



News Letter - January 2007



1485 wheelchairs were distributed in January. Of these, 1,000 were donated to the Region of Los Lagos region, with the aid of Senator Andres Allamand.
185 chairs were donated to Linares, with the aid of Senator Hernan Larraín.
300 chairs were donated to Concepción with the help of Senator Alejandro Navarro.
FEDES would like to take this opportunity to extend its gratitude to various congressmen from all the parties that have paid for the transportation and operation of this equipment. Their support has helped many needy disabled people throughout the country.
We have also been encouraged by the support given by the mayors and local authorities who, regardless of their partisan affiliations, have assisted in this humanitarian endeavor.





Follow-Up Program – Job Experience

Between October and November, FEDES finalized the academic phase of four training courses from the National Scholarship Program of the National Training and Employment Service, SENCE (for its initials in Spanish). Said program is aimed at people who are unemployed and are seeking a primary job experience and lacking the education to apply for a qualified position. The academic phase lasts three and five months. During 2006 FEDES carried out the courses of Care for the Elderly and Water Works Installations, for independent employment. In the area of fixed employment, FEDES carried out the following courses: Bar and Dining Services, English, Food Management and Hygiene.

The academic phase is followed by a phase called Job Experience (two months of practice with a company) for fixed employment positions. Said phase was executed between December and January, supervised by Job Experience coordinator, Patricia Ojeda.

For independent employment area, the academic phase is followed by a technical assistance stage in order to aid their entrance into the productive and service systems. This phase lasted three months and was supervised by technical assistant Mario Ávila.



Interview with: Nery Espinosa Toloza
*Student of the “FEDES” Vocational Training School
Certified in the Course “Care for the Elderly”*

How have you felt in this job?

At first I faced some difficulties, such as how far away I was from home and also meeting the elderly. Now, the more time I work, the more I like it, and little by a little I am becoming more confident. It is very gratifying to be able to help and care for the elderly in this home. Everybody here is so warm and they have given me the opportunity I was looking for. I feel I have achieved my goal.

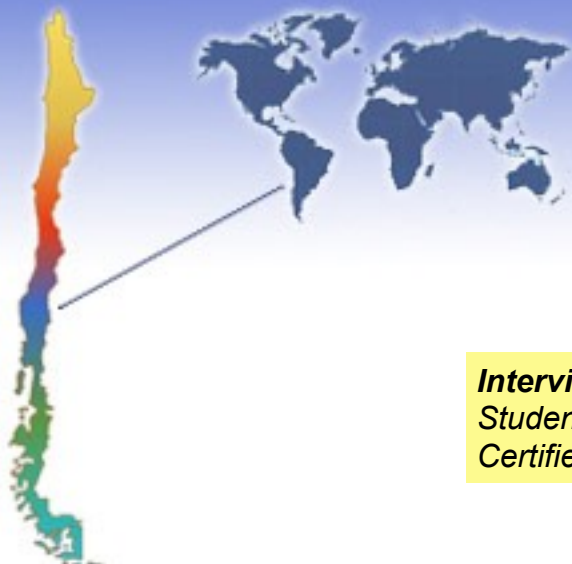
What can you tell us about the course you took and your current experience?

What I learned in FEDES is very important and valuable, and the certificate I obtained for the course allowed me to obtain this position. I am very grateful for the opportunity. I have realized that I really like this job, and I feel a vocation to care for the elderly. I am responsible for eight patients and most of them are bedridden and need greater care. I have to be well prepared and this experience has helped me to allay all my fears.

What are your work expectations for the future?

I hope to be able to continue with this work, as I feel I very good doing it. My goal for this year is to increase my experience in caring for the elderly, and if possible I will continue studying next year. I want to be an assistant nurse..





Interview with: Marco Pardo

**Student of the "FEDES" Vocational Training School
Certified in the Course: "Sanitary Installations"**



How have you felt in this job?

Good. Little by little I feel more confident and happier carrying out this work. I am currently undertaking my first installation by myself. I feel very satisfied with the results. I like things related to construction.

What can you tell us about the course you took and your current experience?

I used to work as an assistant electrician, but now my job opportunities have increased. I have more job options. The sanitary installation sector is a much larger market and what I learned in construction is helping me a lot.

I thank the Foundation and the government for the opportunity I was given to obtain further training at the FEDES Vocational Training School. The tools I bought are now opening doors for me. My reputation has improved. I feel like a professional.

What will you do in the future?

Continue working and growing as an independent worker. I want to establish a small construction services company. I've learned to value the importance of education. If given the opportunity, I will continue to further my training to learn new skills or improve the ones I have.



Interview with: Patricia Tejo
Student of the "FEDES" Vocational Training School
Course Certificate: Sanitary Installations



How have you felt in this job?

At first I thought that as a woman I would have problems carrying out the work. But now I realize that I don't and I can do it perfectly well. If a bigger job comes up, I just share the load with a colleague who is not working at the moment.

I have started by improving my neighbors' sanitary facilities. I am being recommended for the quality of my work and my low fees. When I am not working I am improving my own house. Little by little I am becoming an expert in working with ceramics.

What can you tell us about the course you took and your current experience?

I love what I've learned. Now no one can take advantage of me and I feel happy helping my neighbors improve their water and sewage systems. I am grateful for all I learned at the FEDES School, the tools that the government gave me and the patience of all my teachers, fellow students and family. Being a woman is not an obstacle in this business that I've chosen, and I'm going to prove it by working at it.

What results to you wish to obtain with this work?

I hope to gain experience and continue learning all the things related to this trade in order to become a recognized and competent worker who does quality jobs. I want to fulfill this dream and, with my family's support, I hope to develop a small sanitary installations and plumbing company.

Interview with: Carolina Alarcón

Student of: Gastronomy at the FEDES Foundation
Hired by: Restaurant Business ARAMARK LTDA.
Works in the self-service and dining area of the canteen of the Workers' Hospital.

How do you feel in this job?

