



*Foundation for Education,  
Social & Economic Development*

Annual Report\_ 2014

## Legua Initiative



Minister of Interior Andrés Chadwick, his advisor Javiera Benítez and FEDES President Steven Colon.



President of FEDES Steven Colon, Minister of Labor Juan Carlos Jobet and the Campaign Director Barbara Lyon.

The photographs show the advanced state of the installation of equipment needed to train the residents of La Legua in different job skills. For these purposes, we built suitable spaces in the current School John XXIII, administered by the Local municipality.

FEDES collaborates with La Legua Initiative.

In the iconic neighborhood of La Legua, located in the commune of San Joaquin, on a request from the priest Gerard Ouisse to the Ministry of the Interior and Public Security, a plan was formed involving several ministries and agencies of the Central State. The initiative also calls for private sector entities, companies as well as foundations.

As a result of a series of activities related with improving infrastructure and focusing on some programs for the more vulnerable communes, we expect to reduce the high levels of violence in this neighborhood. One of the things this initiative wants is to provide opportunities for job training and support entrepreneurship. This is where FEDES was invited to participate.

FEDES participation in this initiative has meant also holding meetings with authorities, to make arrangements and coordinate ways on how to act.





**In a joint effort with the illustrious Municipality of La Serena we donated 300 wheelchairs to people of scarce resources.**

Several deliveries were performed, one of them was done in the town square to individuals to hand them this gift of mobility. The ceremony was attended by the mayor of La Serena Roberto Jacob, other municipal authorities and the President of FEDES Foundation Steven Colon.



**CERTIFICATION OF THE DOMICILIARY POWER FACILITIES COURSE.**

The Endesa Foundation is developing a program in collaboration with several NGOs, to develop training activities for people with few resources or social marginality problems to obtain employment, this being key to sustainable social integration.

The Endesa Foundation asked FEDES for the design and implementation of the course “Domiciliary Power Facilities” of 250 hours. The implementation of this course was held in the Liceo Mariano Egaña of the commune of Peñalolen, in evening hours, all the participants were over 18 and all families of students of that School.



**CERTIFICATION OF THE “STANDARDS OF HYGIENE AND PERSONAL SECURITY IN OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL FOOD HANDLING” COURSE.**

Course: " Standards of Hygiene and Personal Security Occupational and Environmental Food Handling " the SENCE Program " Bono for the Active Worker ." This program is for people who are working, its free of charge and was done on Saturdays between 09:00 and 14:00 pm during the months of September and December 2013, the person giving this program was Silvia Llancafil. It lasted 40 hours. The certification was conducted in FEDES Foundation the 15<sup>th</sup> of March.

My name is Maria Otarola I greet you cordially, let me tell you that I began by selling lunches for a period of time, then it got difficult because the changed the administrative staff and I could not deliver my lunches. I decided to train in banqueting and had started the carving fruits and vegetables because I needed to deliver a more complete service, I had the ideas but not the resources, and much less the Tools for it. Today, thanks to God and to FEDES Foundation I can offer my products in weddings and some family events, I know I still have allot to learn and I always have the disposition of taking the opportunities that life offers me. I have presented and offered my work to many people, the good thing is that the same people I work for are responsible for Recommending me in different places.

### Samples of her creativity and elaboration



Together with her daughter, who helps her with the decorations. Her daughter has a bad heart condition, despite all the obstacles she had to overcome, she went ahead and finished the course, getting a certificate along with her other classmates.

