



Bible Clubs and Sports Program CUBA

Miguel is 18 years old and has been active in the **sports program in Havana, Cuba** for the past couple of years.

“Before I met Jesus I was disrespectful toward my parents and I insulted them with swear words. In general I had problems speaking properly with other people. Even people that I loved I treated badly. I made fun of old people. I lied, I was lazy and a mocker. I took advantage of people.

I was nervous and shy, and I always thought that I could never have a family of my own. I had always wanted to become a professional soccer player. I didn't like school and I didn't have any friends.

I thought a lot about death and I wanted to die. I didn't know what would happen after death and I was afraid that no one would miss me.



▲ Miguel



▲ Soccer team

Since I've committed my life to Christ my life has changed completely. I hardly ever argue with my parents. I have many friends. I hardly lie nor do I make fun of other people. Now I help wherever I can.

I want to work in IT now and in church I want to coach soccer for the kids. I want to have my own family and get a job. Today I also know that when I die I'll get to be in heaven with God.”

What is it about?

The living conditions of children and adolescents is characterized by poverty, crime, drug trafficking and spiritualism. In the Bible Clubs and in the sports program they get social assistance, hear the Gospel and they are taught Christian life values.

Prayer requests

- For the spiritual and material needs of the coaches that are sharing God's Word every week.
- That the young Christians are faithful and true in their challenges.

→ Please pray for this mission project and donate on the bank account below. Thanks!

Project: R 26500



Social Center Diadema BRAZIL

The social center is organizing special parties on a regular basis that are attended by 400 supervised kids and youths with their families.



There are birthday parties as well as special events for their families. For Christmas, all kids got presents.

The participants of the sports project got real soccer shoes for the first time.

On a weekly basis there are about 100 kids that attend these that are between 8 and 15 years old. Training together and doing different kinds of sports are especially appealing to the boys. For one, it's a good possibility to share the good news and on the other hand it adds to the social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development of the kids.



In the devotions the kids are invited to start a relationship with Christ. Many ask for prayers for their families. There are several sad reasons that are mentioned: family members are drug addicts or sick and therefore unemployed which leads to hopeless situations. Often these kids live in violent surroundings. These families are being cared for by the social center pastorally as well as socially.

What is it about?

Children and young people in need are taken from the street – away from drug-related crime and violence. They are lovingly cared for, get to know God's love, receive good food, join games and sports activities, and get learning support, various courses and social assistance for the whole family.

Prayer requests

- For the kids that have been in difficult families and environments from the beginning on.
- For the team working with those kids, for wisdom and strength.

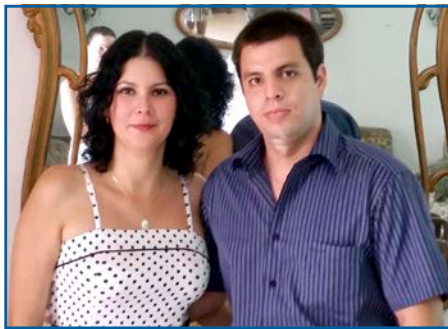
→ Please pray for this mission project and donate on the bank account below. Thanks!

Project: R 23060



Church Planting in Jesus del Monte

CUBA



▲ William and his wife Ismarai



▲ Sports program

We got new staff for the mission work in Jesus del Monte: William (28) and his wife Ismarai. William explains how it came about:

“When I was about 18 years old I asked myself important questions: Is there really a God? Does my life make sense? I read a lot of books. But as much as I read, I would never receive an answer. Someone gave me a New Testament in English. I took it because I wanted to practice the language and not because I wanted to know God better. It is incredible how the words reached my heart even though I hadn't been looking for God. Soon I would go to church regularly. I got saved and attended a discipleship training and I also got baptized.

On the day I got saved I told Ismarai that it was my desire to become a pastor one day. A little later Pastor Vladimir told me to take a look at 1 Timothy 3:1. As soon as I got home I read the verse: **„This is a trustworthy saying: If someone aspires to be a church leader, he desires an honorable position.”** I could feel that this was the confirmation of my calling which God had put on my heart. Ismarai had the same calling. So we started doing the discipleship training together with the new believers as well as leading home churches.”

What is it about?

Jesus del Monte is a part in Havana where the occult is practiced a lot and where the crime rate is high. Here the church serves the people very practically in their everyday challenges. It makes them credible. Also, they are investing into their staff by offering training.