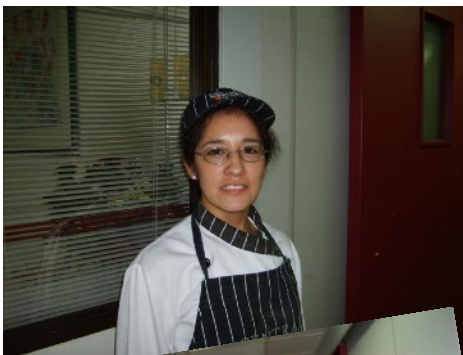
I feel useful. I am very happy to be working here and given the opportunity to practice what I've learned, maybe not all of it but little by little I'll get there.

What did you think of the food course?

The course is very good and complete. It trains us to work in any kitchen and climb the corporate ladder. The only bad thing is that promotions are given for amount of time on the job, but the head chef tells me to be patient.

How has this training course influenced your personal life?

A lot. Getting training has made me more confident, and I feel that I've lost a bit of my shyness. It has given me work stability because I know I will remain on the job if my performance is good. I also have to think about the future, as I have a son. I'm happy and grateful for the life-changing opportunity that FEDES and SENCE have given me.



Food Management Course. Within the framework of the agreement between FEDES and the Sociedad Chilena de Microbiología e Higiene de los Alimentos (Chilean Microbiology and Food Hygiene Society).

In February, FEDES-SODECA began training courses in food management for the employees of Departamental Ltda. Forty women participated in the first version of this course. Other companies are expected to participate in the following months.

Departamental Ltda. is one of the companies that renders services to the School Nutrition Program of the National School Aid and Scholarship Board, JUNAEB (for its initials in Spanish).

This government institution supports the improvement of the quality of meals in schools by introducing the Cook and Chill technology.

For the directors of FEDES, the most valuable aspect of these activities is the contribution in the development of a new concept in Chile's school nutrition (a model for Latin America), and most of all, contributing to increasing the self-esteem of the operators (food handlers), who at great personal sacrifice, carry out an under-appreciated task.

In the photos on the left, the teachers: Food Eng. Vanesa Cunero, Expert in Food Technologies and Quality Systems, and Manager Jorge Bazaes, Expert in Institutional Food Management Systems.



The founder of FWM is crossing the USA on bicycle, from New York to California, carrying an important message. Don wants to highlight the urgency of covering the needs of more than 100 million disabled people in the world who, according to statistics from the UN, require a wheelchair. Reader's Digest and the CBS channel have joined this campaign. CBS interviewed María José Tello from Chile (responsible for the La Cisterna disabled community). Said channel sent a correspondent who interviewed her at the wheelchair assembling facility of the FEDES Foundation.



Maria José Tello Testimony

My name is María José Tello. First of all, I would like to express my most sincere gratitude for this invitation. I am 25 years old and I am the supervisor of the Program for the Disabled of the City Council of La Cisterna, in Santiago, Chile, whose main goal is to socially integrate the disabled and provide them with equal opportunities, as well as minimize both the physical and psychological hurdles posed by their environment. This job touches me personally, being handicapped myself, though we actually do not agree with the term "handicapped," as we simply have different capabilities for doing things. All people are handicapped in some area or other, whether it's in the arts, mathematics, sports, or any other area.

I was asked by the Mayor of La Cisterna, Mr. Santiago Rebolledo Pizarro, to set up a bureau for attending the disabled of the district, that I realized that there were many other disabled people who suffer the same cultural, social and economic limitations as me, and even more.

Through this job and in my pursuit of the creation of various organizations, I got acquainted with the serious problems faced by so many disabled people, and have been able to bring solutions to some of them thanks to Free Wheelchair Mission and FEDES Foundation in Chile, who have enabled me to deliver hundreds of wheelchairs, thereby making life easier for many people whose life was previously confined to a single room. Today all those people are able to go out in their wheelchairs, do shopping, go to church, or share a dinner table with their families. All these activities that seem so basic to most people have helped many of them recover the will to live. The wheelchairs have made it possible for these people to develop their social skills by taking part in workshops and activities of various kinds.

Right now I can think of hundreds of testimonies. Among the most notorious, I can state the case of Mr. Juan, who is currently 50 years old and completely illiterate, and whose only relative is his aged mother. When he was young he lost his legs in an accident and therefore could not continue working and had to resort to begging on the streets. He used to get around by dragging himself with a great deal of effort. When we arrived to deliver his wheelchair, he simply couldn't believe it. He wouldn't sit on it for fear of soiling it. This was something that he wanted so badly that it seemed like an impossible dream to him. He was so thankful, he couldn't find words to express his gratitude, so he just took my hands and smiled at me for the longest time.

(Photo: Maria Jose being interviewed by CBS at the FEDES assembling factory for wheel chairs. Next photo, with a beneficiary at her Community..



Since 2003 the Foundation and Free Wheelchair Mission have had an agreement to distribute wheelchairs in Chile. To date more than 14,000 chairs have been sent to Chile in a total of 26 containers. Here we can see the trucks taking the containers from Valparaíso to the warehouses of the FEDES Foundation. This month we've received 4 containers from FWM, with a total of 2,200 wheelchairs. The goal of Free Wheelchair Mission, together with the FEDES Foundation, is that no disabled person is left without a wheelchair.



MEDITERRANEAN DIET COURSE. Given by ACHS and DOLE to support the development and improvement of corporate food programs.

The 12 hour course was dictated to food management personnel who work in the cold kitchen area in order to food processing practices for the preparation of appetizing meals for the consumers. .



April 2007



An important course was held at La Perla for employees of various Health Services in the country.

The goals of this event were related to the following subjects:

1. Analysis of Biological Hazards in Food Processing.
2. Prerequisite Programs
3. HACCP System
4. Auditing

25 employees from various Health Services in the country participated in this workshop.