### SEWING MY DESTINY STITCH BY STICHTH ...

I'm Gabriela and I chose my vocation at age 23 and not at 18 when they throw us out into the world of work or college life without the maturity to know what to do with our adult lives . I participated in a dance and imitation group of Korean artists where their music is called k -pop (Korean pop) . When we chose a dance we also had to choose the outfits. This was complicated to get because it is not on the market here and because there are no people that make this kind of outfit for these kind of artists. But since I have the mentality that " you can do everything " I dared myself to make a replica of the costume plus boots that go over your knees, made of high heels and cloth. Since we danced for the love of art we did not have too much money. The Girls in the group were fascinated with the results I had obtained with an old sewing machine I had at my mother's house. Over time my parents saw that I was serious about doing this and helped me get a pack that included straight home machines and over lock. I went to the courses for the machines and I felt that was what I wanted, and I liked it, it made me happy. With the replica of the costumes I was able to pay for these sewin machines. After finishing the course I could charge much more because the trimmings and the finishings were much better. But I felt that I still lacked details to refine and techniques to acquire so I only dared to sew for me. This led me to FEDES foundation that gives you that push for micro businesses. I went through the application processes and now I'm here in 2014, 26 years old and finishing my classes in which I had a very good sewing teacher, Gladys. My ultimate goal is to establish my own clothing store both with replicas of recognized musical artists as well as my own creations called Style of Star. This concludes my story of, sewing my fate stitch by stitch, thanking God, that I found my perfect vocation.

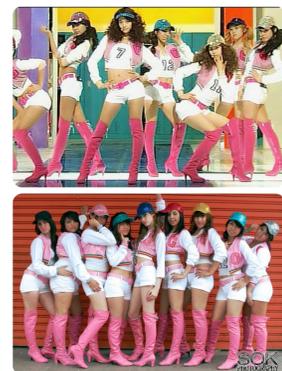
## ENTREPRENEUR WOMEN TELL US THEIR STORY



Maria Otarola in FEDES Foundation when she went to collect the Tool kit that the government gave as a gift end of the course. She was so happy because now she had all the tools to make her dream come true which was decorations of her dishes and desserts.



Gabriela, during the costumes and confection course held in FEDES Foundation. Down copies of some of her clothes.





Mrs. Graciela and Mrs. Rosa came in their carts to get a wheelchair, they were so happy to be able to have access to this donation. Mrs. Graciela suffers from arthritis in her legs, knees, hip and hands. Mrs. Rosa suffers from diabetes and can't walk.

Volunteers Assembling wheelchairs

## Donation of 100 Wheelchairs in La Legua, Santiago.

In January, 100 wheelchairs were set up and distributed in La Legua. To achieve this duty, the church volunteers from the Christian Center offered their help, they had already participated in other opportunities assembling wheelchairs. They also began to train new volunteers from the neighborhood of La Legua.

The assembly of the chairs was made in the John XXIII schoolyard. The director offered us her school so we were able to have enough space to work and put the chairs away until the ceremony. People from all ages, women, men... came to help us.

The team work, the mood and willingness of all provided a very nice environment. The men assembled and tightened the wheels while the women tied the back rest on. Mrs. Maria said "I cannot tighten nor do anything that involves me using strength with my hands because I have arthritis in my fingers, but I can clean and organize."

She cleared all the cardboard boxes, folded them and ordered them into piles. Other ladies served drinks and cleaned the dust of the chairs.





The day of the ceremony, we organized all the chairs on the basketball court. Two of the volunteers, Pedro (32 ) and Miguel Angel (25), told us that they were from the south of Chile and they met in Santiago. They work in the same company and they both were raised in foster homes. Now they are parents, they live with their wives and children who are the most important things in their lives. They both had very lonely childhoods and they know what is to need love and that someone will help them, their desire is to help and assist those who suffer and are most in need .

## “Transforming lives through the gift of mobility”

The School John XXIII in La Legua is a new project for FEDES in job training. Last year, FEDES was invited by the Government to join the great challenge of improving this community.

We started by remodeling the school and creating ties with the community. The goal is to have everything ready so we can start in March the training courses of Gastronomy and Aesthetics with a computer room.



The challenge for FEDES is not only to create a school for occupations, but to make a difference and be a help in other areas. We know that we cannot do it alone and we need to work in collaboration with the community to make positive changes. We met the directors of the social associations and the neighborhood associations to raise awareness on our projects and vision. After different inquiries we saw there was

great need for orthopedic implements and Wheelchair’s in the commune. We requested a register held by the neighborhood associations. It was quite a surprise to see the number of people that needed a wheelchair.

The ceremony was attended by representatives of FEDES Foundation, officials from the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labor, the Mayor, president of the Neighborhood Union and other Associations. We took this opportunity to present the Occupation Training project as los cursos de formación de Gastronomía y Belleza Integral con una sala de computación.