Prayer requests

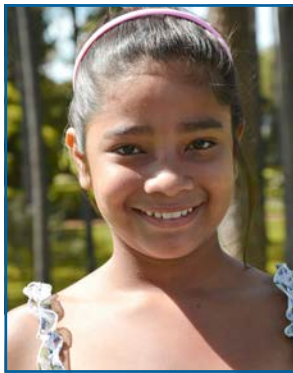
- For the new church in Jesus del Monte and for their leaders.
- For their discipleship trainings.
- We are grateful for the conversion and calling of William and his wife Ismarai.

→ Please pray for this mission project and donate on the bank account below. Thanks!

Project: R 26553



EBM MASA Children's homes ARGENTINA – BRAZIL – PORTUGAL



▲ Cecilia

Cecilia came to the **children's home in Alem, Argentina** with her three brothers about two years back. They had been neglected and practically had been living on the streets. They didn't have anything to eat since their mentally challenged mom didn't take care of them.

Cecilia was yearning so much for **love and attention**. At the children's home she learned about Jesus and the Word of God. The church also helped with that. Finally she felt safe and loved.

After a couple of months Cecilia said: "I want to see my mother." Since her mom couldn't be found, Cecilia prayed for that. A couple of days later her mom appeared at the children's home! Mother and daughter were excited about meeting up and were able to hug. Since then the mom has come to the children's home a few times but it is still obvious that she isn't capable of taking care of her kids.

Cecilia got baptized. Her confidence was contagious to other kids from the children's home. Cecilia prayed that her and her brothers could be adopted. Only a few weeks later a woman was found that took those four kids into her home. She committed herself to caring for the kids and loving them.



What is it about?

Children from broken homes, who are left to themselves and often live on the street, find a new and loving home in the children's homes supported by us in Alem, Cotia, Ijuí and Porto. In the families of the homes, they can be children again and are completely cared for.

Prayer requests

- For Cecilia and her new family. That she would keep living in faith and would be made strong.
- For the kids in the children's home and that God's love would comfort and heal them.
- For wisdom for all the staff. That they would be able to meet the kids' needs.

→ Please pray for this mission project and donate on the bank account below. Thanks!

Project: R 11880



Evangelization | Church Planting | Training

CUBA

The missionaries in Cuba are doing their work joyfully and with confidence even though they have difficult tasks and lots of challenges.



▲ Bahia Honda



▲ Eastern Cuba

In **Bahia Honda** and in **La Timba** we celebrated the inauguration of the two new churches. Though most of the new brothers and sisters have been believers for less than two years they've already passed a little exam about the Bible, the teachings, and ethics. Those exams are very common when planting new baptist churches in Cuba. It is exciting to see how much these new believers already know about the Word of God and how much they appreciate it. As soon as the group in Bahia Honda grows bigger they want to start new mission works in other areas of their region.

Last year we had 63 people graduate from the mission trainings in **eastern Cuba**. Everyone is active in one of the many **church planting projects**. By now the project has reached all regions of eastern Cuba.

On the **Isle of Youth** missionary Alfredo and the brothers and sisters of Argelia are so happy about finally having a building for the mission work which they were able to buy with the help of EBM INTERNATIONAL. For two years they've been looking and we've been praying for donations. Now it is done!

What is it about?

Hundreds of people accept Jesus as their savior. Many house churches have sprung up in recent years and churches are being planted. Missionaries, employees and church planters are trained for it.

Prayer Requests

- For the new churches in Bahia Honda and in La Timba. For them to reach the people around them with the good news.
- For the new church planting projects in eastern Cuba.

→ Please pray for this mission project and donate on the bank account below. Thanks!

Project: R 26990



Church Planting in La Perla CUBA

The young church in La Perla, Havana has five small groups. It's still growing and in 2017 they want to have another five groups and Bible clubs. They already have ten potential discipleship leaders which are being trained through seminars and camps.



Marta: „Even though my grandma always prayed with me before going to bed I had never wanted to be close to God. I did believe in God but I was also very superstitious. Only when I had two kids of my own, I felt a desire to connect with a Christian church. I told my husband we should go to a church because I wanted to be close to God. He was an alcoholic and he was feeling bad. He would always lose his job and spend all our money on alcohol. Our marriage was about to end.

A woman invited us to church in La Perla. Since then our lives have changed. We've accepted Jesus into our lives and are very happy. My husband was freed from his addiction and has become a new person.

I thank God for touching our lives. In church we have found peace and love which we needed so desperately."

