

AGTR ANNUAL REPORT 2017

It is gratifying to share the progress of the *Asociación Grupo de Trabajo Redes* (AGTR) in the year 2017.

Change of institutional premises.

In September of 2016, AGTR rented an old three-story house in the district of Lince (Avenida Ignacio Merino 2618). However, this place needed many changes to be operational. We can only say that it has been *fully utilized* in 2017. The smaller size of our new headquarters has allowed us to free ourselves from some older furniture and materials. The new house is a friendlier environment than our previous site (in La Victoria). Although we will always have space for Sunday workshops with girls in child domestic work (CDW), we decided that, in this new location, we would allocate more space for the employment agency, *La Casa de Panchita S.A.C.*

Project: “Empowering Child Domestic Workers in Peru”.

After five years, (May 2012 to April 2017) this project was completed by AGTR with the guidance of Anti Slavery International and funds from Comic Relief (both from the United Kingdom). We are pleased to report that the project was evaluated by Dr. Leda Pérez, with very favorable results in the fulfillment of the proposed objectives. Dr. Perez wrote:

"Outcome 1: 5,160 child domestic workers (CDW) increased their self-esteem, they were recognized as CDW, and understood the risks associated with this occupation. Result 2: 502 families became aware of the real situation of the CDWs and protected their children by withdrawing them from work, whenever possible, or took measures to improve their situation. 177 employers of CDW worked to improve the working conditions of the children. 200 local authorities and leaders recognized the CDW, joined awareness campaigns and supported community development organizations (CDOs). Result 3: Five CDOs developed their own activities and obtained alternative sources of funding. Outcome 4: 487 teachers learned to identify CDW and provide support. 638 adolescents doing domestic work, who live with their employers, were motivated to maintain communication with their families by their teachers. Result 5: Progress was made in the inclusion of child domestic labor in the National Strategy for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor (ENPETI) and in the implementation of policies on child labor. Political advocacy efforts were enacted around the importance of ratifying Convention 189 of the International Labor Organization (ILO).

AGTR and Anti-Slavery International have also achieved their goals in the five indicated areas of results. The most visible advances have been made in raising awareness about the risks and rights related to child domestic

labor among CDWs, parents, teachers, employers, policymakers and the general public.

The role of both radio programs, but particularly *No Somos Invisibles (We Are Not Invisible)* in Lima, which includes a national weekly audience of more than 30,000 people, has served to positively influence the knowledge of listeners in relation to the risks involved in child domestic work, and the rights of children who participate in it.

CDOs have also played an important role in involving communities in the issue of child domestic labor. This has been possible thanks to the direct services provided by local youth leaders who have played a *critical* role in supporting CDWs and raising awareness among mothers about the risks and rights of CDWs. As a matter of political concern, the rights of the CDWs are now considered within the National Committee for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor (CPETI) and AGTR is attributed as having been the organization responsible for putting the issue on the table.

While Peru has yet to ratify ILO Convention 189 and ensure that government agencies act quickly to protect the rights of CDWs, AGTR's continued participation in CPETI and other state agencies is important to keep the issue on the political map. A continuing challenge is the structural poverty of Peru, including the lack of State sponsored support systems for families, which makes the total elimination of child domestic labor difficult. Other challenges include getting full participation from schools and teachers and reaching out to the children's employers."

Despite these *important* achievements, AGTR knew that this project could not be renewed. As a result, their activities ended, with the saddest being the end of support for the five groups of former CDW (CDOs) that serve children in CDW and at risk of CDW in their communities.

Month of voluntary work.

During the month of May, AGTR did not receive financing for an institutional project. Thanks to the voluntary work of our team, as well as some of our own funds, we were able to continue with our activities.

Project: "Empowering women through dignified work and the recognition of their civil rights."

Thanks to the Inter American Foundation - IAF (USA), on June 1, AGTR was able to start this new project, with a duration of three years, to support adult women working in domestic service. In the first 7 months of work, our advances have been:

- 1.) Contacted women in markets and fairs, informing them of the law 27986, law of domestic workers. Those who showed interest in getting a job in domestic service were invited to come to *La Casa de Panchita*, that is, a total of 530 women. This activity is possible thanks to the fact that the project allowed the

acquisition of a van ("la Van de Panchita") in which the work team moves. This initiative has received the support of the Ministry of Labor and Employment Promotion (MTPE), which has sometimes allowed a lawyer to accompany us; as well as the support of the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations (MIMP) for the recruitment of users. Likewise, foreign volunteers participate in field trips.

