



Sombrilla

International Development Society

Annual Report 2015-16



A Message from the Board

Over the past year, Sombrilla has continued to help communities in Latin American by forming new part-



Richard Heikkela and Sarah Cashmore meet with project partners in Tierra Colorada, Guatemala.

nerships and continued to support our ongoing projects. We are very proud of the accomplishments and initiatives that Sombrilla and its many supporters have made possible during the past year such as the operation of a school in Guatemala and facilitating women's economic empowerment in Honduras. We continue to support communities in rural areas in the Andean highlands of Peru and we have established a

new partnership with a local organization to deliver scholarships to students in rural El Salvador with the long-term goal of promoting economic development.

The Board of Sombrilla looks forward to the many activities for the coming year. The Board greatly appreciates the support of our partners and stakeholders, both locally and internationally, which have made our projects a success.

“Approximately 25% of women suffer from untreated health problems related to pregnancy and child birth.”

2015/2016 Board of Directors

The following Board Members supported the organization:

Richard Heikkela, Chair

Katrin Hoffmann, Vice-Chair

Peter Schalk, Treasurer

Kate Reynolds, Secretary

Jamie Wilson-Klassen, Member

Jeff Goldie, Member

Bronwyn Petersen, Member

Nancy Tran, Member

Cheryl Caul, Member

Sandra Gawad Gad, Member



Dr. Annick Poirier Dr. Cathy Flood support the Urogynecology Project in Peru.

Urogynecology Project – Peru

The Urogynecology Project, initiated in Peru in 2015, is based on a partnership between Sombrilla and the Urogynecology Clinic at the Lois Hole Hospital in Edmonton.

The goal of the project is to help women who suffer from untreated pelvic-related health problems due to pregnancy and child birth. Approximately 25% of women

are affected with pelvic floor disorders, which decrease their physical, emotional and social health and reduces their quality of life.

The project aims to create a self-sustaining program by educating and training local health professionals who care for the women.

Since the start of the project, doctors and nurse practitioners from Ed-

monton have travelled several times to Peru to treat affected women and train Peruvian health professionals in Huaraz and Ayacucho. In April 2016, the team visited hospitals and health posts in both cities. The team will continue their work in Peru in 2017 and hopes to expand the training into additional areas across Peru.

Peruvian health professionals take part in Sombrilla's training program in April 2016



Food Security Project in Yurac Yacu – Peru



Women in Yurac Yacu participating in an organic gardening workshop

This year Sombrilla expanded its successful partnership with Andean Alliance in Yurac Yacu, Peru to improve access to a healthy and sustainable food

source for community members. Residents receive support to build a greenhouse or establish a family garden to produce vegetables and fruit for their families. Participants in the project complete training workshops on organic food production and vegetable cooking. Particular emphasis is placed on sharing basic nutritional concepts. Participants also provide the labour required to build the greenhouse or establish the garden. Sombrilla supported the project with funding for tools and mate-

rials. Excess produce from the greenhouses and gardens will be sold on the market as fresh or processed food and provides a source for additional income. Two of the greenhouses will be built at local schools, ensuring that knowledge is shared with the next generation.

The project builds on the success of Sombrilla’s long-term community development program in this area and partnership with Andean Alliance.

“The scholarship allows students to fulfill their professional and personal dreams.”

Education Scholarships – El Salvador

In spring 2016 Sombrilla started a new project in collaboration with CEBES PERQUIN, a local NGO in El Salvador. The project provides scholarships for young adults from rural communities to complete their post-secondary education. The partner organization in El Salvador currently supports 10 students obtaining degrees ranging from business administration and accounting

to registered nurse and laboratory technician. The scholarship allows students to fulfill their professional and personal goals.

Upon completion of their degree, students often stay involved with the program and share their time and skills with their hometowns.



Scholarship recipient after completion of his law degree supporting the local community

Other Projects and Initiatives



Students at the school in Tierra Colorada, Guatemala

Sombrilla also continued to work in partnership with community organizations on the following projects:

- Early childhood education and community development, building of a community Centre, knitting courses for women, and training for local tourist guides in Yurac Yacu, Peru
- Integration and economic em-

powerment of women into an agricultural cooperative in the rural areas of eastern Honduras

- Support for a secondary school program for 100 students in Tierra Colorada, Guatemala
- Vocational training for marginalized youth acquiring sewing skills while attending school in Ayacucho, Peru

Financial Summary 2015-16

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

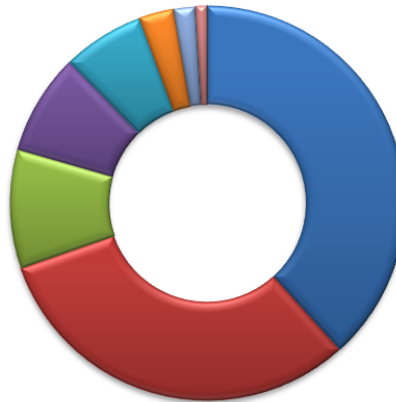
Sombrilla develops partnerships with Latin American community-based organizations that share our mission in order to assist them in reaching their goals.

Revenues 2015-16



- Donations from Individuals (39.9%)
- Fundraising (23.7%)
- Donations from Business (16.4%)
- Grants (19.3%)
- Other (0.7%)

Expenditures 2015-16



- Project Funding YY Food Security (38.3%)
- Urogyne Service Trip and Volunteer Trips (31.4%)
- Project Funding Tierra Colorada (9.8%)
- Project Funding YY Education Fund (8.3%)
- Fundraising (6.7%)
- Project Funding El Salvador (2.9%)
- Administration (1.8%)
- Advertising and Promotion (1.0%)

Thank you to Our Funders and Donors

Government of Alberta, Community Initiatives Program



CHOICES IN COMMUNITY LIVING

And each of our many Individual Donors and Supporters

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