



LIGHT AND HOPE: BRIGHT FUTURES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS.

ROTARY CLUB : BOGOTÁ USAQUÉN
CITY: TOCANCIPÁ- CUNDINAMARCA, COLOMBIA

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

objective: To expand the coverage of the Hogar Amparo Quin of the Fundación Proyecto Unión to offer emotional and therapeutic assistance to children with mental and cognitive disabilities and diseases requiring special care, in order to improve their quality of life. This will be achieved by guaranteeing a safe and welcoming environment that promotes the comprehensive well-being of each child and favors equitable development in the community.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Within the IV phase of construction that is being carried out at the Hogar el Amparo Quin, our project seeks:

1. The provision of 6 rooms with 21 special hospital beds for children with reduced mobility.
2. The acquisition of therapeutic material: This material will be used for rehabilitation techniques, helping to improve the motor and sensory capacities of children according to their pathology and individualized therapy program. A comprehensive approach will be implemented in the therapies.
3. The purchase of an industrial washing machine: The current capacity of three domestic washing machines will be supplemented. The population served will increase by 40 children, that is, there will be a 40% increase in the total number of items to be washed.

HOW WILL THE PROJECT ADDRESS THESE NEEDS?

1. The purchase of 21 beds that:
 - a. Have adjustable backrests that prevent aspiration and asphyxiation.
 - b. Facilitate changing position every two hours, to prevent bedsores and skin lesions.
 - c. Have railings that minimize the risk of falls.
 - d. Have height adjustments to facilitate therapeutic processes and assistance by caregivers in daily life activities.
2. With the acquisition of therapeutic material consisting of:
 - a. **Therapeutic plasticine:** Strengthens fine motor skills by working the muscles of the upper limbs.
 - b. **Sensory balls:** Improves muscle tone, strengthens muscles, and promotes balance and proprioception, in addition to stimulating vestibular integration for better sensory adaptation.
 - c. **Weights:** Activate proprioception, increase muscle strength, improve balance and stability, and facilitate the rehabilitation process.
 - d. **Kinesiology tapes:** Benefit neuromuscular activation, improve posture, and optimize the functioning of the musculoskeletal system.

3. With the purchase of the industrial washing machine:

Each of the current washing machines washes 750 sheets, 1,000 blankets, 1,000 items of clothing, and 375 towels weekly, which are generated by the care of the children living in the home. The industrial washing machine has the capacity to wash 975 sheets, 1,300 blankets, 1,300 items of clothing, and 490 towels each week. This will allow the Amparo Quin Home to meet the washing needs of the 40 new children.

PROJECT BENEFICIARIES:

- a. Direct beneficiaries:** 188 children distributed in:
- 100 children living in the Amparo Quin Home, children abandoned by their family and living under the protection of the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare (ICBF). These children have various pathologies, with cerebral palsy being the most frequent, affecting 60% of cases. In addition, 20% of the children have been diagnosed with autism, while 10% have developmental delay. The remaining 10% are children with other pathologies.
 - The "Life and Day Care" Program serves a total of 88 children, who attend the Home only during the day and live with their families. These children have various pathologies, including: cerebral palsy (27%), autism (20%) and moderate cognitive disability (6%). In addition, some suffer from imperfect ontogenesis (6%), Down syndrome (4%) and other pathologies that make up the remaining 37%.

b. Indirect beneficiaries:

- 134 family members of the children who attend the Amparo Quin Home daily.
- 580 students who do internships at the Amparo Quin Home in their academic training process for the management of diseases requiring special care.

The socioeconomic profile of the families of the children served in the program shows high rates of vulnerability: 26% live in extreme poverty, 23% have a low educational level, and 20% face unemployment. In addition, 10% are single mothers, 8% are migrants, and a similar percentage is in a situation of forced displacement. There is also a 3% rate of teenage pregnancy and 2% of orphanhood.

SUSTAINABILITY:

The Fundación Proyecto Unión has had an agreement with the ICBF since 2010 to provide comprehensive care to children, adolescents and adults with mental disabilities and special illnesses throughout the year. To work with the ICBF, it must meet infrastructure, equipment, food service requirements and have qualified personnel, including caregivers, nurses and an interdisciplinary team.

53% of the beneficiaries are abandoned children under the protection of the ICBF, in the administrative process of rights. It is crucial to implement the "PYC Implementation and Qualification Proposal", which must detail the individual care of the beneficiaries in areas such as psychology, social work and pedagogy, along with legal documentation and fiscal commitments.



In addition, according to the ICBF Operating Manual, the use of three monitoring tools is required for each user:

- Initial Evaluation 5 days after admission.
- Integrative evaluation one month after arrival.
- Case plan one month after admission.
- Follow-up to case plan every month.

IS THE COMMUNITY INVOLVED?

The Proyecto Unión Foundation has a community committed to the implementation and continuity of its projects, which includes beneficiaries, professionals from various areas, care staff, families, student interns and administrative staff.

- 1. Psychosocial team:** Made up of 2 social workers, 1 psychologist, 2 educators, 1 workshop facilitator, 1 physiotherapist, 1 head nurse and 15 assistants. With the expansion of the IV phase, the staff will increase as necessary.
- 2. Maintenance of medical equipment:** There is an exclusive person responsible for its conservation, with preventive maintenance every 3 months and alliances with specialized companies for unforeseen events.
- 3. Volunteers:** Includes children from 5 years old to older adults, with an average of 5 doctors and 5 educators who volunteer each year.
- 4. Academic allies:** The Foundation collaborates with institutions such as the Universidad de la Sabana and UNIMINUTO, allowing approximately 580 students to do internships in areas such as physiotherapy and medicine annually, accompanied by 10 teachers monthly.
- 5. Multidisciplinary care:** These alliances facilitate the care that the beneficiary population needs, thanks to the joint work of students and teachers.

CONCEPT	VALUE IN PESOS	VALUE IN DOLLARS
Cost of the project	Cop \$158.097.500	USD\$39.524
Local Club	Cop \$10.000.000	USD\$2.500
International Club/s	Cop \$	USD\$
District 4281	Cop \$4.000.000	USD\$1.000
International District/s	Cop \$	USD\$
The Rotary Foundation	Cop \$	USD\$

Thanks to your support, our club will help the community by solving its most important needs. We appreciate the analysis of this project. For more information, contact:

Name: Juan Felipe Moreno Ríos
Email: juan_rios12@hotmail.com
Telephone: 3202359488

