



December 2017 Newsletter

CIELO de Amor

New Home, New Staff, New Students

We are thrilled with our spacious, beautiful, new home. All four projects (classroom, vocational program for adults, wheelchair clinic and physical therapy) are now together in the center of La Concha. We have 37 children active in the classroom and physical therapy, and 6 youth in the vocational training project. Xiomara (a mother of a child in the classroom) is a great addition to our staff helping to expand sales of delicious pastries and cakes, and hand decorated greeting cards, bringing our staff total to six.



Volunteers galore

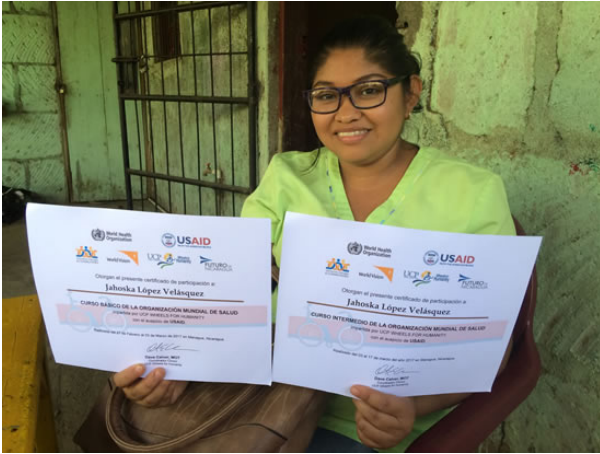
This year we had 15 volunteers coming from Europe, Canada, USA and Nicaragua. Volunteers had a tremendous impact on our program; providing hearing screenings and hair cuts, demonstrating teaching strategies, organizing and creating new curriculum materials, and building the “Swiss mountain and cable car” in our ever evolving playground. Built using local recycled materials; tires, bamboo, and plastic bottles.



Family Participation and Inclusion

Our families are outstanding and participate in a variety of activities that lead towards community inclusion. They attend trainings, board meetings and celebrate with fiestas and joining special parades. The families are actively engaged in their child’s learning and we continue outreach by supporting children and their teachers in public schools and visiting the child development center to teach sign language and build friendships.





World Health Organization standards of wheelchair provision and follow up

Jahoska, physical therapist completed the World Health Organization training in basic and intermediate wheelchair provision and has been passing on her knowledge to staff and families.

We continue to follow up on more than 200 children and adults who have received chairs from us in the last three years, repairing, adjusting and exchanging chairs as the children grow. **More than 75 children and adults received new chairs.**



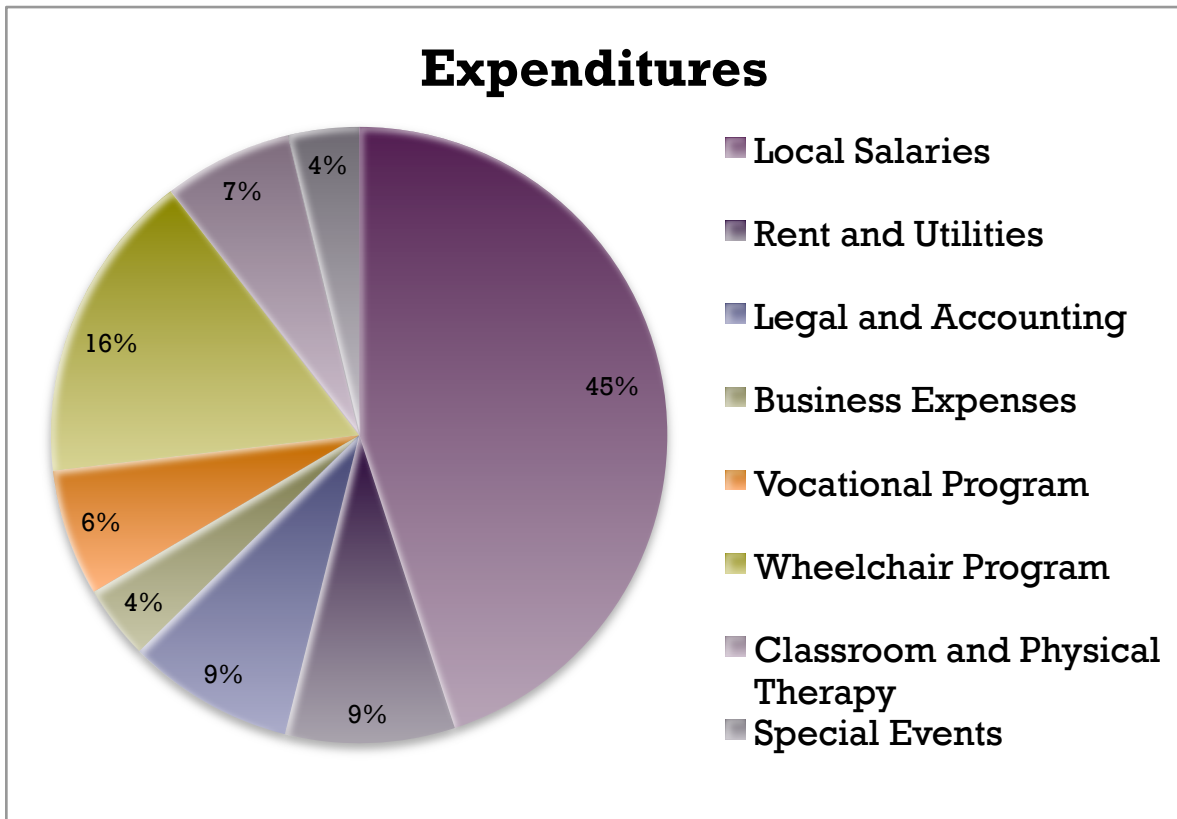
In the Classroom

Children with unique needs and abilities come to class with their parents and learn through play, small group and individual activities. We are passionate about including families so they learn strategies and gain support from staff and other parents to enhance their child's participation in daily routines.

To hear the laughter and see the smiles of the children and parents as they learn new skills, build friendships and participate in the community is the greatest reward.



Where does your money go?



We are enormously thankful to all of our donors, volunteers, and friends from around the world. Your support is making a huge impact. **We continue to have 0% in administration costs as our director, and board members all volunteer their time. Our six local staff are our greatest asset. They teach the children and youth with amazing patience, positive guidance and care. The dedication of the staff to learn new skills and individualize for the unique needs of each child is extraordinary.**

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation before the year ends. Checks can be mailed to CIELO de Amor, 2160 Arthur St, Eugene OR 97405, USA or visit our website www.cielodeamor.org to donate through PayPal. **With heartfelt gratitude.**

Wishing you happy holidays, much love, laughter, and a most joyous and healthy new year