

ANNUAL UPDATE

BOLIVIA

RIO SECO



Together with your sponsorship, children and families are making positive changes in Rio Seco. Learn more about the valuable ways we work with children and communities.

This year, key projects focused on empowering young people to create change in their lives, families and community. The ARRIBA Project, short for Achieving Reproductive Rights in Bolivian Adolescents, gained vital information and resources on sexual and reproductive health and rights among youth. Also this year, young people gained economic independence by raising sheep and llamas.

As a result of these initiatives, youth and their families have a happier, healthier future.



74

Youth were trained on raising small livestock



14

Health centres received mobile phones



50

Youth created action plans on violence prevention

“WHEN I GROW UP, I WANT TO BE A DOCTOR. I WANT TO CURE PATIENTS, TO HELP PEOPLE AS PLAN HELPED ME.”

Camila, 10-year-old Sponsored Child





NAME: VERÓNICA

AGE: 18 YEARS OLD

DREAMS TO BE: AN AID WORKER

“MY PARTICIPATION IN DIFFERENT WORKSHOPS WITH PLAN HAS HELPED ME OVERCOME MY FEARS AND EXPRESS MYSELF.”

Meet Verónica

Like the child you sponsor, Verónica is taking steps towards achieving her goals and building a stronger future for herself.

She is a charismatic young woman interested in a variety of activities, from dance to cooking to academics. Now, as a leader in her community, Verónica has become a role model for other girls and young women.

A Cycle of Inspiring Young Leaders

Verónica's mother died when she was small, leaving her and her siblings in the care of her hard-working father. Her family's livelihood comes from agriculture in a rural area, and Verónica has worked since she was young to pay for her studies and activities.

At age eleven, Verónica was inspired by the energetic and creative teenagers she met through a Plan International school visit. These young leaders motivated her, and she became an enthusiastic participant in Plan leadership programmes. In the following six years, her engagement has been life-changing: She's now studying psychology at a top university, with support from a scholarship she earned through a Girls Take Over event.

On the Path to Success

At the Take Over event, Verónica impressed the audience with a powerful speech where she shared the challenges that young women in rural areas face in order to access a university education. Winning the scholarship as a result opened an opportunity that she describes as “once in a lifetime.”

Now at school in the city, Verónica is focusing on her studies and achieving her dreams – and she is still engaged with Plan, acting as a leader to inspire the next generation of girls. She says: “For me it is a fundamental part of my life.”



Verónica took over as Vice-Rector of the university

OUR PROJECTS IN RIO SECO ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



991 women participated in training sessions on family planning, birth spacing, birth plans and identification of danger signs during pregnancy.

INFORMATION TO SAVE LIVES



Bolivia has high rates of maternal and neonatal mortality. It is vital that young people, especially women, have information and resources on sexual and reproductive health. The ARRIBA Project aims to empower adolescents, young women, and pregnant women with a gender-transformative perspective.

This year, 1,352 adolescent and adult girls and women strengthened their agency with workshops on self-esteem, sexual and reproductive rights, violence prevention and feminist leadership. In addition, men learned about healthy masculinity, violence prevention and active fatherhood.

More than 390 health providers strengthened their skills to provide maternal, neonatal and sexual and reproductive health services with gender sensitivity, and traditional medicine providers trained in maternal health and violence prevention.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUCCEED



Empowering young people with learning, leadership and economic opportunities enables them to achieve independence. The project called Opportunities for the Empowerment of Young Adolescents, strengthens the technical capacities of young people aged 14-24 and helps them develop skills and knowledge to succeed.

Here, youth learn about small livestock production, entrepreneurship and leadership. For many young people, especially women, this is a way to improve their family's living conditions.

This year, participants raised llamas and sheep and received training in small livestock production, with assistance on the construction of stables and veterinary first aid kits.

“Thanks to the project I had the opportunity to learn and practise in the field of management, health, improvement and feeding.”

- Edith (17) from Rio Seco



YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



The best is yet to come – and together we will continue to work for a brighter future for the children in Rio Seco.

- Only 32% of four-year-olds have access to early learning. We will continue to promote early childhood education to help preschoolers reach their developmental milestones.
- Rates of youth unemployment in Bolivia are high and continue to grow. To help, we will improve the development of skills and leadership with young entrepreneurs in our community.
- Many people lack information and resources for sexual and reproductive health and rights. We will work to minimise gender gaps, ensuring that adolescents and young women have access to information.

Thank you for your continued support.



“We empowered youth organisations with a gender approach, feminist and inclusive leadership, achieving significant changes. Thank you for your collaboration.”

Oscar Ayllón
Programme Area Manager

THE PLAN EFFECT



Your sponsorship commitment becomes long-term change – providing help for self-help. We involve children at the centre of all projects, bringing effective and sustainable solutions to families and communities. With Plan’s Effect, your commitment helps empower communities to transform their lives and futures.

THE LAST 12 MONTHS



JANUARY



27

Midwives were integrated into health care establishments

MARCH



66

People were trained in sexual abuse prevention

MAY



40

Youth participated in gastronomy training

AUGUST



24

Health facilities improved with equipment and training