# LIFE STORIES



Below we tell you how these sweet people came to collect the valuable Gift of Mobility, and some of their life stories!

**Juan Pablo** and his wife. A year ago he had an accident when he dived into a pool. He fractured his column and now is quadriplegic. He spent 6 months in the hospital. His back was immobilized and he was unable to move anything but his eyes. The operation he needed was very expensive and he did not have the means to pay it. The only thing he could do was pray. After two months miraculously he began to move his neck, shoulders and his hands a little. He doesn't lose hope that he will walk again; he has a 9 year old daughter whom he loves.

*"I want to live and I want to support my family, I'm a good welder, I tie my tools to my hands because I don't have a lot*

*of strength. I work doing crafts and I sell them at the fair; I made my own exercise machines to do my rehabilitation. I just want to be able to take care of my family".* He was very grateful for the chair. His wife has subscribed the course of Gastronomy so she would be able to work in her home and take care of Juan Pablo, who still needs help and care.



**Rosa** (front) and **Petronila** arrived accompanied by a relative. Rosa has diabetes, kidney problems, and pulmonary insufficiency. Petronila, was hit by a car and is now crippled.

They were very happy with the gift. Rosa told us *"I never thought someone would give us a chair, you don't know what I have suffered because I can't move around, thank you with all my heart."*



**Carmen** (sitting in chair) suffers from diabetes, hypertension, lung deficiency; she lives alone with her mother (her right). The three sweet women participate in activities in the Club for the Elderly, this helps them remain active because they don't want to suffer another depression like the one they had a couple years ago. For them the wheelchair is the best gift they could receive, giving them the ability to integrate and have a purpose in life.

**Grosella**, three years ago a stray bullet hit her, when she was on her way back from work, hitting her in the back leaving her completely paralyzed. For her, the wheelchair is a priceless gift.





## DONATION OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES, ORTHOPEDIC EQUIPMENT, VITAMINS AND NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS IN BENEFIT OF THE VICTIMS OF THE FIRES IN VALPARAISO, CHILE.



FEDES Foundation, along with Direct Relief International, Laboratorios Abbott, Laboratorios Covidien, and other American companies, set out to meet the challenge by cooperating to mitigate the suffering and grief of many of the people who were affected by the great fire that took place in Valparaiso on April 12, 2014.

The donation, which consisted in thousands of Ensure and Pedialyte nutritional beverages were a big help to the victims. Likewise, the medical supplies and equipment donated to the medical facilities were much appreciated.



A special thanks to the Minister of Health, Dr. Helia Molina, and her assistant, Dr. Enrique Accorsi; the Director of the SSVSA (Valparaiso San Antonio Healthcare Service), Dr. Ramon Garcia, and the Director of Carlos Van Buren Hospital, Dr. Carlos Ponce, who made it possible for the donation to be distributed among the most needy.

*Pictures: FEDES President, Steven Colon, delivered the donation to the Director of the SSVSA, Ramón García, and together they visited the various wards along with part of the medical staff of Carlos Van Buren, Hospital, led by its director, Dr. Luis Ponce. Also with us at the time was Ana Eugenia García, former Regional Director of Senama Valparaiso.*



In an interview with Radio Bio Bio, Dr. Garcia commented: “We received a donation of walkers, crutches, various types of canes, thousands of masks and other medical equipment and supplies; pediatric nutrition, such as Ensure, Pedialyte, and packs for primary gynecological needs, both for the victims and patients from vulnerable families. These nutrition beverages will be of great use to the Pediatric CU and adult CU for giving recovering patients the nutrition they need.”



*Picture (left). Visit to dialysis ward, where walkers were donated to the patients.*

*Picture (right). Mrs. Adriana Vega (66), who is a hemiplegic, was happy to receive a walker to return home. Mrs. Sara Moya (87), with a hip operation, is happy to receive a spider cane, which she used to humorously walk around the room.*

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*Picture (left): Nutritional supplements donated by Laboratorios Abbot were delivered at the Pediatric ward.*

*Picture (right): Packs donated by Coviden were delivered at the Gynecology ward.*

# Telecommunications Courses

Four courses on Installation and Repair of Telecommunications Systems, each of them 335 hours long, began on March 3 after being awarded through the Social Scholarship Program promoted by OTIC Proforma.

