

Colombia Partners of the Americas- Barranquilla Report

Gina Pezzano, President

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To: Sue Mahan

Subject: Summary Partners of the Americas 2014

Summary 2014 Partners of the Americas Northern Region Committee of Colombia / Florida Partners of the Americas

2014 was a year of contrasts and uncertainty for our Committee.

On the one hand, a year of important celebrations due to the 50th anniversary of Partners of the Americas. On the other hand, we set Volunteers several questions about the present and future of our committee as Partners of the Americas is an organization that is changing rapidly and our Chapter fails to be in tune with the changes.

Despite the above, the following activities are:

1. Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Partners of the Americas:

There was presence of our Chapter in the International Convention in Florianopolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil and a good representation, as it was present with two Presidencies, Dr. Sue Mahan and Gina Pezzano, and the Young Ambassador Silvana Gomez and young President Karina Casado Campus Partners. This participation provided an opportunity to make active presence as panelists and in different areas of interest.

2. Maria Paulisse trip to South Carolina, which opens an opportunity for exchange for work on the issue of disability, especially since the EC Camilo entity in the La Paz city of Barranquilla. This management was performed by Oscar Mejia and Marvin Efron.

3. 18th Anniversary of Barranquilla in Uninorte Chair: With this training program for university leaders and the group of 90 young people from 2014, now totaling more than 1,200 university students trained in Leadership and Citizenship!

4. Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Partners of the Americas in the launching of the 6th National Conference on Volunteering in La Universidad del Norte in the month of November: With the assistance of more than 50 volunteers Atlantic NGO representatives, members of Northern Region Committee of Colombia / Florida, the CEO of Partners of the Americas and UniVoluntarios leadership, was held in Uninorte the launch of the 6th National Conference on Volunteering in which the impact of the work of PoA in the Americas was promoted.

5. National meeting with Steve Vetter in the month of November in Barranquilla for reflection and analysis of the present and future of Partners of the Americas, where there was presence of

Antioquia with Gabriel Marquez, Bogota with Jorge Fabian Gonzalez and also Volunteers PoA of Barranquilla.

6. PLAYLEE is the acronym for playing and LEarning Inglés, project led by youth leaders and youth ambassadors belonging to Colombian Youth Leaders YCL, which offers children between 9 and 12 years in vulnerable situations, the opportunity to learn English through an experiential methodology, supported by more than 50 volunteers nationwide. The project idea was born in 2012 in Barranquilla hand and Silvana Cindy Gomez, Young Ambassadors supported by the Chapter of Partners of the Americas PoA North / Florida Region and Cedesocial Foundation; currently being conducted in Colombia, in the cities of Cali, Medellin, Armenia, Bogota, Bucaramanga, Popayán, Pereira and Quibdo, for a total of 200 boys and girls impacted approximate. He has also had the support of the following organizations: Department of State US Embassy of the United States in Colombia, YMCA YMCA throughout Colombia. In 2014, PLAYLEE and different cities are joined by YCL global initiatives as they were in April, the Global Youth Service Day led internationally for Youth Changing the World YSA; and in October, the Global Dignity Day led by the Global Shapers in Barranquilla. In May of the same year, various former Youth Ambassadors program participants meet and present the project proposal in a closed call global call AEIF, only to alumni of US programs led by the Department of State of the United States and among more than 1000 initiatives, PLAYLEE is one of 60 winners and only for Colombia, thus receives about \$ 20,000 to consolidate the project methodology and come to impact more children across the country.

7. Partners Uninorte Campus: Campus Partners UniNorte In redefining the student group was held, with the mission volunteer work with children and youth of the Atlantic. I was participated in the University Welfare Fair where the entry of 12 new members of Accounting, Law, International Relations, Business Administration and Industrial Engineering was approved: different activities as conducted. A conversation with Carlos Vizcaino, founder of the Community Leaders Foundation was held. The Forum was held on "Drug Trafficking from consumption" in a class of International Relations UniNorte with the modulator, professor Janiel Melamet, with three speakers students of this program. Virtual and physical meetings between volunteers were held, ending the half with the alliance with the Univoluntarios program and the election of the new Board.

By 2015 the following projects:

1. Election of new Board: In the Assembly on January 15, 2015, the North Region Committee of Colombia / Florida elected Board for the next three years.

The new members are:

- Dr. Mary Amaris, Director of Univoluntarios in Uninorte.
- Dr. Carmen Helena Jiménez de Peña, Consultant in Development and International Cooperation.
- Cristian Mulford, Administrative Project Manager at CEDESOCIAL.

· Carlos Vizcaino, Director Community Leaders Foundation and member of the Red 2021. (Chair Barranquilla).

· Karina Casado, founder of Partners in Uninorte Campus and Campus Partners Advisor internationally (Chair Barranquilla).

A meeting on February 28, 2015 on Strategic Planning in the respective charges will be allocated is planned. In this way, will start a process of changing the Committee to ensure its sustainability.

2. Youth Ambassadors 2015: Between 24 and 28 January received the visit of Abraham Swan and Samara Lyons to coordinate the visit of 10 young Americans to Colombia during the summer. They will be a week in Bogota and two weeks in Barranquilla.

3. Solve problems with Bogota: Has had an irregular and conflict situation in Central Eastern Committee of Colombia / Florida have since initiated activities with the Universidad del Atlantico at a Bilingual Program and Campus Partners to institution This is located geographically in Barranquilla. This decision was not consulted or reviewed transparently so have created tensions, discussions and various unpleasant situations that indicate a lack of clarity in this initiative.

4. Membership Fee: It is necessary to increase annual maintenance fee to cover minimal operating costs of the Committee.

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