2.) Labor training of 219 women in our institutional premises. A total of 29 came motivated by the Van and 190 by their own interest. This year the sessions continued on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday (three hours each day), focusing above all on the empowerment of women including reassessment of their culture of origin and their work, knowledge of the law, and improvement in negotiation with a possible employer.

The project has also achieved: Dissemination of the rights and responsibilities of workers and employers through the weekly radio program "We are not invisible", as well as information about child domestic work. It should be noted that in these months, 139 calls were received from listeners and, as a result, 46 of these people came to *La Casa de Panchita* in search of work. It should be noted that this task is also done through the social networks of AGTR.

Political advocacy, which is carried out with the MTPE and with the CPETI (National Committee for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor). In the first case, it is worth mentioning the permanent collaboration of the MTPE with the project; In the second, on June 20, the CPETI, sent an invitation to the AGTR to participate as a guest in the committee, in recognition of the work being done.

Project: Promoting the rights and well-being of girls in domestic child labor.

In 2016, thanks to the support of the Sisters of St. Joseph (USA), eleven Sunday sessions with girls were held at LCP, in which 112 girls participated. Between March and April, in 2017, AGTR followed up with 45 girls and adolescents in CDW, who attended the workshops in 2016.

It was possible to interview 39 girls, finding, among other things, that they had achieved the following:

- ✓ They knew their rights, including their right to good treatment.
- ✓ They reported better self-esteem; They expressed feelings and emotions.
- ✓ They lost the fear to expose their ideas and lead a group in the different activities of the Sunday sessions.
- ✓ They reinforced and practiced teamwork through various games and dynamics.
- ✓ They knew where they should go if they needed support.
- ✓ They strengthened the bond with their mother, and increased communication with her.

- ✓ They were motivated in their creativity through various crafts

Project: Promoting the health and well-being of girls in domestic child labor.

This project was carried out thanks to The Sisters of the Bon Secours Ministry Grant (USA), an organization that financed the holding of 10 Sunday workshops in *La Casa de Panchita*. It was scheduled that in the months of May to September, 114 girls attended twice, divided into five groups; 220 attendances were achieved.

A total of 28 girls attended one day and 88 met to go two days. Subsequently, 57 relatives of the girls could be contacted and interviewed to verify their achievements. Likewise, 66 entrance and exit tests (PES) were compared to verify their achievements. Among these, we highlight:

- ✓ 23 girls did not know what it was like to work in domestic service or its risks; in the exit test it was found that they had learned about the subject. The girls recognized that what they did for their uncles and neighbors like washing dishes, cooking or caring for other children *was*, in fact, *a job*.
- ✓ Of the 66 girls, they all had some knowledge about how to care for their oral and corporeal health; after the two workshops they learned more. They loved the gift kit, comprised of a towel, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush and shampoo. The girls were able to improve their hygiene using all these products.
- ✓ Of the 66 girls, 24 thought they should tell their mother about their problems. After the two workshops, the 66 girls improved their relationship with their mothers. The girls who were quiet with their family improved communication with their mothers, and they were excited to know when they could come back to *La Casa de Panchita*.

Project: Nourishing Capabilities: Empowering Women as Family Providers

This project was made possible thanks to the support of Buddhist Global Relief. In 2017, between January and June, half of the project was carried out, which consisted of offering job training to 100 women who worked in domestic service to improve their negotiating skills, obtain more dignified jobs and, in this way, improve their contribution to their family. The women also improved their self-esteem and reassessed their experience and cultural background of origin.

Of the 100 women trained, 61% were between 31 and 50 years old, 80% were from the provinces, 52% were single mothers and 81% had children. A total of 85 were employed.

Project: Ex-child domestic workers (CDW) protect other CDWs in Peru.

This project was possible thanks to a donation from LUSH, charity pot (Canada), from January to December. The funds received have allowed two of the small community development organizations to continue their activities during this year.

1. The "Jugando Aprendo" playroom, located in the district of San Juan de Miraflores, Lima, was able to do the following:

- ✓ 32 workshops with CDW on Saturdays. A total of 38 participants (26 women and 12 men), with a total of 435 attendances. 5 recreational-cultural excursions to strengthen the relationship between daughters in adolescent domestic work and their mothers. 29 adolescents participated, between 12 and 17 years old (16 women and 13 men), as well as 26 parents (17 women and 9 men).
- ✓ Political advocacy when attending the sessions of the National Committee for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor (CPETI) to advocate for the situation of the CDW. Social impact in Lima, when delivering publications to schoolchildren, parents and university students, in fairs: "The world in our hands", "The future in my hands" and "Law of domestic workers".