These four courses will last until August 15, including two months of paid internships at MOVISTAR and its partner companies. The undertaking is held as part of the agreement entered into by FEDES Foundation and Movistar, referred to as «employment connection.» The courses cover a segment of 80 younger and older adults, who are all offered permanent employment at one of MOVISTAR's partner companies.



Above, participants of the Telecommunication courses at FEDES facilities. Below, participants wearing the uniforms provided by the course on their first hands-on practice (left) and with their instructors (right).



## COURSES FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE ELECTRICITY SECTOR

Within the framework of the partnership agreement entered into by FEDES and Chilectra S.A. on April 15, the second version was launched of the course on Domestic Electrical Installations for parents and tutors of students attending Liceo Técnico Mariano Egaña, in the district of Peñalolén.

The Technical High School has excellent infrastructure and is fitted out with state-of-the-art equipment in the area of electricity, in addition to permanent technical assistance provided by Chilectra S.A.

This training course is being attended by 20 adults on the night schedule and consists of 260 hours. The 2014 version of the course has been enhanced with visits to an electric power distribution substation and a *smart city* project designed and operated by Chilectra in the northern area of Santiago.



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## Entrepreneur from the Course on Food and Catering Services

Cindy Natalia Ferrer tells us that the training and assistance she obtained at FEDES Foundation, enabled her to provide services for various types of events, such as weddings, baptisms, baby showers, birthdays, and general events. She says that thanks to this enterprise, she manages her own time and she's her own boss, though she is well aware that she needs to dedicate double the time and effort for her enterprise to continue to grow every day. She commented that she has even be able to hire more personnel and her family's support has made it possible for her services to be more comprehensive, that is, she not only provides catering services, but also the MC, music, live shows, and everything necessary to keep the client happy and satisfied with the service.



# VOCATIONAL TRAINING COURSE CERTIFICATION



## End of Vocational Training Course period.

During March, the vocational training courses for hired employment: Telecommunications Systems Installer/ Repairer, Care for the Sick and Elderly, and Warehouse Management, ended their four-month program at our training facility. As of this moment, they begin their 2-month internship experience at various companies.

This is a group of 60 students from 19 to 65 years old from the 40% of the population with the lowest income, who are directly initiating their paid internships and will then getting an employment contract thanks to some of our partner companies, such as: "Ciper Ltda., Netrium Telecom, Coasin Group, Gatsby (Chile), Residencia de Ancianos Villa Padre Hurtado, Fundacion las Rosas."



*Picture 1. Fedes Foundation President, Steven Colon; Vice-president, Dr. Hugo Avila; and Regional Head of the SENCE Vocational Training Program, Giorgia Rivano.*

*Picture2. Vicente Romero receives his diploma and congratulations from his relator, Carlos Montenegro*

*Picture3: Outstanding participants received and acknowledgement and special mention for their vocational practice performance from their tutors, Carmen Martin and Maria Sainz de Rozas.*



## Graduations December 2014



**Integral Aesthetics Course**



**Telecommunications Course**



**Care of Sick and Elderly Course & Baking and Pastry Course**



### **Pablo Ramirez Ramirez - Telecommunications**

"I graduated last year and now I work at Netroom, a telenetwork company. Working there changed my life. Before I was quite desorganized and could not save Money for my needs or for good investments. The Bus system here is real bad so its hard to get to work in time now that I have a good job, I'm learning to save and recently were able to buy a motorcycle which helps me to get everywhere in time. I never had health Insurance and now the company pays me a health insurance and saves for my pension, for my old days.



In the beginning it was difficult to adapt in my new job, and they also asked for a drivers license, because we get a Car, I worked hard and got the license, I've learned to be really responsible, stay till late if asked, accompany and help the other technicians.

I am so thankful to FEDES since I had no faith in myself or thought that I was not going to make it since I dont consider myself so smart, but I made it, the school was free, they even gave me funds for my Transportation and the teachers were amazing, in Chile a Ingeneer that comes out of University makes \$1,000 dollars, I just finished high school at night had the blessing to study at FEDES and now I make every month over \$1,500 dollars. I even started fixing my Mom's house, which was a dream I always had. I really thank God for this miracle in my life.

