



WEEK OF COMPASSION SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT REPORT

For Global Ministries

*Please type or print clearly. Return electronically to Week of
Compassion.*

SECTION 1: Basic Information

Area Office	Global Ministries Latin America and the Caribbean Office
Date of Proposal Submission	Fall 2017
Project Title	Conflict Transformation and Restorative Justice Between Ex-Combatants, Victims and Communities
Name of Local Partner	CAFEPAZ
Location- <i>City/State/Country</i>	Bogotá, Colombia
Total Amount Received from WoC	\$ 20,000.00
Person Completing Report	This report was written by Cafépaz and prepared by Global Ministries Resource Development
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SECTION 2: Project Summary

Project Goal

Referring back to your original proposal, what is the overall goal of the project? If your plans have changed from the original proposal, please describe.

This project's goal is to contribute to the peace process that is currently ongoing in Colombia as a result of the peace accord signed between the FARC guerrilla and the Colombian Government on November 24, 2016. The project seeks to contribute to the reintegration process of ex-combatants of the FARC guerrilla into communities that include victims of the armed conflict, in Buenos Aires, Cauca and Icononzo, Tolima. This project will provide a series of six (6) workshops in conflict transformation and restorative justice to ex-combatants and community members (including victims) in each community.

Primary Activities Implemented

Describe administrative and programmatic activities implemented in your request for funding.

To date, Cafepaz implemented two conflict transformation workshops in Icononzo, Tolima.

Challenges and Actions Steps Taken to Resolve

Summarize what organizational and environmental (political, social, infrastructural, etc.) challenges arose during this past year that hindered the project achievement of its goals. Also, include how the project/program addressed them.

In November of 2016, the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) joined people all over the world in celebrating the signing of the Colombian Peace Accords between the Colombian government and the ex-guerrilla of the FARC-EP (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-- People's Army). These Accords were achieved through decades of peace-building efforts and documentation of human rights abuses (including efforts by Global Ministries partners), ending over fifty years of civil war that displaced millions and cost the lives of over 200,000.

Today, the hope generated through these Accords is all but gone as promises made by the government remain unfulfilled and several aspects of the Accords have not been implemented. On August 29th Iván Márquez, Jesús Santrich, and other FARC leaders issued a call to arms and a return to armed struggle in Colombia. These are some of the same FARC leaders who were a part of negotiating the 2016 Peace Process but report frustration with the implementation of the peace accords.

The Executive for the Global Ministries Latin America and Caribbean Office has had conversations with the two counterparts in Colombia, Justapaz, and the Justice and Peace Commission of the Evangelical Council of Colombia (CEDECOL) related to this project.

Martín Nates and Pablo Moreno shared that given the complications with the demobilization of the FARC, they have been forced to withdraw the project from the original communities they intended to offer restorative justice workshops the project. This, in addition to multiple changes in staff for Cafepaz, has led to a continued delay in implementing this project. Global Ministries partners in Colombia, CEDECOL and Justapaz, are committed to reconciliation work and offering restorative justice workshops. They have presented intentions to the Executive for the Global Ministries Latin America and Caribbean

office to offer restorative justice workshops in two new locations. The Executive for the Global Ministries Latin America and Caribbean office believes these funds will be used for this purpose in the next year. If the partner does not use the grant funds in the next year, Global Ministries will return funds for the amount not used for this purpose to Week of Compassion.

SECTION 3: Project Results

Client/Participant Success Story or Details of a Program Achievement

Please share a client success story or a program achievement from this project. The success story or the program achievement should be related to program activities implemented and should convey the need or impact of the project. If using a client/participant success story, please keep client confidentiality in mind. If available, include pictures as attachments to your report.

The first conflict transformation workshop in Icononzo, Tolima was a great success. A total of 16 participants attended, equally represented by former FARC combatants and “receptor community” leaders. They were engaged actively in the whole workshop and the two most common responses during evaluation at the end of the day were that they wanted to bring more people to the next workshop or that they wanted Cafepaz to offer these workshops again in surrounding communities. Seeing former FARC combatants and civilians who were victims of the armed conflict participating in joint dramatizations and peacefully discussing conflict was powerful and rewarding. Some pictures are attached at the end of the report.

Short and Long Term Results

Realistically link program activities to the difference they are making. Describe how the project’s activities are making a difference in the short and long-term for both the client and the community.

There was general consensus that the workshop had been a success when Cafepaz formally evaluated the workshop with the participants. Several of the personal comments from both “sides”, both former FARC combatants and civilians who lived in the community prior to the FARC demobilizing there, were far more impactful than reading the evaluation sheets. In demobilization and reentry process which risks new conflicts, the most important goal of the first session was simply to build rapport. Facilitators were able to build that rapport with both sides and to start building trust and empathy between the two sides. One facilitator shared this was evident as the mood changed in the group throughout the day and in one-on-one conversations with participants during breaks and after the workshop ended.

Longer-term goals will be addressed more fully and will only be able to be evaluated after Cafepaz continues further into the workshops. Cafepaz is progressing to move from the general conflict transformation and into the more personal restorative justice portion.

Best Practices:

Please Identify and Describe processes or practices that you implemented in this project that were successful, and that you recommend for use in similar situations.

The use of a “talking circle” (circle process) as a way of ensuring everyone’s equal participation in a context where Cafepaz knew that some of the civilian participants felt like the FARC members were not respectful of their participation in community decision.

Cafepaz chose a cross necklace made out of a bullet from a former FARC combatant as the “talking piece”. This was used in the hopes that both the FARC members and civilians could see a symbol of the transforming tools of war into a symbol of peace. This seemed to work well.

Cafepaz plans on continuing to use circle process as they “go deeper” into restorative justice as the workshops progress. They have asked members to bring symbols that represent them to the next workshop and will add a more symbolic centerpiece comprised of their symbols to the circle. Cafepaz will also select a new talking piece from the symbols they bring.

Quantitative Results

Provide “numeric indicators” of your work in serving people and implementing project activities.

PEOPLE Served <i>Avoid Duplicate Counts between Categories</i>	# of People Served	Comments or Description
Women age 18+	5	
Men age 18+	10	
Youth age 13-18	1	
Children age 0-13	0	
Families/Households	14	
Disabled	0	
Other: <i>specify such as employed, unemployed, immigrants, etc.</i>	8	<i>Former FARC combatants</i>

ACTIVITIES Implemented <i>-Specify Activities-</i>	# of Activities or Service Units	# of Participants or Beneficiaries <i>If applicable</i>	Comments or Description
<i>Workshops</i>	2	16	<i>Participants in the workshops</i>

Examples of Activity Descriptions: food distribution, legal assistance, trainings, workshops, clinical services, TB screening, intakes, pigs raised, wells dug, school supplies provided (units), etc.

SECTION 4: Financial Management

Required Attachment: How was funding used?

Provide a financial report of how gifts were put to use in support of your project. A template for this financial report is attached for your reference. Any report that does not follow this template will not be considered a completed report and not eligible for applying for WOC Sustainable Development grant.

If expenses differ from the original proposal, please explain variances here:

Because of the unexpected delays in implementing this project, not all funds from the 2017 Week of Compassion Sustainable Development grant have been used.



