

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

Thanks to your sponsorship, children and families are making positive changes in Río Seco. Learn more about the valuable ways your support has benefitted them.

This year, we focused on protecting children from violence, preventing teen pregnancy and empowering young women to become financially solvent. 30 women and youth-led organisations have received seed funding from Plan to pursue entrepreneurial projects.

Simultaneously, we provided resources at 6 schools for students with special needs. 809 young participants belonging to 26 youth networks were reached by Plan projects, as well as thousands of additional teens who learned about sexual health and reproductive rights.

Your sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Río Seco.



35

Schools received necessary supplies



30

Women's and youth organisations received funding



3022

Teens and pregnant women received doctor home visits



COVID-19'S IMPACT IN BOLIVIA

Hear from Marisol about how COVID-19 has impacted her community.

"Plan has done a lot in my community. My mum told me that they supported us so that we have water, and during the pandemic, Plan brought biosafety supplies for the school like facemasks and sanitiser. Here, people say that Plan did not abandon us."

CASE STORY: SAFER CITIES FOR GIRLS



NAME: BELÉN

AGE: 14 YEARS OLD

HOBBY: VOLLEYBALL

“The best thing about being a community leader is helping and supporting more girls. I dream of an inclusive society without violence.”

Meet Belén

Like your sponsored child, Belén has been empowered by Plan International to change her life. Belén lives in San Pablo de Guarayos, a community six hours outside of Santa Cruz. Growing up in a family of musicians, Belén fostered a love of volleyball, and dreams of studying medicine.

Improving Measures for Safety

Belén's mother is a strong force in their community, and a role model to her teen daughter. Watching her mother speak to groups, Belén learned valuable lessons about confidence and leadership.

This year, Plan International selected Belén to be in charge of their Way Home programme, which focuses on protecting communities from crimes against women, particularly human trafficking. Belén now meets with other women leaders from her community to discuss the dangers they face and to brainstorm prevention.

In Bolivia, human trafficking is a significant issue. From January 2019 to June 2021, the country had 3,541 reported cases of human trafficking and smuggling.

Girls Become Leaders

Through Belén's work with Plan's Way Home project, she has become more passionate than ever about using the tools of education and prevention to protect girls and women in San Pablo de Guarayos.

Belén's role in the Way Home project allows her to build agency, confidence and self-esteem through a position of leadership that fosters deeper conversations about safety for girls and women between community members of all ages. The women leaders of the Way Home project strive toward creating a city in which “no woman is a victim.”



Belén is becoming a confident leader.

WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 5,142 CHILDREN IN RÍO SECO

OUR PROJECTS IN RÍO SECO ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



From football to sexual education, this year's projects in Río Seco encouraged girls to feel powerful.

RAISING THEM WITH CARE



The pandemic has caused an increase in teen pregnancies and violence. In 2021, Bolivia's Attorney General registered 8,133 cases of violence against women, children and teenagers.

This year, Plan International fostered more than 211 in-person workshops dedicated to preventing gender-based violence and teen pregnancy. As a result of these workshops, 2,099 caregivers have learned about protecting their children from these dangers.

2,348 teenagers took part in lessons about contraception and safer sex, while 180 community leaders received training on sexual and reproductive rights. 11 health centres received equipment for adolescent care, which included the donation of 1 septic tank in the Chijipina Grande Health Centre.

EMPOWERING GIRLS THROUGH SPORT



We are fighting deeply-rooted inequalities through football. Via a partnership with UEFA (the European Football Association), Plan International is offering extracurricular football to boys and girls in Río Seco.

This year, 327 teenagers participated in social football workshops and games. By demonstrating their prowess on the field, girls challenged existing stereotypes about women in sports and found a new sense of agency.

Their lessons were bolstered by the support of 41 teachers and municipal authorities who used an approach of violence prevention and gender equity to encourage students to learn more about rights and gender-based violence. 15 participating educational units were provided with football equipment, including balls, whistles and first-aid kits.



"Football is not only for men. I am committed to moving forward as a leader, and through football to continue promoting gender equality, without violence against women."

- Navi, 12, from Río Seco

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



20%

Of teens under 20 in rural Bolivia have already been pregnant



22%

Of teens in Bolivia are married before age 18



32%

Of women in Bolivia do not earn their own income



Your support helps girls and boys to stand up for their futures.

- Teen pregnancy is statistically higher in rural areas. We will continue our work to educate young people about the consequences of young motherhood.
- Children are under- or unrepresented in policy decisions. We will continue our work to empower local children to speak up for themselves.
- Throughout Bolivia, there is a lack of adequate health and care supplies for sexual and reproductive health. We will work to improve these resources for teens, including sexual education.
- Almost 70% of young women in rural areas of Bolivia live in poverty. We will continue our work to empower young women to enter the labor market.

We know the best is yet to come, and together we will continue to work for a brighter, happier future for the children in Río Seco.



“Thank you very much for your invaluable contributions and solidarity, which enables us to make a difference in the lives of the children, adolescents, families, and communities where we work.”

Luis Iturry U.
Programme Area Manager, Río Seco

YOUR GENEROSITY WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT CHILDREN IN STANDING UP FOR THEIR FUTURE AND RIGHTS