

## Background

### Organización para la Educación y el Servicio a la Comunidad

In 1990, a resident of the Villa Candelaria (1.) area told Mrs. Beatriz Band the situation that he and other "relocated miners" from Oruro and Potosí, were facing. Authorities were threatening to demolish their homes as they had been built illegally. With the support of pioneer volunteers he was able to intervene, managing to stop the demolitions as well as initiating a program of support to the families.

Conversing with the mothers, a "Mothers Club" began to suit their needs. Outdoors in a Pahuichi of palm trees, educational talks were given



surrounding family, health, hygiene. As more parents participated they rented a room where El Lic. Sergio



Saavedra, head of the pedagogy, and his students organised a literacy program for mothers and crafts

classes were also given.

Several doctors of the Christian Comunicad Cochabamba (Doctors: Rojas, Maldonado, Saavedra and Borda) also offered their services attending to families for free. They also supported the young people of this church and the pastors Fabio Restrepo and Paulino Paco through the word and Biblical teaching.



Due to malnutrition suffered by many children, there was a need to open a dining room. It began under the style of Ayni, which worked with the mothers taking it in turns to rotate the cooking while the others went to work. Subsequently, a need was observed for the education of the younger children. They



started teaching the children in a pahuichi of palm trees and then in six containers donated by the



Band family on land bought thanks to the support of the family Zandbergen amongst others. In this field little by little they were building the classrooms thanks to the support of Mr and Mrs Cordell who

were overseeing the construction.

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<sup>1</sup>Peripheral zone of Cochabamba, located on the hillside in the North of the city.

In 1991, the Wiñay Kusi Children's Center was founded to provide initial education for children from 8 months to 4 years. Subsequently, in 1994, the primary school "Nuevo Conocer" began its work, continuing to integrate the educational services of



these two levels, in favour of the boys and girls of Villa Candelaria and the surrounding neighborhoods. Thanks to the support of the Edunámica foundation in 2007 the new infrastructure of the center was built, thanks to this the children can learn and

develop in spacious, bright and beautiful classrooms and recreation areas. We are grateful for the support that still continues, of the spouses Lauchenauer in the organisation, infrastructure, fundraising and others for school and children's center.

Seeking to generate income that contributes to the educational programs, the Mikuniy Project was created in 2001. It generated income, which aided the production of natural and nutritious food based on Andean cereals.



In 2006 the "Love in the Times of Aids" Project, PATSIDA, was initiated. Its objectives are to raise awareness, train and mobilize churches and educational units in order to help prevent HIV/AIDS within their community. Education is also provided to cushion the effects of discrimination and encourage solidarity with those who are affected.

