



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



Helping Teachers Reach Out to Troubled Youths in Colombia



About Fe y Alegria:

The International Federation of Fe y Alegria (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 Alegria 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

In the big cities of Colombia, Fe y Alegria schools work with disadvantaged and troubled kids to give them the knowledge and skills they need to contribute to their societies and pursue their own livelihoods.

Because of the unique circumstances of the children's lives, however, teachers must be trained to confront problems that they might not be used to facing. They need to learn how to reach out to these youths, how to involve their families and communities, and how to provide the best possible education so that these students finish their studies and move on to productive lives after graduation.



Project Description:

Fe y Alegria Colombia operates schools in the Bogota and Tolima areas of the country. The organization has developed a curriculum for teacher training and seeks funding to implement the training program for 665 teachers and principals in the area. The program aims to provide them not with new course material but with skills and techniques that will serve them in the classroom. The training will cover subjects ranging from conflict management and communications skills to leadership and decision-making.

By equipping these teachers and principals with new methods to reach out to their troubled students, Fe y Alegria expects to impact over 16,000 students over just the first three years. With better-equipped teachers who can not only transmit knowledge to their children but also guidance and better supervision, the organization expects to see students receiving better grades, a larger percentage of students completing secondary school, and greater involvement from the parents and communities, who will be pulled in by teachers and principals to support their children's education.

Cost of the Project:

\$109,945 TOTAL

Impact:

- Higher graduation rates among high-risk students
- Improved cooperation between teachers, parents, and principals on behalf of the students
- Over 16,000 students with access to teachers who have experience in problem solving and offering guidance