The teachers were professionals from various institutions, amongst which are:

Japan International Cooperation Agency: JICA

Chilean Food Microbiology Society: SOCHMHA

The Ministry of Health: Minsal

Sanitation Authority of the Metropolitan Region: ASRM

Sanitation Authority of the VIII Region: ASVIIIIR

A total of 6 teachers and 5 workshop supervisors were included from the aforementioned institutions.

Dr. Masaki Takahashi, JICA. Dr. Manuel Espinoza, SOCHMHA. Dr. Luis Lopez, SOCHMHA. Lic. Manuel Henriquez, SOCHMHA. Lic. Soledad Bengoa, SOCHMHA. Dr. Eliana Marambio, SOCHMHA. Dr. Marisol Quintana, JICA. Dr. Carmen Gloria Piñones, ASRM. Dr. Pedro Araya, Minsal. Dr. Claudio Baez, ASVIIIIR. Eng. Vanesa Cuneo, SOCHMHA.

The course lasted 15 days, 8 hours a day, from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. The methodology included presentations, workshops and field work through visits to companies. Audiovisual support was used as well as a food service production unit, computer labs for the workshops, the Internet and photocopies.





Visit to Mrs. María Eugenia Hirmas, Director of Sociocultural Programs for the Presidency of the Republic.

Directors of FEDES were invited to the Palacio de la Moneda (Government House) by the Director of Socio-Cultural Programs of the Presidency of the Republic (a position previously held by the First Lady). During President Lagos' term, FEDES carried out significant actions together with the former First Lady Mrs. Luisa Duran. At the meeting, possibilities were discussed for the FEDES Foundation to work with some foundations presided by Mrs. Hirmas as part of her responsibilities, such as the PRODEMU Foundation and TODO HILE ENTER Foundation.



In an initiative by Santiago Mardones, the foundation worked together with local community organizations on April 28th to provide humanitarian aid to the San Fabian de Alico District (VIII Region), donating wheelchairs, blankets and other goods to help poor families.



House Donations

Cesar y Angélica Soto

We have a cooperation agreement with Mr. Carlos Inostroza, Mayor of the District of Lo Espejo. Throughout the past few years we have been conducting joint programs for the needy of the district. To date, through these programs we have been able to donate and distribute over 720 wheel chairs to people with limited economic resources, in addition to medical beds, blankets, clothes, food, etc.

We have also been able to cooperate with the housing program put together by Government of Chile, for the benefit of poor families. On their visit to Chile friends like the Lunder and Churchill families, from the Free Wheel Chair Mission Foundation, accompanied us to distribute wheel chairs among the people of this district. When they saw the precarious living conditions of these people, they were so moved that they donated funds for them to be able to purchase a small house of their own.

Maria Graciela Soto Barnechea is one of these cases: She is a widow with 8 children, of which 2 were born with a disease called "morchios syndrome." Her son, Cesar, 31, and her daughter, Angelica, 36 are both 3.28 feet tall. Due to this disease, Angelica underwent an operation on her legs and hips, due to which she is unable to do any kind of work. Because of her health problems, she is given a welfare pension of \$44.000 pesos. With this money they have to eat and finance all their expenses due to the fact that the mother can't work because she has to take care of them. Thanks to the Lunder family that donated them the funds, and with the help of the government, they have been able to buy a house.



Photos Above: Cesar and Angélica Soto with to their mother, Mrs. Maria Graciela Soto Barnechea. Photo on the Left: Their house. Photo on the Right: Angélica with Mrs. Gladis Vargas, coordinator for FEDES wheel chair program.





The Jara Family



Laurie Churchill next to Bernarda her Daughter

The Jara family is also from the district of Lo Espejo. They are staying at the house of a relative of theirs who has her 4 children. The entire family lodges in one room that was improvised on the second story, where they lived in very sad and appalling conditions. In addition to this, Mrs. Bernarda Jara had an hemiplegia and can barely move, half her body is paralyzed. Taking her to the bathroom was very difficult since she had to be carried by her children and the only bathroom is far away from the house.

When the Churchill family (friends of the Free Wheel Chair Mission foundation who help distribute wheel chairs to people of very limited financial resources) came with us to visit her and deliver the wheelchair and saw the conditions they lived in, they offered to donate the money they were missing to subsidy the house offered by the government. Thank God, a lady decided to sell the house for that amount. It's made of solid material and it has enough space for the whole family. Even though a few repairs have to be done, they are very happy because it's in a safer neighbourhood and they have a small yard with a fence where her children can play and she can get some fresh air and feel safe at the same time.



The room where the Jara family lived with their 4 children.



The Jara family happy that their dream of having a house of their own was fulfilled.





CATERING COURSE FOR DISTAL COMPANY

The catering courses began for the employees of Distal Comapany with a total of 100 participants.

This is one of the many companys that provide services to the School Food Program of the National School Assistance and Scholarship Board (in Spanish, JUNAEB).

Through its efforts, this state agency attempts to improve the quality of students' diets, introducing the Cook and Chill technology.

For the directors of FEDES, the most valuable aspect of these activities is the contribution in the development of a new concept in Chile's school nutrition (a model for Latin America), and most of all, contributing to increasing the self-esteem of the operators (food handlers), who at great personal sacrifice, carry out an under-appreciated task.

In the photos on the left, the teachers: Food Eng. Vanesa Cunero, Expert in Food Technologies and Quality Systems, and Manager Jorge Bazaes, Expert in Institutional Food Management Systems.





DONATION OF ORTHOPEDIC EQUIPMENT FOR THE INP POLYCLINIC



Donation delivery ceremony: Clinic Bed, Wheelchairs, walking frames, orthopedic equipment, crutches and first aid kit boxes for an INP center for the elderly. More than 100 elderly people of scarce financial resources come here for healthcare. At this facility they did not have the proper equipment to help these people get around or provide them adequate help. As a token of solidarity and generosity, this facility for the elderly put on a show for all those in attendance, which included 30's style charleston and tango dancing. The elderly there also organized an exhibition of personal photos and objects from the beginning of the XX century, which they presented with a delicious snack. The spirit of cheerfulness, liveliness and youthfulness this group Of elderly people displayed is a great example to follow.

