



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



## Program for Political Participation in Brazil



### 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

Brazil is characterized by a high level of regional, economic and social inequality. The Brazilian government is unlikely to fully deal with the needs of poor communities unless civil society forces these needs onto the national political agenda.

Fe y Alegría Brazil has been tackling this inequality by educating the poor and marginalized communities in the country. By shrinking the education gap between classes, social mobility will be attainable by citizens born into even the poorest of conditions. To enable this potential increase in social capital, all citizens must be made more conscientious about politics and their own involvement.



### Project Description:

This project consists of the design and implementation of a political training program which aims to fight social discrimination in Brazil. The program will mobilize Fe y Alegría teachers and consultants to engage people in poor communities, help create a social conscience among citizens, and promote their participation in local affairs. The program will help participants gain perspective on their circumstances, and thus enable them to be assertive when participating in local government and social processes.

FyA Brazil needs assistance to fund the design of the program, as well as to implement it in poor districts across the country. The political training program will build upon the organization's best educational practices, taking advantage of its skills and current resources. Regional teams will be formed to diagnose the local socio-economic situations and create plans and curricula to address the most important needs. These teams will then be disbursed to work with volunteers, community members and institutions, and other individuals, offering an open invitation to society to participate in the program and increase their social capital.

### Cost of the Project:

\$52,967	Equipment and supplies
\$264,834	Human resources
\$211,867	Travel expenses
<b>\$529,668</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

### Impact:

- Empowering communities by increasing social capital
- Improving local governance by involving the demands of the poor
- Increased awareness in the political sphere of previously unmet education, health, and workforce related needs within the community