2. The group "We are present and we want to change the future", located in the city of Cajamarca, Cajamarca. It was able to do the following:

- ✓ 32 workshops in Alternative Basic Education Centers (CEBA), attended by 21 girls, with a total of 384 attendances.
- ✓ 5 recreational-cultural excursions to strengthen the relationship between 20 daughters in adolescent domestic workers and 15 mothers.
- ✓ Political advocacy when attending the COMUDENA sessions to advocate for the situation of the CDW. Social impact through the preparation and broadcast of 32 radio programs a week. This work is carried out by girls in CDW and ex CDW and the programs are directed to girls and adolescents in CDW.

Project: Empowering children through recreational education.

This project was made possible thanks to a donation from the One World Foundation (Bulgaria). The project objective has been to improve access to recreational reading and recreational walks for girls and boys of La Rinconada Educational Institution 7221, district of San Juan de Miraflores, Lima. This project has been carried out from April to December and its main achievements have been:

- ✓ Implementation of 6 classroom libraries, which gave attention to 323 children (155 women and 168 men).
- ✓ Educational - recreational trips to the Fundación Telefónica space (thanks to its support with transport) in which 290 primary school children participated (139 women and 151 men). Also, 180 high school students and a total of 18 teachers.
- ✓ Three sessions of individual counseling with 36 children (14 women and 22 men) to work on reading for pleasure, improve their reading and comprehension skills, and address their personal problems.

- ✓ Twelve sessions in the classrooms about responsible decision-making to improve the self-concept and self-esteem of the participants; 289 elementary school students participated.
- ✓ A total of 34 follow-ups of motivation and self-evaluation to teachers on the use of classroom libraries to raise awareness of and provide them with educational materials to put into practice in their classrooms.
- ✓ The families of the participating children were motivated to support them in their learning thanks to the delivery of informative material.

Project: Emotional Support for Domestic Workers

This project was made possible thanks to the support of Wege zur einen Welt (Germany). The objective has been to provide 100 hours of expressive arts therapy (EAT) to workers who come to *La Casa de Panchita*. The problems addressed have been: Lack of work, romantic relationships, poor self-esteem, family violence, depression, decision-making, familial relationships, resentment, labor relations, dating violence, anxiety, and shyness.

Project: *No Somos Invisibles*: Constructing Solidarity Through the Airwaves

This project has been made possible thanks to the OPSEU's Social Justice Fund (Canada), an organization that supported 48 radio programs of AGTR's *We Are Not Invisible* (NSI), one every Sunday. In this way, it contributed to the achievement of the program's objectives: 1° Inform and raise public awareness about the situation of women and girls in domestic work; 2° Continue to raise up voices of those that are excluded by giving a voice to women and girls in domestic work through airing their testimonies, opinions, and messages; 3° Contribute to the formation of citizenship and civic responsibility in girls and women doing domestic work, explaining their rights and how to access them, as well as what to do when rights violations occur; 4° Contribute to advocacy efforts about domestic service and government accountability by hosting State level civil servants.

Individual support through The Global Giving Fund.

This organization, based in the United States and the United Kingdom, has channeled individual donations to support the following:

- ✓ Protecting 300 girls in domestic child labor in Peru (No. 7887). This is about supporting girls - and also women - who have come this year to various services in La Casa de Panchita.
- ✓ Changing the lives of child domestic workers in Peru (N° 14103). It is about supporting girls and adolescents who come to the "Jugando Aprendo" playroom.
- ✓ Give girls in domestic work a safe place in Peru (No. 19654). It is about supporting the institutional premises of AGTR to make it a friendly and safe place.

Complementary donation for women seeking employment.

In December 2017, a small donation sent by the Sisters of Providence - Poverty and Justice Fund - began to be used to interview domestic workers who come to *La Casa de Panchita* about their expectations and abilities and offer them guidance in this regard.

Contributions in voluntary work.

In 2017, AGTR was supported by 60 volunteers who arrived from Peru, the United States of America, Luxembourg, Germany, the Philippines and France. They performed 5798 hours of volunteer work.

