

IN THIS ISSUE:

June 2010 - Number 16

[\\$8,000 Raised in December Mailing Campaign](#)[Save the Date: Annual Fundraising Event on October 20](#)[News from the Field: Liceo Jubilar and Centro Los Pinos Join Forces](#)[Annual Call for New Grants Applications](#)[Success Stories: Casa Lunas Changes a Mother's Life](#)[Promoting Solidarity and Sports](#)[Other News](#)[Private Drives and Donations](#)**PREVIOUS ISSUES****PROJECTS WE SUPPORT****WATCH OUR VIDEOS!**

Reaching U year by year:

2009
2008
2007**GRANTS****Learn how to apply for a grant****Deadline to apply for a grant: 7/31/2010****ABOUT US**
BACKGROUND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
US TEAM
URUGUAY TEAM
DONORS
TESTIMONIALS**VISIT US AT**» www.reachingu.org**facebook****\$8,000 Raised in December Mailing Campaign**

Our traditional semi-annual membership drive was sent out in December 2009 and we are happy to report it was a success. Our US-based donors and supporters responded very favorably and helped us raise **\$8,000**.

Once again we thank you all for contributing. We sincerely appreciate your help and support every year.

This year Reaching U is supporting 16 organizations for a total of \$217,000. Our portfolio has increased the weight of educational projects aimed at teenagers, while we are still supporting other educational and health programs. Our after-school and schooling programs are showing a significant impact on our kids' learning and school completion levels as well as promoting habit formation and a sense of social inclusion. The programs directed at mothers and pregnant women are providing global housing, legal and job training solutions to women experiencing social isolation, domestic abuse, housing problems, and lack of employment opportunities. Finally, our health programs are making a strong difference in the health of newborns to poor mothers in the biggest maternity ward in Uruguay.

We estimate we are currently reaching 220 kids aged 12 and younger, 500 teenagers, 200 mothers and pregnant women (most of them teenagers), and 600 hospitalized pre-term newborns. We are also having an indirect impact on around 3,000 kids through a teacher's training program on sexual and reproductive health.

Save the Date: Annual Dinner and Silent Auction on October 20

Reaching U's annual fundraising event, which consists of a dinner and both a silent and live auction, will be held on **October 20th at Guastavino's, located at 409 East 59th Street in New York City.**

More than 300 guests are expected to honor former **United States Ambassador to Uruguay from 2006 to 2009, Frank E. Baxter**. During his tenure, Ambassador Baxter played a crucial role in strengthening and intensifying the political, commercial, and cultural relations between both countries.

Before his appointment as Ambassador, Mr. Baxter, who is currently Chairman Emeritus of Jefferies and Company, Inc., a global investment bank, had a long and successful career in the finance industry. He served on the board of NASDAQ and is also a former director of the Securities Industry Association. He has also been involved in numerous civic and philanthropic activities throughout the years, such as the Alliance for College-Ready Public Schools, an organization dedicated to starting a number of charter schools in Los Angeles. Mr. Baxter has been the recipient of several distinctions, among them the Bet Tzedek, House of Justice Award and the City of Angels Award.

For tickets, sponsorship opportunities, and information, please contact Fernanda Guliak at fguliak@reachingu.org.

News from the Field: Liceo Jubilar and Centro Los Pinos Join Forces



Jubilar and Los Pinos students

Seeking to encourage synergies between different organizations, Reaching U is funding a project jointly implemented by **Liceo Jubilar middle school** and the **Los Pinos after-school educational center**. The project involves providing extra tuition and additional training to 20 teenagers aged 15 to 18, who finished their third year at Liceo Jubilar or attend Los Pinos center.

The objective is to support them in this new stage of education and to prevent them from repeating grades or dropping out from the formal system, a common problem in the Casavalle neighborhood where these two organizations are based.

The joint project is progressing successfully and students receive extra classes three times a week at Jubilar and Los Pinos facilities in subjects they are struggling with in high school. They also go to the Uruguay-USA Alliance to learn English and participate in music, theater, and IT workshops. Other activities include a training course in PC repair to improve future job opportunities and, as if this was not enough, the boys play rugby twice a week. The project also plans to cover the bus tickets for those who cannot meet this expense and a daily snack for all the students.

We believe this is a good example of how two organizations can share their experience, expertise, and financial resources to ensure that poverty does not prevent these children from completing their high school education by giving more and better opportunities.

Annual Call for New Grants Applications

The deadline for social organizations to submit new projects is July 31, 2010. We are looking for **innovative proposals with measurable impact**, which achieve a significant change in the lives of beneficiaries.

This year, we want to prioritize projects aimed at **improving the quality of the education of children and teenagers at social risk**.

To apply, you must download the funding application form from our [website](#) and return the completed form to reachinguruguay@reachingu.org.

