



Annual Report 2014-15



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Community Development Project in Peru expanded
- Public Engagement through third Global Youth Tour
- New projects initiated in Peru and Honduras
- Successful fund raising from private donations and grants



A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD:

Sombrilla was founded in the late 1980s, and over time has evolved in face of developing project needs, fluctuations in organizational resources, and especially changes to government funding programs. By the late 1990s, Sombrilla had begun to receive considerable grants from CIDA, a federal funding organization. With these matching grants, Sombrilla delivered several large projects over the next ten years in Guatemala, Honduras and Argentina.

Around 2006, Sombrilla no longer had access to CIDA grants, and continued to deliver smaller projects through volunteer donations and provincial grants. The projects have all been in Guatemala and Peru. Sombrilla is very proud of our accomplishments over the past ten years – our projects have provided valuable resources, services and education to several struggling communities. In addition, Sombrilla has been very stable and proactive. Each year, the Board continues to develop Sombrilla’s organizational capabilities and continues to strive to spend funds effectively on worthwhile projects with a minimum of funds used for administration.

Sombrilla is also looking toward the future. We have been actively increasing our base support in Edmonton. We have developed strong ties to several local schools and have increased our support base in the community at large. We are also anticipating the possibility of stronger support from both the provincial and federal governments in the future, which would enable us to increase our activity throughout our Latin American focus.

Over the past year, we have generally wrapped up the building component of our Yurac Yacu community centre. We continue to support the centre, and have begun planning a new project in the area addressing greenhouse developments. We have also started a new project in Ayacucho, Peru, partnering with another community centre, and a greenhouse project in Honduras. We also conducted two very successful group tours to our projects in Peru. These projects and much more are described in the sections below.

“We are very proud of our accomplishments over the past ten years – our projects have provided valuable resources, services and education to several struggling communities.”

PERU - YOUTH GLOBAL EDUCATION TOUR

In August we held our 3rd Youth to Youth Global Education Tour to Peru. After a very successful fundraising partnership with Ross Sheppard High School 8 students from that school and one from Ecole JH Picard travelled with members of the Sombrilla Board to Yurac Yacu, Peru. There they were joined by 6 local students.

The youth group spent a little over a week in the community of Yurac Yacu in the Andean highlands. They dedicating their time to work on a stove-building project, constructing stoves from mud bricks in the houses of the community members, out of whatever tools and equipment the families owned. During this time the group learned how to work together with local community members without speaking the same language and coming from very different cultural backgrounds.

SOMBRILLA’S 2014/15 BOARD OF DIRECTORS :

The Board wishes to express our deep gratitude for all of the support from volunteers, participants, partnering schools and the public as a whole. Thank you valued supporters for your continued interest and generous contributions.

Richard Heikkela, Chair
 Katrin Hoffmann, Vice-Chair
 Tracy Tanasichuk, Treasurer
 Jeff Goldie, Secretary

Sarah Cashmore, Member
 Rick Berube, Member
 Sandra Cuadra, Member
 Jamie Wilson-Klassen, Member

VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN PERU



In April of 2015 Sombrilla started a partnership with a new organization, SOMDES, in Ayacucho Peru. The organization is working with vulnerable youth from the community schools to provide them with one nutritious meal per day and vocational training so that they will be able to earn a living when they complete their schooling. Sombrilla also provided funds for a sewing program.



Children from Chajul, Guatemala, where Sombrilla has partnered with ADIM since its foundation.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN HONDURAS

Since January 2015 Sombrilla is working with the Cooperativa Agrícola Ezfuerzo Occidental Limitada (CAEOL), an agricultural cooperative, in Western Honduras. The project supports the integration of women into the cooperative by providing training and building materials for a greenhouse to grow vegetable seedlings. The women will sell the seedlings to the cooperative and earn an income to support their families.



SECONDARY SCHOOL IN GUATEMALA



In Tierra Colorada, Guatemala, we continued to support the secondary school program, which we started in the school three years ago. This year there were 100 students registered for secondary school classes. Most of them would not have been able to continue their education without the project. The plan is for the Government of Guatemala to take responsibility for this program.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY IN YURAC YACU, PERU

Community Centre

In late 2014 we finished the construction of the final phase of the Yurac Yacu Community Centre. One of the two rooms provides a home for the 20 women of the Yurac Yacu Women's Cooperative and a space for their sewing machines. We also started sewing lessons for women and youth. Sewing will give them another revenue stream for their households. The second room housed the local guides, youth from the community who are trained to offer day trips for tourists in the community.

Gynecology Project

In early 2015 Sombrilla entered into a new partnership with the Urogynecology Clinic at the Lois Hole Hospital. In April Dr. Annick Poirier and Nurse Practitioner Cheryl Caul visited our projects in Ayacucho Peru and in Yurac Yacu Peru to assess the need for urogynecological health care in these indigenous communities and to make initial contact with Peruvian health care professionals. In future they will be training doctors and nurses in Peru.

Club de Mujeres

The Yurac Yacu Club de Mujeres, a womens' handicraft cooperative, supported by Sombrilla, has given the women of the community an opportunity to earn an income. The women are working with an instructor to expand their knitting skills and business knowledge. They produce the wool from their own sheep and clean, dye and spin the wool themselves. This year they have added a sewing program.

SOMBRILLA INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

About Us

Sombrilla is an Alberta-based, independent, non-governmental organization, founded in 1985 as a registered charity to facilitate projects supporting sustainable development, social justice, gender equity and human rights.

Our Mission

Sombrilla partners with communities in Latin America to empower them to assert their democratic, economic, cultural, and social rights.

Our Mandate

Sombrilla's mandate is to walk in solidarity with our partners in the global south towards effective social change for all.

Our Partners

Sombrilla develops partnerships with Latin American community-based organizations that share our mission in order to assist them in reaching their goals.

Sombrilla International Development Society

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Sombrilla International Development Society



FINANCIAL REPORT 2014-15

Revenues 2014-15



- Donations from Individuals
- Fundraising Activities
- Donations from Business
- Grants
- Other

Expenditures 2014-15



- Administration
- Advertising and Promotion
- Project Funding Somdes
- Fundraising
- Project Funding Tierra Colorada
- Project Funding Honduras
- Project Funding Yurac Yacu
- Winter 2015 Service Trip

Sombrilla maintains a healthy balance at year-end to facilitate the continuation of multi-year initiatives.

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS AND DODONORS

Government of Alberta



CHOICES IN COMMUNITY LIVING

The Monsignor Irwin International Development Foundation

Ross Sheppard High School, Edmonton



And each of our many Individual Donors and Supporters