## HEADLINES OF THE YEAR

- Results and testimonies from the job training courses.
- Collaboration with the municipality of San Bernardo for delivery of medical supplies to Medical Centers and Hospitals.
- Distribution of Wheel Chairs.
- Humanitarian Aid after the fires in Valparaíso and earth quake in northern Chile
- Next years goals.

### Job training Courses

This year we had 25 different job training courses, focused on 8 different professions:

- Integral Aesthetics, which focuses on the provision of beauty treatments for the independent market. Students are trained in techniques such as massage, pedicure and manicure, facials, hair straightening, etc.



- Baking and Pastry, that trains and empowers for working independently.
- Banqueting, focused on independent food and catering services for events and parties .

- Garment and Tailoring, where students learn to design and make clothes and other garments. Focused for independent entrepreneurs.

- Logistics, Focused on the dependent job market, training in all the knowledge and skills necessary to manage a warehouse. Includes computer programs such as Manager and SAP, Bar codes, driving the forklift etc.

- Telecommunications, trains in skills and techniques for the industry of telecommunications facilities. Focused on the dependent job market.
- Care of Sick and Elderly, training for the dependent and Independent labor market.
- IT-support, trains in computing techniques and associated knowledge for IT management for small and medium companies. Focused on the dependent labor market.



In total 577 students attended our courses, 297 focused in being an entrepreneur and 280 focused for dependent jobs. This year we had three graduations for a total of 160 students who completed their courses, these were before the 577 who will graduate this year, 70% of the ex-students of the courses for the dependent labor market are currently working and all students of entrepreneur-focus classes were able to start their own business. We had similar results this past year.



## Testimonies

### Elizabeth Araya – Integral Aesthetics

"The course exceeded my expectations, I didn't think it would be so good and that we would use all professional products.

It helped a lot that already from the beginning I could put into practice what we had learned, so I could make an income. When we finished the first module of facials, me and several other students started working straight away and for each facial we charge 5 to 7 dollars.

I chose aesthetics because I've always been worried about my skin and looking good. In my opinion there are no ugly women only women who don't take good care of themselves. So if I can help them to make them look more beautiful and make money of it...

Before I never had a job. I've always been a housewife taking care of my children. Now my youngest son is 21 and he said, 'Mama, why don't you go do something for yourself, we are all grownup now' and I thought 'he is absolutely right, I have dedicated myself purely to raising my children, now I will do what I like', this was a radical change.

I already remodeled a room in my house, put a massage bed and attend public. I've had a lot of customers. My dream is to one day have my own beauty salon. This course helps a lot, now I feel ready to do it with everything we've learned."



### Johanna Betancourt Gonzalez - Banquet Course

"I am a chef for 15 years, but I never studied. It's all because I started washing dishes in a restaurant and there they taught me everything.

Many years ago I started selling lunches at some clinics and I will never forget because I made 20 lunches, went to sell and returned with 20 lunches, couldn't sell any. Then I went the other day and sold one, then two and after a couple of days I could sell everything.

Last year I decided with my family to start a catering business. We did three events and we liked it. We make a good team but we needed to formalize and missed some details like a good customer service. This is difficult for me because I had always worked in the back, not facing the customer.

At that just moment I got in the course. Here we were taught to sell and advertise through social networks and immediately I began to implement this; Of the 3 events of last year, we tripled, this year we have 16 events.

Now we started to focus on weddings, gala parties and baptisms. And we realized that we are no longer just a catering business, because we have so many contacts that we know the person making the invitations, the one who makes the souvenirs, who makes the cake, a DJ, a band, a person who organizes honeymoons So we are no longer a catering business, now we are event producers, because we have everything, even the person making the wedding dress.

Without Fedes we couldn't have grown so much, they taught us how to sell, be disciplined and organized and provide good customer service. For me it is also important to formalize my knowledge because I have a lifetime of experience but I have never studied, so now I will get a title."



