Foundation Newsletter



April 2014

General Update

April is set to be a month with a lot of change. 6 volunteers are leaving with some coming back briefly and others saying goodbye for good. It has also meant we've had to rearrange the schedule a little to accommodate a smaller volunteer group but it certainly won't stop us doing work with children at the foundation.

Medical program

Volunteer Suzy has left us here at the foundation but is still working very hard in Venezuela as part of the medical program. She has spent much of April helping in Chririkayen. Suzy's background as a nurse has made the transition easy and allowed her to offer her own experience to the local medical staff. She is responsible for a range of medical task from administering vaccinations to helping with births in the village.



Safety in Venezuela

Luckily for everyone the political situation in Venezuela is improving. Representatives of the government recently and repeatedly met with opposition leaders. While protests are still on-going they are occurring less frequently. Several of our volunteers are currently travelling across Venezuela, including to big cities such as Merida and Caracas.

You should still always use regular travel advice and read from a range of sources but things are improving which is good for such a beautiful country that has so much to offer. We keep you up-to-date on political progress. Right now news is good!



Merida is a beautiful city that is very popular among tourists.

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Interview with a long-term volunteer

Katharina arrived in Venezuela from Baden-Baden in Germany. Working with the horses and children programs she explained how her experiences have helped her for the future.

"I've learnt so much in my time here.
I learnt a lot of Spanish but improved my
English too. Knowing different languages
always comes in help, no matter what you
want to do career wise.

I had also done a little bit of work with children before but at ADP I really got a chance to work with kids on a regular basis, and be involved in the planning side of things, as well as evaluations. It's very rewarding to see progress in children.

"Venezuela is such a beautiful country and Santa Elena is so calm and relaxing, but there is also plenty to do.

It's has been an amazing place to live and I would very much love to come back one day."



Farewells

Lara and Katharina are set to leave at the end of the month. Luckily for Linda and Medellin they have been left in the very capable hands of Miriam. Before Lara and Katharina both head back to Germany they are set to explore Venezuela a little more by stopping first in Merida before heading up to relax on several beaches in the north. Thank you girls for all your hard work you will be missed by all, especially the horses.

Julia, Sara and Rick are also leaving and will travel to Colombia to see some more of South America. Thank you all for your hard work and effort.



Get in touch

Don't forget to follow us on our new Twitter account, <u>@AldeasDePaz</u>, and to like us on <u>Facebook</u> for frequent updates on our projects here at the foundation!