



# **Susila Dharma International**

## **2005 ASSOCIATE MEMBER ANNUAL REPORT**



### **PROJECT LEADER CONTACT INFORMATION**

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### **STAFFING**

(a) Current board members: Regina Bianchi (chair) – Monica Ponce (secretary) – Alfredo Gemesio (treasurer)

Staffing: Sonia Serna – María José Etchenique – Elisa Sanchez Caballero

(b) Describe your project's paid and volunteer staff including job titles and number of staff:

Everyone is a volunteer.

Regina Bianchi – General Coordinator

Sonia Serna – Teachers Coordinator

María José Etchenique – Children's Workshop Coordinator

Elisa Sanchez Caballero – Information support and computer assistance

### **LEGAL INFORMATION OF PROJECT**

The organization is registered as a tax-free Foundation.

### **PROJECT SUMMARY**

After carrying out sustained work in the rural community of Villa Rafael Benegas, Córdoba, Argentina for a period of four years, we know there is a big impact on children's creativity.

Reading and games have become the gateway to increase self-esteem, creativity, curiosity and most importantly critical thinking. Therefore, this project was a unique experience in these children's lives.

To give an example, for many of these students, it was the first experience in having a book in their homes.

The aim has been to develop and increase innate capacities, and encourage them to image and hope for a worthwhile future.

We design for all schools a creative space for children which should be lead by teachers who are truly motivated and involved in the project of improving the quality of their students' lives.

To carry out this objective means to empower students with the capacity to lead their own lives and imagine other conceivable futures for a wholesome life where is what is lacking may become only a temporary condition instead of an enduring scar.

For those schools who request it, we offer children's books and games which we lend for one month.

We guide and assess them throughout the development of these activities in the best possible manner.

The project carried out by Fundación Despertar in the rural school in the community of Villa Benegas was chosen and awarded by the Camara Argentina del Libro (Argentine Chamber of The Book) in March 2006.

**Describe the following:**

(a) the key activities of your project:

The aim of "La escuela cuenta" project is bring children's books to the rural schools in the Department San Alberto, Córdoba, Argentina to allow reading to be a rich and creative experience to empower children.

(b) the beneficiaries of your project, and how they participate in the project (if applicable):

The 31 rural schools in Department San Alberto (county), Córdoba, Argentina.

(c) the number of people receiving services from your project:

Until now, 90 students from 5 rural schools.

(d) links your project has with other organizations, NGOs, United Nations, government agencies, etc.:

The project has the approval of the local education ministry and receives support of local town hall.

**2005 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS**

Please describe your project's accomplishments and highlights during the past year:

(a) notable developments:

It was able to evaluate the four years work through creativity workshops whose main points were the encouragement of reading and games.

(b) milestones met:

The teachers had difficulties in accepting initiatives that come from outside the official educational system.

(c) special activities:

Narrative and reading motivation workshops with teachers from five rural schools using reading as a pleasant and creative tool to promote students' resiliency in adverse environments.

## **PROJECT GOALS**

(a) List your project's major goals for this year:

Enlist volunteers from students at teacher's colleges to develop reading motivation activities in five rural schools.

(b) Describe your project's goals for the next 3 years:

Increase the amount (from 350 to 1000) of available books to be loaned that will allow us to bring mobile libraries to more schools.

## **NETWORK ASSISTANCE**

(a) Describe how the Susila Dharma network might assist your project in reaching these goals:

We need donations to buy a larger amount of books to reach the thirty-one schools.

(b) Describe your relationship with your Susila Dharma national organization:

The work of SD in Argentina has been fluctuating. It is not clear for us its functions, purpose and role in Argentina.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT (\$US)**

### **Revenue**

(a) total income: \$1,900

(b) revenue from Subud sources (list): \$100

(c) revenue from other sources (list): private donors, trusts, foundations, grants, government agencies, etc.: \$1,800

### **Expenditures**

(a) total expenditures: \$1,750

(b) amount spent on delivering services or activities of the project: \$950

(c) amount spent on project operations: \$800