### Georgina Mercedes Molina Vásquez – Garment and Tailoring Course



"I've had a hard life. My husband left me when we were in Argentina, he took me to Argentina and deceived me, because he said he had a house and everything there but when we arrived it turned out this was not true. On top of that he cheated on me with another woman. So I was left alone with my two little girls in Argentina without knowing anyone or having anything.

I started working in the field to harvest vegetables. I always had to protect my daughters, because they are pretty and people asked for them. They wanted me to give them away because I was alone and had nowhere to sleep. But obviously I did not give them away! I've looked after them all my life, and then also my grandchildren.

When I returned to Chile I lived in a slum, first in one room together with a family and then I built my own house. Now I have a home in San Bernardo. Here I feel good but I'm living alone.

I struggled a lot in life but my pride is that all my children and grandchildren finished school.

Recently my mom died, She was the only one left in my life, I miss her so much. When she died I fell into a deep depression, I was in bed all day and didn't want to do anything. This course lifted me out of bed, it motivated me to do something in life. It lifted me out of the depression.

I chose to do this sewing course because I know that I can work with it at home, shortening pants and making dresses. Because I'm very smart, I don't have much education but I'm smart to learn things. I never knew how to use a sewing machine, I hand sewed everything, now I learned how to use it in the course.

I never had any dreams for myself, overall I don't think much about my future, I think of others, my children and my grandchildren. But now I am thinking about working with what I've learned in the course, making clothes and tablecloths. I sell doll clothing at the market. A lot of people like them, people ask me to make dresses for their Barbies. Now I'm saving up to buy fabrics and threads to keep working."



# Employment Intermediation Department

The employment intermediation department is in charge of the process that carries precisely that same name. Its role is to support student's insertion in the employment market. To this end, the unit contacts companies and seeks to secure partnership agreements with them. Helping to improve employment conditions and mediating when conflicts arise are an important of this teams work.

For FEDES, employment intermediation begins with the search for internship opportunities by selecting companies where our participants may develop what the have learned in the academic and theoretical phase of the course. Throughout their employment experience in the company, participants are visited and assisted, particularly with emotional issues. Once they have graduate from this phase, they are given support to find employment.

One of the big challenges we proposed for the 2013 period was to increase the number of participants that are able to insert into the job market. To date, and with available data, since its an ongoing process, we can assert that they exceed 50%, and in some courses we have reached as high as 80% of participants that were hired.

One of them is Eloina Araya Alarcón, 42, who feels that she has fulfilled her dreams at Gatsby restaurant chain, owned by the company Areas Chile.

**I feel tremendously motivated to continue to progress. I can now say: «Dare to dream and stake one step at a time, however small it may be...»**

Eloina says: *"I began the internship with three other co-workers. I thought that after the two-month internship I would leave and start something of my own. My first test was when they came to me at the end of my internship and offered me a job. I decided to accept and keep an open mind about things, helping the pastry chef in whatever he would ask me, from cleaning to cutting, to tidying up to putting things together. I did this wholeheartedly for several months while I dreamt that one day I would be able to create the products of my own business. To my surprise, my supervisors asked me to make the CHEESECAKES, and that was my chance. I did it using all my creativity, knowledge and passion. They came out so good that they've become the restaurant's star product. So now I'm in charge of producing and*

*overseeing the close to 200 cheesecakes that are distributed among all the restaurants of the chain. Part of my dream has already come true, and has even exceeded my expectations. I feel tremendously motivated to continue to progress. I can now say: «Dare to dream and stake one step at a time, however small it may be...» (picture, with her supervisor at Gatsby restaurant).*



## Humanitarian Aid

During this year we worked on several humanitarian projects, we received a total of seven containers with 141 pallets of medical implements and supplies donated from **Direct Relief and Free Wheelchair Mission**. The aid consisted of: wheelchairs, crutches, canes, walkers, orthopedic boots, clinical beds, dental equipment, bath chairs, adult diapers, dental chairs, dental X-ray machine, surgical instruments and dental Instruments, Autoclaves, masks, bandages of all kind, syringes, special wheel chairs, Ensure health drinks from AB-BOTT, many supplies from GLAXO and COVIDIEN etc, etc. These donations were also a blessing as to help the victims of the fire in Valparaiso and the earthquake in northern Chile. We were also able to donate clothes, household utensils and construction materials for the care and attention of the victims.



