the country. They have plans to develop a curriculum that will offer an elementary school education to adults who never received basic schooling, as well as technology courses to help the students become computer literate. They will also set up 50 computer labs in these cities, staffed by 250 guides, allowing students to access their courses and receive help from trained leaders.

In order to complete this project Fe y Alegría Bolivia is seeking funding to support the development of the curriculum, creating and publishing supportive multimedia educational materials, training for the lab guides, and purchase of equipment and installation of the computer labs. Computers will be purchased new and installed professionally in the labs.

Cost of the Project:

\$368,700	Purchase and installation of 500 computers, furniture, Internet connection in each lab, and auxiliary computer supplies
\$78,990	Salary for related personnel
\$33,296	Curriculum/multimedia materials
\$480,986	TOTAL

Impact:

- Thousands of adults completing elementary school in 5 cities
- New distance learning curriculum that can be used by other countries
- Computer literacy among graduates, who can share knowledge with communities