

ANNUAL UPDATE

BOLIVIA

TARIJA



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

This past year, key projects empowered youth to participate in decision-making spaces, and to protect themselves against exploitation.

For example, young people learned about human trafficking and ways to protect themselves against abuse. In addition, young women participating in Leaders Camp learned vital skills to help them advocate for their rights.

As a result of their advocacy, youth and their families are working towards a happier, healthier future.



83

Initiatives improved community spaces such as school gardens



390

People trained to assist families who have experienced violence



6

Parent clubs formed to cascade knowledge to other parents

“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 making 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 TARIJA ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



Advisory committees for the project were elected by the participants. These committees will support the “Opportunities to Empower Adolescents and Youth” project to advocate for the needs of youth.

GROWING WOMEN LEADERS



Gender discrimination and lack of opportunities limit the ability for young women in Tarija to lead.

Because young women do not have equal chance to participate in decision-making spaces, public policies do not respond to their needs.

The Leaders Camp strengthened the leadership of young women, empowering them to become agents of positive change and advocates in their communities. Nineteen young women leaders participated in the summit, training in economic empowerment, gender equality and protection. Currently the leaders are organising an awareness workshop with authorities from their communities, in order to present their proposals for inclusion in the Municipal Plans.

As a result, the voices of young women will be heard and included in decision-making spaces.

PROTECTING AGAINST TRAFFICKING



A recent report revealed that 73% of crimes related to human trafficking involved female victims, mostly 11-18 years old.

It is vital to provide young people with information and resources to stay safe. This year, the first Hackathon Against Trafficking project was implemented. As a result, 1,809 adolescents and young people between 14-21 years old were made aware of human trafficking and methods of prevention. The project used workshops, art and technology to raise awareness and foster conversation.

In addition, parents and educational councils learned about human trafficking and ways to protect young people, especially girls, from exploitation and abuse.

“I learned about human trafficking and the dangers we face on social media. Participating in the workshops helped me gain confidence to speak and express myself in front of the public.”

- Lucy (17) from Tarija



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 Tarija.

- Gender discrimination in decision-making spaces remains a challenge. Through advocacy campaigns, we will work directly with girls to raise the platform for their voices to be heard.
- We will strengthen protection services to minimize the threat of child trafficking, and educate children on situations that put them at risk.
- Developing the leadership skills of adolescents and young people will continue to be a focus, especially for sexual and reproductive health and rights. We will support the creation of local policies in favour of children and youth.

Thank you for your continued support.



“Thanks to your support we achieved significant changes. We developed protection mechanisms against human trafficking and strengthened trust in adolescent healthcare.”

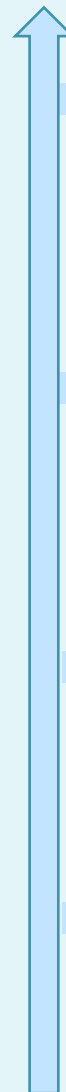
Carlos Jalil
Programme Area Manager

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



FEBRUARY



250

Community leaders advocated for gender equality

MARCH



19

Women strengthened their leadership capacity

MAY



210

Fathers promoted raising inclusive families

OCTOBER



1809

Youth learned about human trafficking