

## July 2015

### General Update

We entered the second month of the school, Mamá Elba and the children are progressing. In addition, our multimedia volunteers have successfully started interviewing for our documentary against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children.

### A progress of the children

Two months have passed since Mama Elba has started. Although it is still early to have a huge impact, we are starting to see positive changes in the children. We would like to introduce the case of 5-year-old, Alicia. When Alicia first came to us, she was shy and did not speak.

After a month of the school, she became more active and is learning some words; like names of color. We believe there are two main reasons for the progress; the efforts of the teachers and her experience with playing with the other children.



Alicia and our teacher Ani

Our teachers tried to communicate with her through some special toys to stimulate her senses. Although she did not respond actively for weeks, she became to know the names of the objects and has enjoyed learning the new words.

We have seen tremendous progress in her interaction with the other children. Through conversations with other students, and playing with them, she is becoming more comfortable with others and more active.

We are so happy about this progress because our mission is to improve their well-being through education. We will continue our efforts to help develop their skills!

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### Interviews – Multi Media project

Our multimedia program against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children is ongoing. Our volunteers started filming in the first week of July and continued through the whole month.



An interview with Liyana Pavón,

The interviews took place not only in Samaná but also in the beautiful cities of Cabarete and Santo Domingo. We had the pleasure of interviewing people such as, Liyana Pavón, Specialized State Prosecutor for Human Trafficking and sexual exploitation of children and Nilka Castillo, Magistrada of Samaná. We thank all the local authorities and all the people who took the time to talk to us about such an important issue.

We are happy to announce that our work will continue next month to our final stage, postproduction. We plan to release our documentary by the end of August, to all possible media outlets; such as television, radio, social networks.

### New volunteer info

In the beginning of July, we welcomed Marco from Italy. Marco is interested in all aspects of Multimedia and is co-producing our documentary.

Our third volunteer in the Dominican Republic, Bianca, left in July. Although she stayed for a short time, she was a huge help in the making of our documentary, and helped teach English to some of our staff.

### Get in touch!

To get in touch with us , send us an E-Mail at [mail@peacevillages.org](mailto:mail@peacevillages.org). We are always welcoming new volunteers! Don't forget to follow us on our new Twitter account, [@AldeasDePaz](https://twitter.com/AldeasDePaz), and to like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/AldeasDePaz) for frequent updates on our projects here at the foundation!