Photos: Regional Metropolitan Director for the INP Mr. Sebastian Rivas, with the president of FEDES, Mr. Steven Colon, delivering the donations.



In the city of Angol, in the IXth Region, we delivered 200 wheelchairs, with Senator Alberto Espina and his team. Photos of the people that benefited by these donations.





JUNE 2007



Training Workshop for General Supervisor of JUNAEB



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With the support of the “Chilean Microbiology and Food Hygiene,” FEDES and JUNAEB (Spanish acronym for National Board for School Assistance and Scholarships), introduce new technologies and concepts in school nutrition.

For this purpose a training workshop was conducted aimed at the JUNAEB School Nutrition Program (PAE).



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Photo 1. Speaker: Dr. Manuel Espinoza, a biochemist and expert in institutional nutrition, president of SOCHMHA.

Photo 2. Attendants at the workshop that took place and the FEDES Foundation kitchen facility.

Photo 3. Nutrition Engineer, Vanesa Cúneo, FEDES expert in technologies and professional catering quality systems, in a practical demonstration.

Photos 4 & 5. Christian Martínez, national director of JUNAEB, visiting the FEDES facility.

Photo 6. Course certification.



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Trip to the US to thank all our donors and present the programs that were made possible by their help.



Visit to Globus Relief, in Salt Lake City, UTAH



Visit to Sugar Land Rotary Club, Texas, donors of equipment for the FEDES Vocational Training School, for the purposes of extending our gratitude and presenting the programs that were undertaken
Photo: Hilmar Zeissig, Steve Harris, Águeda Martín, Steven Colon and David G. president of the club



Visit to Samaueli Foundation, donors of equipment for the FEDES Vocational Training School and thousands of wheelchairs, with (left to right) Glenn Parrish, Betsy Flint, Steven Perry and Brett Trowbridge



Visit to North Shore Rotary Club, in Houston, Texas, donors of equipment for the FEDES Vocational Training School, for the purposes of extending our gratitude and presenting the programs that were undertaken
Photo: Jim Gilbert , president of the club, with Steven Colon and Águeda Martín.



Cocktail party held by Free Wheel Chair Mission and their sponsors in Los Angeles, California, where they shared testimonies about the distribution of thousands of wheelchairs in Chile donated by them. In the picture, with Mr. and Mrs. Bob Longman, and Brett Trowbridge



Testimonies of wheelchair beneficiaries



Here is Rafael, a very congenial young man. Meeting him and his mother and brother brought us much joy. Rafael is a very cheerful youngster.

He contracted polio when he was very young and due to this has never been able to walk. He is now 19 years old and never had a wheelchair. Whenever he had an emergency he would borrow one. When it finally dawned on him that he had acquired his own wheelchair, as you can see, he couldn't help but smile and thank God. As was the case with many of the people we met that day, before having his wheelchair, his mother and brother had to carry him from one place to another. The wheelchair not only provides Rafael more independence, but it's also improved his family's quality of life, as it makes getting around much easier for them.

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July 2007



Training workshop for 90 employees of Alicopsa company, conducted at the FEDES facilities and sponsored by ACHS (Spanish acronym for Chilean Safety Association).



Photos 1, 2 & 3: Jorge Vazae, FEDES instructor, show all the Cook & Chill process to attendants to workshop attendants.



Photos: Humberto Torres, Chef of DOLE company, during his presentation of salads and health food.

Distribution of 100 wheelchairs in Talca, a project conducted with Senator Juan Antonio Coloma.



We met Luis, who is 53 years old and lost a foot and part of his leg in an accident. Because he lives in the countryside, 4 hours away from the nearest town and comes from a very poor family, they didn't have the money to even purchase a crutch, so he made one out of a tree branch and used it as support for his leg. This is how he's gotten around all his life. When he found out there was the possibility of acquiring a free wheelchair, he couldn't believe it. During the handing over ceremony, he really touched us, as he couldn't stop crying and thanking God and all the institutions involved in this campaign.

Marcelo and his parents. Marcelo had a traffic accident and was left handicapped by a back injury, which prevents him from walking. He used a wheelchair that he had borrowed from the hospital, but due to the great need there is for wheelchairs, he could only borrow it for emergencies for one or two days. Now that he has his own wheelchair, he is so happy, as he had the possibility to continue with his studies, but he couldn't get around. As you can see by the pictures, they were all beaming with joy and thanking God for this incredible miracle. He told us several times not to forget to thank Free Wheel Chair Mission.





Here we see Sebastián (on the left) and Marcos (on the right), two of the 18 children that were given wheelchairs through the auspices of Free Wheel Chair Mission. Seba and Marcos attended as representatives of the rest of the children, who were not able to come due to their serious physical condition. They all live at an institution for handicapped children. Seba was so happy that he was going to have his own wheelchair that he performed a presentation in which recited poems and sang several songs. He recounted that for as long as they can remember, Marcos and him shared the only wheelchair they had at the institution whenever they had to go out. Sebastian would sit on the edge of the seat and Marcos would lay on his side on the back part of the seat. They were very uncomfortable but they were happy to be able to go out for a ride or to the hospital. Until we left, Sebastian was still sitting on the edge of his chair, as he thought he still had to make room for Marcos. It really touched our hearts to see how much love he had for his friend and how he radiated joy and happiness now that he had his own wheelchair, but even more so at the thought of how happy all the children of the institution were going to be when they saw that they each a wheelchair of their own.



Sebastian singing a song for all those attending



This picture shows Monica, her mother and a neighbor who always used to help her mother get her to the hospital and sometimes taking care of her when her mother goes to work. Monica is mentally handicapped. Because they're so poor, ever since she was born, they never had the money to purchase a wheelchair. Her dream was to be able to go to the city and have an ice-cream, as she had heard that they sold some delicious ice-cream there. As soon as she got her wheelchair, her mother promised to take her to town and have an ice-cream on that same day. Monica spent the entire ceremony laughing and thanking everybody. She couldn't help showing her happiness. Even while she was having her picture taken, she couldn't stop talking and thanking everybody and literally, shouting with joy. This day we met 500 people in a similar situation to hers. At this ceremony in the city of Curicó, we delivered 500 wheelchairs



August - 2007



Dress-making and food-handling training course for student from the districts of San Miguel and Lo Espejo.