This year we could proceed our collaboration with the municipality of San Bernardo with the delivery of medical supplies for low income clinics and Hospitals. Again Thanks to Direct relief and Free Wheel Chair Mission.

**Fabiola Escobar - Pharmaceutical Chemist of San Bernardo**

*"I want to thank the foundation for the donations that they gave us because it has served us too much. In this community there are many patients who need insulin injections so the demand for insulin syringes is very high and sometimes we fail to cover them all. The donations sent to us arrived at precisely the right time." And all the other medical supplies were incredible, we have patients asking can*

**Felipe Merino Santibañez – Paramedic of the Dr. Raul Cuevas health center, San Bernardo**

"I work for the emergency network of San Bernardo. The quality of the donation is very good because it contains many products that are difficult to find here. These things I learned about but I could never use them in person. The problem is that we have only a certain amount of resources we need to divide over many things and this reflects in the kind of materials purchased. I don't want to diminish what we have, but we all know that the tools and materials from the US and Europe are much better. Therefore, these materials will be a big advantage here and are of very good use. Now we can renew the materials we have which are already defective. Before we needed to reuse disposable products, because we ran out of products, when they were stained with blood we must wash them and reuse them. Now we can work much more hygienic.

It is a big contribution to the whole community. And we will work together now to make it reach all the people in need."



## Testemonies of the Free Wheelchair Mission

One of the beneficiaries is María. She is diabetic and has kidney failure, which causes her disability to walk. She lives in a tiny house with her daughter, her daughter's husband and their kids. She is really happy that she is able to leave the house now and move around.



Till today the wheelchair serves the whole shanty town, as Maria lends it to anyone who needs it. The wheelchair even saved the life of her daughter in law when she needed to go for labor to the hospital. She couldn't walk anymore and almost fainted because of the beginning birth. Nevertheless, due to the structure of the shantytown it is impossible to go in by car to get her. In the end, they managed to get her out of the shanty town in a car to the hospital in the wheelchair



This man was especially happy with his wheelchair: Now he could finally leave the hospital. Normally he lives on the streets and he has no one to pick him up. But as he is not able to walk independently they don't let him leave the hospital alone. With this wheelchair he will be able to move around. He feels he can finally go 'home' again.



Jonas was born with neurological problems caused by the drugs use of his mom during pregnancy. Then, after giving birth she left him.

Fortunately his uncle and aunt adopted him and raised him since he was a baby. He cannot speak or walk a lot but he is very smart; he does almost everything by himself, like climbing the stairs and playing the ball. His uncle is the pastor of the local Church.



Mr. Achilles fell from a platform at the 4th floor while working at a construction site. For two years he remained in a vegetative state, not able to move anything. His wife and children left him after the accident and he was completely dependent on the help of neighbors. After two years he slowly began to recover and now he is able to move again; he can walk a bit but he can't move his hands or torso. He lives by himself now. He is a very humble, polite and clean man. We arrived exactly at his birthday and Mr. Achilles said the wheelchair was the best birthday present he got because now he can walk with his

neighbors, go outside to get some sun or go to the main square to listen to the musicians. We will also get him a walking stick for around the house, since he moves around holding to a broom.

Samuel got assaulted and stabbed in the side 3 years ago. The stabbing cut off several arteries, leaving him invalid for life. He can no longer move his legs nor his left arm. He currently lives with two of his nieces who take care of him in a separate room of the house. Now with the new wheelchair he can finally get out and around,



## Goals for next year

We can satisfactorily look back on the past year. However we want 2015 to be much better. In order to achieve this, we will do our best to:

- Continue the Wheelchair campaign "Movamos el Corazón" (Let's Move our Hearts) and aim to distribute at least 10,000 more Wheelchairs. Thanks to Free Wheel Chair Mission we just received the first 880 Gen 3 foldable chairs that come in 4 sizes and 550 Gen 2 chairs.



- Participate in the new Government Training Program "Mas Capaz" (More Capable) and try to benefit more than 1,000 people.



- Bring and distribute at least 10 containers of orthopedic support and medical supplies for clinics and medical centers with low resources.



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