What is this about?

The missions work in this slum area in Havana started with a Bible club for kids which resulted in an extensive church ministry. The church organizes breakfasts for needy children and is taking care of old and mostly poor people. This way the good news is being spread.

Prayer requests

- For the 10 brothers and sisters which show potential for being teachers, discipleship leaders, staff of projects and ministries, who are being invested in.
- For more leaders that can help build the church.

→ Please pray for this mission project and donate on the bank account below. Thanks!

Project: R 26551



REPORT

01 | 2017

Mission in Latin America

ARGENTINA – BOLIVIA – BRAZIL – CUBA – PERU



▲ Graduates



▲ Alumna

in the dusk to go to church. She was trying to light the way with her cellphone. It was all dark when we got there but an electric light was turned on which had enough energy to shine throughout the whole church service. Surprisingly more and more people showed up, attracted by the light.

An alumna of the program: "I had often heard of the CEFÓLI which is taking place in the church in Miraflores. It felt like an unrealizable dream since I couldn't go there. Thank God the training was brought to us so now we can be trained here. What a blessing!"

In the Impenetrable, which is a very poor region in Argentina, people live very spread out in single houses. There are not even villages. All the small mission works are developing well thanks to the staff training.

Pastor Sergio Valdez: "I was driving around Chaco giving out the certificates of the CEFÓLI program to the participants which had finished the first level. But in order to get to the trainings location you have to get out of the car in Miraflores and then take a minibus on a bad dirt road for another 60km. About 6km before our destination, we picked up a woman who was walking

What is it about?

We support and coach local co-workers and missionaries in social-missionary projects, church planting, theological education, staff training and various projects for children and youth

Prayer Requests

- That people that are receiving Christ would grow in their faith and also could reach others.
- For the missionaries and staff of the 20 mission places in the Impenetrable.
- For financial resources for the mission works.

→ Please pray for this mission project and donate on the bank account below. Thanks!

Project: R 11000





MANNA – Day care facility ARGENTINA

Claudia and Nestor are taking care of two boys in the MANNA project in San Luis, Argentina. They are reporting:



▲ Lorena and kids

Lorena with her sons Jonathan and Juan and their grandmother are living in a house where many criminal offenders are living. The police had to come over a lot due to loud spectacles and violent conflicts.

We wanted to protect Lorena and her family and get them out of there. The good values we are teaching in the MANNA project can't be aligned with what the kids experience daily in the house. Lorena said that they had wanted to move for a while now since her kids had been bullied. She had had enough of the robberies in the house. The grandmother was arrested when they found stolen goods at her place.



▲ Lorena's kids

With our help Lorena was able to move out with her sons. The church helped them find a new apartment and even organized a kitchen for them. Now they are living in a tiny space but at least they got their peace and quiet. The apartment is at the other end of town. That means it's a new start. How amazing that God has everything under control!

The MANNA team is excited that they have received Jesus into their lives and that they can walk a good way now.

What is it about?

Needy children from families with low-income live in „substitute families“ from the community during the day. Here, they receive food, medical care, school assistance. The families in charge share God's love, and thereby, MANNA-children and their families get new perspectives of life.

Prayer requests

- For the staff in the MANNA projects and for wisdom and strength and love for the kids and their families.
- For a new beginning for Lorena and her sons.

→ Please pray for this mission project and donate on the bank account below. Thanks!

Project: R 21290



PEPE – Preschool Program ARGENTINA – BRAZIL – BOLIVIA

The staff members of the **PEPE projects** know that God has a purpose for every child. He puts something into these children that will bear fruits. The staff function as God's instruments.



In **Alem, Argentina** PEPE has started again after a long summer break. The "Happy Hour" for former PEPE children has had a great attendance again.

In **Sarandi, Brazil** the church has a bigger involvement now in the PEPE project than before. One of the staff had started a discipleship course with a mother. Another woman wasn't able to participate due to health issues for about three months. She missed her kids: "There are constant problems because the kids are very biased. Thank God HE is helping us. Some days the kids are very restless or sensitive. Then we are fighting.



Those are spiritual battles. One of the kids for example was very rebellious. He screamed, cried, he threatened to hit us, he destroyed things. Just because of a pencil. That was more than just a tantrum. We were seeing the influence of the enemy in the life of this child. **With a lot of prayer and stillness we were able to calm down the child, by the grace of God."**

What is it about?

