



CIELO de Amor Newsletter March 2022

CIELO de Amor expands to Ecuador



We are thrilled to share with you that we have started a new project in Ibarra, Ecuador, partnering with Kit Frank, a dynamic occupational therapist. Kit and her husband Robert, a prosthetist, have set up a center for prosthetics and orthotics that is self-sustaining and run by trained local staff. They have established many partners over the last 15 years and have built respect and support from local government. Last year their organization Fundacion Jen Lee fit and distributed 100 wheelchairs, CIELO de Amor are collaborating to support provision of another 100 wheelchairs and training local staff in Ibarra, Ecuador in 2022.



Chris visits Ecuador

(Left) Chris Morales the physical therapist from Nicaragua went to Ecuador in February 2022. She met the team including Kit and Alicia. Together they evaluated 60 people needing wheelchairs and helped distribute, adjust and fit chairs. Chris also gave a training to 150 students at the university in wheelchair mobility and making transfers.

Meet Alicia

(right) Alicia is the local technician. She has seven years experience making adaptations from cardboard. Chris was very impressed. Chris and Alicia have much to teach and learn from each other.



Through thick and thin, with your encouragement and generous support, CIELO de Amor continues to thrive, supporting people with disabilities and their families. Thank you so much!

Important
announcement
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Geronimo and John

(left) The local government provided transport to neighboring towns and local staff introduced Chris and Kit to people in need of wheelchairs. Having established connections made the process much smoother. Chris and Kit evaluated Geronimo in his home and have determined the type of chair needed.

(right) John has been newly evaluated. He recently became unable to walk, but his loving brother carries him. When asked whether they wanted all-terrain or a chair easier to manage in the house, his brother said "Todo Terreno! i want to take him everywhere!"



Help Us Make a BIG Impact in 2022!

We have already found and rented a wonderful new center where we can store, distribute and fit wheelchairs. We've evaluated 60 people in need of wheelchairs, and we plan to place an order for 100 simple and complex chairs., Chris has been asked to provide further trainings and we have received a grant to support this.

We need:

\$5,000 to purchase furniture, tools for repairs, sewing machine, ramp and supplies

\$2,400 to cover the rent of the new center

\$6,000 to pay for a part time wheelchair technician, preferably someone who uses a wheelchair.

Become a monthly or annual donor, in any amount, and help guarantee salaries for the local staff every year.

Give an additional one time donation, increase your monthly donation, become a new monthly donor or share this newsletter with others. It's easy to donate by PayPal or credit card on our website cielodeamor.org



Thank you...

to all our donors and supporters for continuing to stand with us as we expand to providing mobility and education in Ibarra, Ecuador. You give us strength and hope in a time where kindness and compassion are needed more than ever!

—Ruth Weinberg and the CIELO de Amor Family

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Donations can be made by credit card at cielodeamor.org/contribute/ or send a check to CIELO de Amor, 107 Ash St, Eugene OR 97402