

## June 2013

### General Update

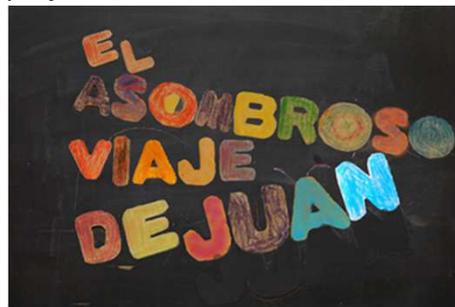
June has been a great month here at the foundation. We reached our fundraising goal and Eilin will receive an operation for her back. A new volunteer has been working at a local kindergarden, we had a goodbye bon fire for two long term volunteers that left, two volunteers visited Angel Falls and four volunteers spent the weekend at an indigenous village a couple hours away. We now have two multi-media interns and the story project is moving along well; read more about all of these things and a few others here!

### Work at the Foundation

#### Multi Media Project

Upon the arrival of a multi-media intern, we have really been able to learn a lot about what it takes to complete a multi-media project, as we will be completing "El Asombroso Viaje de Juan". We call it "The Kids' Movie" because the kids played a major role in creating it. The final story, about a child's dream which takes him to a variety of places meeting different animals along the way, will be a stop motion animated movie. The children have been taking their time to complete the drawings that will be viewed in the movie. They have also been practicing reading the story as it is the children who will be the narrators. Also, a volunteer has recorded a beautiful song to be used as well. Our multi-media interns will spend the next few weeks editing and

completing the first part of the project, as it will surely offer a tremendous sense of pride for the children when they can view the final version of their project.



### Rally at the school

Earlier in the month, we had a themed rally in our school! The children were divided into three groups and each volunteer had a "station" where the groups needed to complete a task in order to receive a piece of a puzzle. The first group that was able to put together their entire puzzle won (the prize was a balloon). This class worked out so well that we have begun to use a theme each week to be incorporated into the classes. For example, the themes have been "The Sky," "The Earth" and "Animals". The children played a game of Bingo with the English words they learned about the earth, while they learned about meters, kilometers and measuring distance in mathematics and they learned about continents, oceans and cultures of the world in geography. Each group was given a short script that was practiced and at the end of the class, each group was able to stand in front of their peers and perform their skit. A very enjoyable day!

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### Anthony volunteers in indigenous daycare

Two of our volunteers visited a daycare nearby in an Indigenous village. The children, aged 0-5, spend most of their days there, eating and showering there as well. They now have a teacher, but they have very few toys and opportunities to thrive. One volunteer, Anthony, leaves our mountain top home very early each morning to walk to the daycare and provide the children with much needed mental stimulation and play time until he leaves at their nap time.

### Farewell and Hello

This month two of our long term volunteers – Kim and Ashley – returned to their own families and we said goodbye with a bonfire and fiesta. A few neighbors from the mountain and Santa Elena joined us for the enjoyable evening. There were a number of guitarists and singers to provide entertainment for the beautiful evening. Following the German tradition, we cooked “Stockbrot” over the fire, as we shared laughter and memories. Later in the month we had to say goodbye to Edith, our Venezuelan volunteer for 4 weeks. She has been extremely helpful in our classes, being the initiator behind the themes we now use every week.

We also got a bunch of new Volunteers, this month mainly from the United States. They fill the gaps left by the going Volunteers.

### Santo Angel

Liz and her son Ally who was visiting Venezuela for a couple of weeks went to Angel Falls, a natural wonder of the world located in the Gran Sabana. They got to walk behind “Salto Sapo” (large waterfall) wearing only swim suits and socks, to prevent slipping. They traveled up river in a motorized, dug out canoe where four hours passed tirelessly as the 360 degree views were stunning.



It was a little scary, but very entertaining as they got to ride over quite a bit of rapids. They spent the night in a hammock camp then rose at 4:30 to walk to the viewing place for the falls. It's a fantastic sight and definitely one of the top things to do while volunteering. Going in June seems to be a perfect time as well, enough water to make the river trip possible and to see a good amount of water in the falls, quiet because its off season and actually less wet than it would probably be in July or August. Definitely an unforgettable experience.

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### A weekend in Chirikayan

Our worker for the horses and maintenance – Geder – who lives at the Foundation and is a part of our ADP family is from an Indigenous village located a few hours away by taxi. Four of the volunteers had the wonderful opportunity to accompany him home for the weekend. There are 30 round and domed community homes in the village, along with a one room school, a church brought by the missionaries over half a century ago, a building meant for meetings in the



center of the village, along with a very small store and areas where volleyball or football can be played. The water supply is the creek that flows by, which is also where swimming and bathing takes place. Geder, Anna, Charmain and Edith spent Saturday hiking to a beautiful water fall where they swam and had lunch. Jennifer spent Saturday in the village swimming and playing with the children, her new teachers of the Taurepan language.

The weekend was amazing, as the village is incredibly peaceful and the surrounding views are almost surreal.

### Fundraising for Eilin Torrealba –

We are so happy that we can announce that we have reached, and surpassed our fundraising goal to help Eilin.

Past and present volunteers reached out to their friends and family around the world and we were able to raise more than the \$5000 USD needed. Additionally, Eilin’s mother was able to fundraise a substantial amount of Bolivares to cover their transportation and lodging while in Caracas for the operation. She has also found an organization that will donate a new wheelchair.



So we will be able to use our extra funds to provide a tutor for Eilin. She is 7 years old but has never been able to attend school to begin learning. She will need to continue her tutoring beyond what our current funds provide, and we are hoping that we will continue to receive donations to be able to provide her with ongoing education.

If you would like to contribute to Eilin’s education, please visit this site and contribute to the PayPal account created for Eilin.

[www.peacevillages.org/FundraisingEilin](http://www.peacevillages.org/FundraisingEilin)