



▲ Fundación Amanecer (“Sunrise”) was founded in 1991 to develop programs, projects and activities in the areas of social, community, cultural and enterprise development. These seek to harmonize both the inner and outer aspects of human development, allowing for transformation of the spirit and well as improving material conditions. After five years working with the International Child Development Program (affiliated with UNICEF), the Fundación became an independent non-governmental organization.

PROGRAMS STARTED BY FUNDACIÓN AMANECER

The Fundación Amanecer develops both short- and long-term projects. Fourteen years ago a preschool was started, with a primary school added five years ago. These serve children from poor communities in urban and rural areas around La Tebaida. The Fundación created the Talents Program, to help develop the creative abilities in children. This operated from 1997 through 2000, when it evolved into a new program, Fuerza Joven (“Youth Strength”) for young people at a high risk for addiction, and their families, in the towns of Cali, Jamundi and La Tebaida. In response to the 1999 earthquake, the Fundación provided a residence and psycho-social assistance to 110 children and their mothers for 18 months. This program was recognized by the Province as one of “Quindio’s Worthy Neighbors.”

CURRENT PROGRAMS

Fundación Amanecer continues its work with preschool children (ages two through five) with the day center Semillitas (“Little Seeds”) of Amanecer started fourteen years ago. This program serves 24 children from the poor communities around Amanecer as well as rural areas including Embera Chamí, an indigenous community.



This is the only preschool the Colombian government supports in this area, and offers a nutritional program.

The school Nuestra Señora de Fatimah, operating for five years, provides free education for 43 youngsters from first through fifth grade. The focus of the school is to implement sensitive and caring curriculum that allows children to express their nature and develop a love for learning. This facilitates the growth of their minds and character.

Fundación Amanecer cooperates and establishes strategic links with other organizations to help develop its goals. It has the advantage of drawing on community residents – over 100 local people participate and offer support to the programs. [SD](#)

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In Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)