

## January 2014

### [Happy New Year](#)

From everybody here at Aldeas de Paz we would like to wish you a happy New Year. Thankfully 2014 hasn't started with any bangs yet, but we are already gearing up for a few busy months. With lots of new volunteers arriving very soon and new children we expect to have lots to do in the coming weeks and are hoping 2014 will be as eventful and fun as 2013 proved to be. As always all our important events will be covered in the monthly newsletter, Facebook and Twitter.

### [A little extra help](#)

We've been extra lucky recently with help from a German family who are also living on the hill.

The Lehues, from Fürth, husband and wife Clemens and Susanne to children Silas 17, Jana 10, and Daria 7 who are visiting Clemens's sister for 6 months have been extremely active with helping in many areas of the foundation. They are 3 months into their trip in which they hope they will learn more Spanish, experience a new culture and new way of living.

Silas, has been helping Erve with the tree nursery program as well as other maintenance around the foundation.

Clemens said the family considered the trip for a few years and decided now was the best time, with schools and other preparations.

"We've made the right decision to come, we were nervous because there was so much to do planning wise, and it would be a totally new way of life. But we are very happy we did. Living on the edge of the Grand Sabana, with incredible mountain views with wide views and clean air, its truly something else and really impressive."

Jana, has started school and is now attending classes completely in Spanish.

Susanne and Clemens have been helping with the children in arts and craft lessons which the children love.



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### New children for a new year

We strive to make sure that our work is not limited to only a small group of children so we are constantly making efforts to engage with families all over the area.

In January we have invited new children to the foundation.

Of course this means we need to also monitor their progress as they stay with us. This has been useful for Tatiana as she sees how the process begins as she herself learns how we work. So far everything has gone well, and she is already bringing her own ideas for new activities and games.



### Arrivals and departures

Zena has left us early which means Spanish lessons are now being taught by Maralyn a Venezuelan special needs teacher. Lessons are completely in Spanish which is challenging but still fun. We have however welcomed some new faces to the foundation. Erve has arrived from Switzerland to join the tree nursery program, Tatiana from Denmark is joining the school program and Helena from the USA is on the medical program working in town at the hospital. Helena a pre-nurse student will soon be joining an expedition to go to indigenous village Kavanayen. She had to get a ride from an ambulance that was going back to the village from Santa Elena. She will spend 3 months working alongside two medics and one indigenous nurse with an option to extend her stay if she wishes. Helena will live in the town and work daily at the hospital. The majority of the work will be helping birthing and looking after the mother and child afterwards.

The program is open for anyone with any level of experience and people who may want to consider future medical careers are encouraged to join.

Please follow us at [@AldeasDePaz](https://www.facebook.com/AldeasDePaz) for frequent updates on what's happening here at the foundation! And don't forget to "like" us on Facebook if you haven't already.