Success Stories: Casa Lunas Changes a Mother's Life



Teen parents and their children at Casa Lunas

Casa Lunas provides integral support to pregnant teens and socially vulnerable moms. Reaching U has been supporting Casa Lunas for 10 years by funding different programs. This year we are financing a workshop that seeks to provide financial independence to a group of moms through the production and commercialization of hand-made soap.

Sandra was 14 years old when she arrived at Casa Lunas. She was referred by a Violence Institute which assisted her due to the physical abuse she suffered from her boyfriend. "If we argued about something he would start beating me, he'd hit me with anything, push me against the floor...", says Sandra.

This abuse quickly became part of the relationship; the cycle of violence and the feelings associated with it (fear, impotence, shame) appeared. "I didn't know what to do, I loved him and I didn't want to leave him... he'd cry after hitting me and beg for my forgiveness... It didn't matter what I had done, he'd always find a reason to hit me," she says.

When Sandra became pregnant, she was afraid of losing her child due to the beatings. In one occasion she was hospitalized after a violent assault, and the doctors reported the situation to the police. "At that moment I thought: 'if he wants to do this to me, fine, but I cannot let him do this to my child.'" She felt completely helpless, until she joined Casa Lunas.

She took part in the activities held at the center from the 26th week of her pregnancy until her son turned two years old. During that time, Casa Lunas supported her to build a healthy relationship with her child. Last year, the center worked with her and her family to ensure that both she and her child could have access to an education. She soon began studying to become a hairdresser, and her child was enrolled in kindergarten. She has ended her relationship with the father of her child and is currently attending the fourth semester of the hairdressing course, and her child continues to attend kindergarten. A few months ago she signed up with a well-known institution and will begin to work in December.

Promoting Solidarity and Sports



"Los Primitivos" with their special fans after the race

Since several of the organizations supported by Reaching U are in the vicinity of the "Maroñas Running" 10K route, the foundation coordinated a gathering between the group of runners that supports Reaching U since 2009 –Los Primitivos– and teenagers from these organizations.

Boys and girls from Banneux, Liceo Jubilar, and Centro Salesiano de Aires Puros were the most enthusiastic fans with their signs and cheering. They accompanied Los Primitivos before and after the race, and shared snacks and shirts in what turned out to be a very joyful and relaxed afternoon. All

those who participated felt part of the same team, had fun and benefited from the mutual support.

Other News

Board Changes. It is with great pleasure that Reaching U's Board of Directors welcomes its newest member: **Pablo Milburn**. Pablo has demonstrated leadership and commitment towards Reaching U in the past few years. Pablo and his wife Josefina were key in the organization of the Roberto Canessa Conference in Miami in 2009. Please join us in welcoming Pablo to our team.



Liceo Jubilar's team in Madrid, Spain

Great accomplishment by Liceo Jubilar. We would like to share with you some great news from one of our partner organizations that illustrates once again the excellent results that can be obtained from a good investment decision. This decision not only implies funds allocation, but also a bet in certain educational values and methodologies.

Fundación Telefónica, through its program "Proyecto Pro Niño" (Pro Children Project), organized a contest among 102 schools in Latin America called "Periodista Hoy Escolar" (Student Journalist Today). Students of Liceo Jubilar won the first prize with their blog "Jubinformativo" and were awarded a trip to Madrid, Spain! This represents a unique opportunity for these students, most of whom have never even traveled beyond their neighborhood. Congratulations to Jubilar's students, teachers and the rest of the team for this great recognition!

Reaching U Financials have been audited. If you would like to receive a copy of our financial statements please [contact us](#).


Private Drives and Donations



Patricia and Antonella da Camara at their birthday celebration

In February two of our Washington DC volunteers celebrated their birthday and encouraged their friends and relatives to **donate to Reaching U instead of giving presents**. Thank you Antonella and Patricia da Camara for such a generous initiative, and thanks to all of their friends who participated.

Donations in memory of Mrs. Yolanda Moreira, Mr. Walter Przepiorka, and Mr. and Mrs Ray Wilkins. We would like to thank Mr. Jorge Moreira and Mr. and Mrs. Weisz for having thought of Reaching U while honoring the memory of their loved ones. A total of \$850 was raised in memory of Mrs. Yolanda Moreira and \$870 in memory of Mr. Walter Przepiorka Weisz. In addition, we received a generous donation from Mr. Michael Wilkins in



the UK, in memory of Ray & Barbara Wilkins who loved living in Uruguay
from 1947 to 1952.

**Thanks to the generous contributions of people like you we can help
underprivileged mothers and children in Uruguay.**

**Reaching U, A Foundation for Uruguay
PO Box 3251
New York, NY 10163
United States**