



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



A Quechua School in the Ecuadorian Andes



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

The indigenous Quechua people of Ecuador live largely in the rural Andean region, fully entrenched in their centuries-old traditions. Although their isolation helps preserve their culture, it also keeps them far from the attention of the Ecuadorian government, and they receive little in the way of social services. The Quechua of Ecuador are some of the poorest members of society, with the lowest literacy rates and education levels.

FyA Ecuador operates programs and schools specifically targeted at the indigenous population. These schools are bi-cultural, teaching in both the Spanish and Quechua languages and respecting and following both Hispanic and indigenous cultures. They are an incredibly important way for indigenous children to gain the education they need to both preserve their culture and also to navigate in the rest of Ecuadorian society.



Project Description:

Deep in the Andes mountains, Fe y Alegría runs the Movimiento 3 Mayo School, a bi-cultural education provider and community center. In an area far away from any public schools, 25 local children attend this school to receive basic elementary education. Their parents and other community members also use the space for workshops, to operate small businesses, and to experiment with new agricultural methods.

This project allows a donor to sponsor the Movimiento 3 Mayo School, bringing it up to date and solving some of its gravest problems. The school has requested funding to put in a simple bathroom to replace the current outhouse, build a small lunchroom so cooking will no longer have to be done in the classrooms, purchase 5 computers so students and parents can learn basic skills, buy classroom materials to replace the rocks and beans currently used for math lessons, create a bilingual library of books in Spanish and Quechua, and more.

Cost of the Project:

\$45,000

Total cost to adopt the school and make all of the much-needed improvements

Impact:

- Improve the facilities and education for to all current and future students of the school, and for the adults who volunteer or work there
- Combat education gap between indigenous and Hispanic children
- Create a school that will become a source of pride and inspiration for the entire community