Food-processing and kitchen assistant course. These courses were attended by 40 students. The course included 60 hours of hands on training plus 20 hours of character formation.

The official instructors were Catalina Barrientos, Cristian Pérez and David Calquin.

The students were trained in skills that will allow them to get jobs as assistants at institutional catering companies.



The students tasting the products they fixed themselves.



Course: Dress-making

This course is officially 80 hours long plus 20 hours of character formation, for a total of 100 hours.



Course instructor, Gladis Vargas, with her students showing the projects carried out.

FEDES Foundation President Steven Colon, and Academic Director Hugo Avila, with students of the dress-making course.



Character formation module instructor Patricia Ojeda.





TESTIMONIES OF WHEELCHAIR BENEFICIARIES



This testimony was sent in by Máximo Fernando Muñoz.

I've just turned 40 years old. When I was 17 I had an accident when diving into the Claro River. I broke my neck and injured my spinal cord. I remained quadriplegic. In spite of the huge effort that the Teletón (national annual charity campaign) invested in my rehabilitation program, my health has deteriorated considerably and I'm bed-ridden. I depend entirely on my mother, who takes care of me while my father sells sweets at the Curicó central square. Having a wheelchair has meant more independence for me and the joy of not being such a burden to my mother. It's changed our lives. I would like to thank you immensely and may God bless all of you for your charity work.



A wheelchair gave back 82-year old Mrs. Gloria the joy of life. She was bed-ridden years ago without being able to move. When she was given her wheelchair she was beaming with happiness. We asked her what she would like to do now that she had her wheelchair. She answered: "I would like to go the town fair with all my family. It's been many years that I haven't been able to go with them and it's something that I enjoy a lot." By chance, we happened to travel through her town while we were heading to another town and we saw Mrs. Gloria warmly dressed and enjoying her recreational outing at the fair in the company of all her family, just like she had dreamed.

September 2007



Certification of dress-making and food-processing courses for the districts of Lo Espejo and San Miguel.

This certification ceremony was attended by Lo Espejo Mayor Carlos Inostroza and other officials of the township, who handed the certificates to the students. The courses were funded by both municipalities.



Academic Director Hugo Avila, giving a speech to the students at the certification.



Students enjoying a visual presentation of their class projects. Alumnos.



Lo Espejo Mayor, Mr. Carlos Inostroza, handing out the certificates to the students of his district.



Students of the food-processing course with their respective certificates, with officials of the district of Lo Espejo and FEDES staff.



Certification of dress-making and food-processing courses for the district of San Miguel. The students live in the district of San Miguel



Academic Director Hugo Ávila hands out certificates to the Food-processing course students.



Dress-making instructor, Gladis Vargas, hands out certificates to her students.



Happy students with their course certificatesLo



Celebration cocktail for all graduating

Meeting with businessmen from the region of Atacama (Northern Chile)



Mario Ossandón, National Director of SERCOTEC, giving a speech to businessmen.

Meeting with businessmen from the region of Atacama (Northern Chile)
A group of businessmen from the tourism industry attended a meeting in which they were able to talk with experts about new gastronomical technologies. The event, promoted and organized by SERCOTEC and FEDES, was attended by Mario Ossandón, Executive Director of SERCOTEC, Manuel Espinoza, president of SOCHMHA, Humberto Torres Head Chef of Dole, and María Angélica Ruiz, manager of Marbu.



Maria Angélica Ruiz, manager of Marbu Company, in her presentation about new gastronomical technologies



Humberto Torres, Head Chef of DOLE, during his presentation.



Visit to the head office of ALTO SHAAM and Globus Relief in the US



Photo 1: Steven Colon, president of FEDES Foundation, with Mark D. Kreple, vice-president and managing director of the international division of ALTO SHAAM World Headquarters, in Milwaukee. We were invited for a visit to get know the factory, as we have just signed an agreement with MARBU LTDA., their representatives in Chile, by which ALTO SHAAM equipment is to be installed at our Catering School, and also for providing joint technical assistance in the latest technology to Chilean companies. MARBU LTDA. has just donated our foundation a significant amount of latest technology equipment.

Photos 2 & 3: Tour of the ALTO SHAAM facilities, where we were able to appreciate all the details regarding manufacturing and services.

Photos 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8: Visit to the Headquarters of Globus Relief, in Salt Lake City, where we loaded a 40-foot container with thousands of crutches, walkers, canes and other medical equipment to be donated to low income handicapped people in Chile.





DISTRIBUTION OF 300 WHEELCHAIRS in Concepción, a joint effort conducted with Senator Alberto Espina.



Steven Colon with Carlos, who was thrilled to receive his wheelchair.



Steven Colon giving a speech to the beneficiaries and their families, who attended to receive their wheelchairs.



We met Doris, whose testimony really touched us, as she is virtually blind due to a diabetes condition. She has 4 children, her husband left her and she now lost the use of her legs. She's been bed-ridden for 2 years, so she was extremely happy to get a wheelchair.



Senator Alberto Espina & Steven Colon with some of the people who received wheel chairs this day.

October- 2007



2007 CATERING BUSINESS CONFERENCE Government of Chile SERCOTEC - FEDES

Fedes Foundation, SERCOTEC and other institutions have conducted a very coordinated effort with businessmen of the Southern Area of Santiago to offer technical assistance and training. The goal was to leverage the business ventures of catering industry in the metropolitan area. This has been strongly supported by means of an agreement with Lycée Hôtelier La Rochelle, of France, by way of the attendance of Michelle Galland, academic director of said institute.