Children from slums get a better chance for their start of school after having attended a preschool. They are lovingly supported and cared for all around. Even their families are reached with the Gospel in their trouble.

Prayer requests

- We are grateful for the parents that have given their lives to Jesus. Now their families have new perspectives.
- For the staff to have patience and wisdom to deal correctly with the kids.

→ Please pray for this mission project and donate on the bank account below. Thanks!

Project: R 23020



Mission among the Quechua PERU

All of Peru is being affected by strong rains. Flooding rivers, mudflows, and mudslides are complicating or making the visits of our missionaries into the villages almost impossible.



▲ Sisters and brothers in Rayán



▲ Children in Rayán

Silvio and his wife Marleny have taken over the work in Rayán and Bellavista (altitude of almost 4000m). With a passionate and happy heart they are caring for 12 adults and 14 kids. Our missionary responsible for this region Hugo Mondoñedo tries to stay in touch with them:

“Since January it hasn’t been possible due to strong rains to visit some of our church ministries. The streets are completely blocked. Riverbanks are broken and many houses in Jimbe and other areas have been damaged. The government has announced a state of emergency for the whole zone so I wasn’t able to travel to

Jimbe because the roads were so bad. We were though able to get to our brothers and sisters in Casma. Today I could also communicate with our brothers and sisters from Canchas and Rayán. They are well but they are afraid that their houses will be damaged eventually.”

What is it about?

In the villages of the Andes more and more churches are planted. Many people are given hope through the Gospel; they are experiencing liberation from occult involvement. Even with natural disasters, the missionaries organize help.

Prayer requests

- For the strong rain not to destroy houses, fields, animals of our brothers and sisters.
- For our missionaries Silvio and Marleny.
- We are grateful for the spiritual growth of new believers.

→ Please pray for this mission project and donate on the bank account below. Thanks!

Project: R 24010



Social Centers ARGENTINA – BRAZIL



COTIA: The dream of the multipurpose hall has become reality! It will be used as a social center as well as for missionary church work. About 500 people came together to celebrate a happy inauguration of this building.

MENDOZA: The staff members all like to work in the social center. Three of them were reminiscing with tears in their eyes how they were reached as eight year olds through the loving activities of the social center. It is important to them to become active themselves. This is long lasting work.



Miriam Pizzi is the primarily responsible coordinator who motivates about 50 helpers with her kind nature to train and accompany them. The helpers are active in several areas: feeding poor kids (300 kids daily), PEPE (60 pre-schoolers), health care for the

poorest of the poor, kids groups, music, project with the youth, women's groups, tutoring, and church planting. Simple and small rooms are the homes for this extensive work. Here they take a little and make it big.

What is it about?

Children are left to themselves and live in the street because their parents are working or don't get along with themselves. In the social centers they are lovingly cared for, get to know God's love, receive good food, join games and sports activities, and get learning support and social assistance for the whole family.

Prayer requests

- For the teams in the social centers.
- We are grateful that God is giving us the opportunity to share the good news with the kids and their families.

→ Please pray for this mission project and donate on the bank account below. Thanks!

Project: R 23040



Church Planting in Zaldo

CUBA

Roberto (21) lives in a slum in Havana called Zaldo. His childhood was tough. His parents neglected him. He became a little rebel and constantly had problems at school. As an adolescent he partied through the nights and ended up at the police station quite a bit.



▲ Baptism



▲ Construction in Zaldo

After ninth grade he quit school and had occasional jobs. He was an insecure boy. On the outside everything seemed fine. His mother came to faith in Christ and became a member in the church in Zaldo. From that time on she started praying for him without ceasing.

One day Roberto was playing soccer with his buddy. The ball bounced away onto a terrace of a three level building. He climbed up the wall but didn't quite make it and fell down. He was unconscious for a long time and was in the hospital with a skull fracture and a blood clot. The church was praying fervently for him and the first miracle happened: his life was saved. The second miracle happened three years later: **Roberto was reading the Bible when he became fascinated with the life of Jesus. He got saved and baptized! Now he wants to study theology and spend the rest of his life serving God.**

What is it about?

Zaldo used to be known for its poverty and crime rate. With the mission work the reality of God has moved into this part of town. People are being changed through faith in Jesus and therefore the surroundings are changing too.

Prayer requests

- For the people in Zaldo. That they would reach the people around them with the good news.
- For Roberto's future.

→ Please pray for this mission project and donate on the bank account below. Thanks!

Project: R 26520