Mario Ossandón, executive director of SERCOTEC, and Steven Colon, president of FEDES Foundation, welcomed all the attendees to the seminar.



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Photo 3. Michelle Galland, academic director of Lycée Hôtelier La Rochelle, France, presenting the institute curriculum to the attendees.
Photo 4. SERCOTEC presented Mrs. Michelle Galland a gift as a souvenir of her trip to Chile.



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Photo 1. Hugo Avila, academic director of FEDES Foundation, during his presentation on "New trends in the catering industry."
Photo 2. Hugo Avila with representatives and speakers of Marbu Alto Shaam



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Steven Colon, president of FEDES Foundation, leads a tour of the FEDES Catering School facilities with the attendees: Mrs. Michelle Galland, Mario Ossandón, representatives of various institutions and small businessmen that attended the seminar.



The event ended with a luncheon prepared at the FEDES facilities under chef David Calquín and students of catering course of the Chilean Professional Institute.





Training workshops for supervisors of the PAE (Spanish acronym for School Nutrition Program) at institute level, aimed 400 attendees

Subject: Introduction of new concepts and technologies in school nutrition..



1

Photo 1. Speaker: Dr. Manuel Espinoza, biochemist and expert in institutional nutrition, president of SOCHMHA.

Photo 2. Dr. Manuel Espinoza, touring the FEDES Foundation kitchen training facilities

Photo 3. FEDES speaker: Jorge Vazae, consultant and expert in institutional nutrition

Photo 4. Dr. Manuel Espinoza and Jorge with some of the workshop attendees

Photo 5. Chilean Professional Institute catering students, under the direction of chef David Calquin provided their services for the luncheon and snack that was offered to the attendees and the FEDES facility.



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NOVEMBER - 2007



Training courses on care for the ailing and the elderly

By the end of this course it is expected that attendees will have acquired the necessary knowledge and skills for providing care for the ailing and the elderly. They are also expected to develop personal skills for conflict-management in working with others. The attendees will have acquired the necessary skills for caring and assisting the ailing and bed-ridden elderly people.

The students will be capable of identifying the bio-psycho-social needs of the ailing and elderly, provide first aid, administer medication and provide comfort to the patients.

Photos: Students with their teacher, Natacha Solvena, academic nurse, in their practical and theoretical classes.





PROGRAM FOR JUNAEB SPECIALISTS (JUNAEB is the national food program for public schools)



Steven Colon, president of FEDES Foundation, welcoming all the attendees.

The following subjects were covered:

1. Amendment of RSA (Spanish acronym for Sanitary Regulation for Food Products) in its article 69. Goal: Implications in sanitary management derived from the implementation of HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points). Presentation by Dr. Carlos Pavletic.
2. Sanitary management in primary production. Goal: Review validated model of sanitary control for the primary production stage. Presentation by Dr. Alejandro Bravo.
3. Analysis of approaches to Sanitary Regulation for Food Products with respect to sanitary management. Goal: Review microbiological criterion and its emphasis on the final product versus those systems that are centered around processes. Presentation by Dr. Manuel Espinoza.
4. Workshop: Review of concepts of Food Innocuousness and Hygiene: HACCP and GMP or Pre-requirement Program.
5. Workshop: Drafting of Pre-requirement Program.
6. Final evaluation of quality systems implementation: HACCP and Pre-requirement. The role of auditing.



Speaker: Dr. Carlos Pavletic, coordinator of the Food Innocuousness Strengthening project of the Ministry of Public Health.



Speaker: Dr. Alejandro Bravo, Head of Pathogen Control Program of the SAG (Spanish acronym for Agriculture and Livestock Service)



National supervisors of the government food program for all public schools who attended the program.



Speaker: Dr. Manuel Espinoza, president of SOCHMHA (Spanish acronym for Chilean Association of Microbiology and Food Hygiene)



Advanced dress-making courses

This course, which was funded by FEDES Foundation friends, was geared toward small-time

businesswomen of the district of Lo Espejo, whom, in spite of their limited resources, lead small business with a very entrepreneurial spirit. The attendees have the basic equipment but so far had not had the opportunity to get training or some form of certification.





Training workshops for supervisors of the PAE (Spanish acronym for School Nutrition Program) at institute level, for 400 attendees.

Subject: Introduction of new concepts and technologies in school nutrition.



Photo 1. Speaker: Dr. Manuel Espinoza, biochemist and expert in institutional nutrition, president of SOCHMHA



Photo 1. Speaker: Jorge Vazae, consultant and expert in institutional nutrition

Photo 2. Speaker: Mauricio Eugenio Donders, biochemist

Photo 3. Speaker: Mayeric Andrea Catalán, chemical technician.



Attendees interacting in a workshop debate



2



3

Luncheon for all the attendees



Diciembre - 2007



Graduation of Course on Care for the Elderly



Students happily receiving their diplomas from their teacher Natacha Solvena, a nurse and teacher.



From: Patricia Aros

I would like to tell you about some of my experiences throughout this course. I have learned to be more self-critical and overcome my problems and issues. This course really hit home and I was extremely happy to participate and learn from other people with different points of view. Each day was a new learning experience, both on a personal and professional level. I can't remember the last time I was so excited about studying. Every day I anxiously read the books that the teacher recommends, and this helps me better understand the various subjects. I feel extremely satisfied about having completed this course in which I've acquired new skills and made new friends. I will be forever grateful for the opportunity you have given me and I hope you will remember me as kindly as I will remember you. I promise you will hear wonderful things about me, and I hope to keep in touch with you as well. It would make me very happy to know that others have also had the chance to study at your institute, because I know that you train professionals with a deep respect for humanity.



Students read their personal pledges to the audience

Patricia Aros, who is happy to receive her diploma from Natacha Solvena, her teacher



Graduation of the Dress-making Course

This course was designed for 8 housekeepers from the District of Lo Espejo, and sponsored by friends of the FEDES Foundation. These women wished to specialize in dress-making and design with the object of setting up their own small businesses. The course was conducted throughout October and November.



Hugo Avila, the Academic Director, congratulating the students.



Gladis Vargas, the Dress-making and Design teacher, handing out the diplomas to her students.

Esmeralda Ubilla Navarro. mother of 5.

After having lost her husband, this woman had to struggle on her own to survive and raise her children. She took on various jobs such as selling *sopaipillas* and other items on the street. When she first heard about the free courses granted by the FEDES Foundation, where materials are also distributed free of charge as part of the training course, she became very excited about the opportunity and signed up for the "Dress-making and Design" course together with her two daughters. Her goal was for the three of them to set up a dress-making shop in order to improve her quality of life.

She was so thankful that people earning low incomes like her were being given the means and opportunity to progress and get ahead in life.

She eagerly thanked her mother, a deaf-mute, and although she couldn't hear what she was saying, to this woman it was very important for everybody to know just how much her mother had supported and helped her all of her life.

We wish her the best of success.



Esmeralda, sharing her testimony with those present.



Esmeralda with her deaf-mute mother, who was very happy to be with her daughter on this very special day for both of them, despite the fact that she couldn't hear the testimony.



The PROSAM (Action for Women Programs) Consulting Company signed up for two courses to be carried out at the FEDES Foundation Facilities.

- Baking course for 15 participants.
- House Clothing Tailoring and Design Course for 22 participants.

Both courses include students from the districts of *Puente Alto* and *La Pintana*, which belong to the *FOSIS* Program within the scope of the *Chile Solidario* Program. This course also provides childcare services in order for the mothers who have small children to be able to take the course and benefit from the same.



Students show the work done during the course.

Valeska Soto, PROSAM (Action for Women Programs) coordinator, Gladis Vargas, a tailoring teacher, with a student receiving her diploma.

After the diplomas were handed out there was a cocktail, and the cakes and pies were made by the students of the Baking Course.



The Baking Course



The Baking Course students with teacher and chef Patricia Turen, showing the products they baked.

Chef and Teacher Patricia Turen with the students who completed the course.



Chef and Teacher Patricia Turen handing out diplomas to the students who took her course .



Training Shift for JUNAEB (*Junta Nacional de Auxilio Escolar y Becas*) Laboratories and External Auditing Companies

Objective: Training the external auditing companies and laboratories in new technologies (cook and chill) which JUNAEB is incorporating in its School Nutrition Program.



Teacher: Dr. Manuel Espinoza, a Biochemist and expert in institutional food preparation, and the President of SOCHMHA.



Teacher: Mauricio Eugenio Donders, a UTEM (*Universidad Tecnológica Metropolitana*) Academic.

Program:

- Registration and distribution of materials.
- FEDES Foundation Presentation (Steven Colón)
- Presentation of JUNAEB objectives (JUNAEB representative)
- A summary of the background, projections, and difficulties involved in the "cook and chill" technology for catering services in Chile. (Dr. Manuel Espinoza)
- A summary of the "cook and chill" technology and system (definitions, operational flow, machinery, and others). Quality Assurance. Mrs. María Angélica Ruiz, the General Manager of Marbu.
- *Gamma cuatro* technology, growing and treatment of vegetables and fruits. Carolina Aravena, Chief of Quality Assurance for *Dole Chile S.A.*
- Evaluation of the training-production facility. Workshop at the training-production facility. Evaluation of the processes, fulfillment of prerequisites for food innocuousness, HACCP system. (Mauricio Donders, a UTEM academic)



Narrator: María Angélica Ruiz, Commercial Manager of Marbu.



Narrator: Carolina Aravena, Chief of Quality Control for *Dole Chile S.A.*



Lunch for participants.



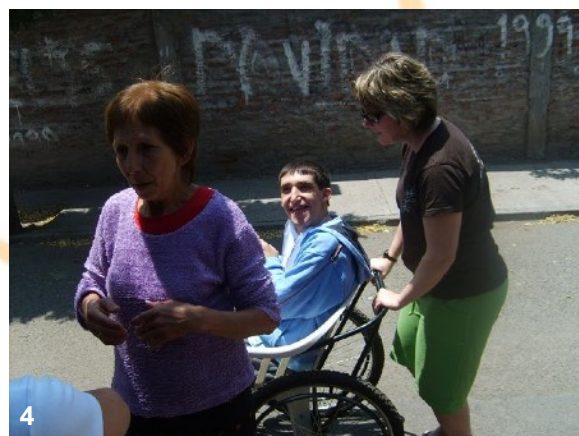
During 2007, 7,418 wheelchairs were donated to low income bracket disabled persons.



Photograph 1: Mathew and Chantal Mills, Major Mauricio René Ramírez, Captain of the 49th Precinct of Quilicura, and Agueda
Photograph 2: Mathew and Chantal, Agueda, and Noncommissioned Officer José Guzmán together with the family of Mr. Félix, a person to whom a wheelchair was given.
Photograph 3: Together with Mrs. Elizabet Canales and her family, who received food and toys.
Photograph 4: Chantal taking Nicolas, 20, for a ride.



This Christmas Matthew and Chantal Mills, a couple from Canada who came to spend their honeymoon in Chile and who want to contribute and cooperate with humanitarian aid projects, visited us. They contacted FEDES through our webpage and talked to us about what they hope to accomplish. We invited them to help us distribute wheelchairs to low income bracket disabled persons. On this particular occasion the Quilicura precinct, with which we have worked for many years on joint community-aid projects through its Captain Major Mauricio Rene Ramirez, provided us with a police vehicle so that noncommissioned officers José Guzmán and Aníbal Herrera came along with us to visit families who had received wheelchairs. We had the chance to visit 8 families with whom we shared wonderful moments. It was really moving and rewarding for Matthew and Chantal, who enjoyed Chile's cordiality and affection.





Jeimie Makarena 14 years old. Due to asphyxia during birth, she is blind and disabled. Her wish was to get a “donkey ride” (what she calls a walker) for Christmas, as her grandfather had made her a wooden walker when she was a child and she wanted another one. When we arrived, she was seated with her head bowed and did not want to speak until we told her that we had brought her a Christmas present from Baby Jesus, a “donkey ride”. She immediately lit up and said, “My donkey ride! Baby Jesus has brought me a donkey ride, I’m so happy! Now I can walk with my donkey ride.”



Photograph 1,2: Juan and Verónica, Leonardo and his daughter Claudia (27 years old), Gladis Vargas, Agueda, and Noncommissioned Officer José Guzmán. Verónica told us how when she had Claudia at 14 years old. Asphyxia during birth caused her neurological damage and a mental disability, and then at 3 years old she contracted meningitis. It was very difficult for her to take care of a disabled child, as she was so young herself. She had to quit school in order to take care of her little girl. She learned to cook and started selling lunches throughout the neighborhood in order to support herself. The wheelchair is a great help in moving Claudia around, who is very active in spite of her disability and has learned to get in and out of the chair on her own. The doctors say she has the mental capacity of an 8-month old infant.

Photograph 3: Mr. Irineo, 76 years old, had his left leg amputated due to diabetes, and has problems with his right leg. He lives with his brother and nephews at their house. Every morning they used to put him outside in a chair and leave him there alone until the afternoon. Each time Noncommissioned Officers José Guzman and Anibal Herrera did their rounds in the area, they would stop to visit him, for which he is extremely grateful. We went to visit him for Christmas and take him some sweets. He cried tears of joy over the fact that we went to spend time with him and told us that he's been happier since he received his wheelchair as now he can move about and go to the neighborhood fair where he entertains himself with all the people there.



Distribution of 600 wheelchairs in Concepción, a joint project with Senator Alejandro Navarro. This campaign has been carried out since last year. This year, 700 wheelchairs were distributed for Christmas.



Photograph 1: Raul Escobar, Warden of the Ingri Riffo Prison, Agueda Martin, Giusti Echevarria, Steven Colon, and the police officer who is the assistant of the Warden of Ingri Riffo. Raul and Giusti are two inmates who we have had the honor of meeting. They have told us their life stories and how God has changed their lives for the better. They participated in assembling the wheelchairs and were present at the wheelchair distribution ceremony.



Photograph 2: Senator Alejandro Navarro and Steven Colon, handing out a wheelchair.

Photograph 3: Senator Navarro, Steven Colon, and three volunteers from the Distonia Organization which works with the elderly.

Photograph 4: **Verónica Elena**, 41 years old, has been paralyzed since birth and is mentally handicapped. Her two sisters have taken her in and cared for her since their mother passed away. She never had a wheelchair, and used to move about by leaning on the stool, which can be seen in the photo. Because of this she has a spinal deformation. She was so happy to receive a gift that will allow her to move around comfortably.

Photograph 5: **Steven Colon with Teolinda**, mother of 4, who received a wheelchair, and her family. She had polio when she was 2 years old and had to manage with wooden crutches. She was so happy to be rid of the heavy crutches and to be able to move around in the wheelchair, as she works at the fair selling fruit and told us that to her, the wheelchair is like having a car. Lightening her load has made her work easier, and her health will also improve, as she also suffers from degenerative osteoarthritis.





An invitation to visit the facilities at an experimental penitentiary center, where inmates cooperate by assembling wheelchairs.



There are experimental jail centers for inmates with good behavior where they are taught a trade, and the Senator had the wonderful idea of employing these inmates to assemble the wheelchairs. The inmates work in bread factories and other small factories that have been set up for the purposes of their reintegration into society. The objective of this project is to employ the inmates in wheelchair assembly and motivate them to help low income bracket disabled persons. At these jail centers there is no need for prison bars or walls, as the escape rate is only from 2% to 5%. Most of the inmates of this new program which was recently launched in Chile actually wish to improve and transform their lives. Currently there are 40 inmates at the reintegration center where we are working, and the goal is to have 100 inmates in the short term.

Photograph 1: Ramiro Peñailillo, Regional Prison Corps Director, and Steven Colon.

Photograph 2: Senator Alejandro Navarro, Ramiro Peñailillo, Regional Prison Corps Director, Steven Colon, and authorities of the institution.

Photograph 3: Inmates assembling wheelchairs at the jail center buildings.



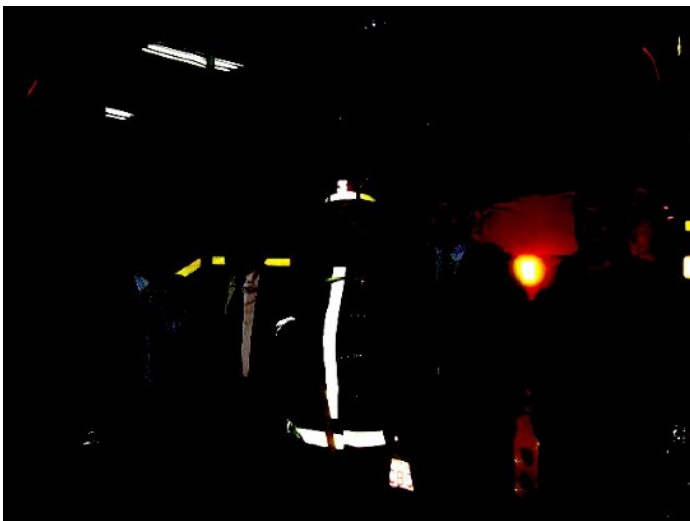


DONATION OF FIRST-AID MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO THE THIRD COMPANY OF THE QUINTA NORMAL FIRE DEPARTMENT.

This volunteer group is responsible for providing aid in automobile accidents and other civilian emergencies for one of the largest areas of the city.



Steven Colon and Agueda Martin with officers of the Quinta Normal Fire Department Company, donating medical supplies for first-aid.



Steven Colon with Mr. Daniel Castro, the Director, who invited him to get in the fire truck and wear the uniform.