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Jóvenes con Rumbo

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Youth actively participating in JcR Youth Centers

Jóvenes con Rumbo (JcR) has reached out to the communities of Camino Verde and Granjas Familiares in Tijuana and in La Independencia, Monterrey and engaged over a hundred youth. As a result of these initial community outreach efforts, 49 youth have already started activities and benefitted from the different services offered in the Youth Centers. Through the JcR program model, tutors initially engage youth in an in-depth interview and then guide the participants as they elaborate a Personal Development Plan to articulate their interests and goals. The tutors then provide individual follow-up support to help the young people choose relevant JcR services and trainings based on their personal plans.

At the end of June, 33 young people will be participating in the information technology courses; studying programs that have been adapted from curricula provided by the Intel Corporation, JcR's Global Development Alliance partner. All 49 young people are engaged in the Human Development and Employment workshops and a number of youth have also started their technical training course in construction.

Middle school teachers start working with JcR to prevent school drop out in Tijuana

On June 26, teachers from the public middle school Secundaria General No. 68 of Camino Verde, Tijuana joined JcR for a training session focused on strategies to prevent youth dropping out of school. In August 2013, at the start of the next school year, teachers will work together with JcR to implement a model of prevention that targets youth at risk of dropping out of school. In Mexico, out of 100 children that start primary school, 62% finish middle school and only 46% enroll in high school. The JcR strategy focuses on youth who are transiting from middle to high school to engage them in the transition process and prevent them from dropping out of school.

The Independencia Youth Center welcomes Los Angeles Deputy Major

Los Angeles Deputy Mayor, Guillermo Céspedes, visited the Youth Center in La Independencia, Monterrey on June 11. His visit provided an opportunity to hold a dialogue with the Municipal Government of Monterrey and local organizations regarding the violence prevention work and youth development programs that are being carried out in the city. The Deputy Mayor presented the programs that the Office of Gang Reduction and Youth Development have implemented in Los Angeles (LA) to share best practices and lessons learned. Additionally, Secretary Elizabeth Rosas from the Social Development Ministry of Monterrey presented the Crime and Violence Prevention programs developed by the Municipality, including a new initiative modeled from the LA Summer Night Lights program. Alejandro Armendáriz, Director of the Youth Institute of Monterrey and Gustavo Hernández, Director of Servicios a la Juventud, local partner organization of JcR, also presented during the event as well as other USAID implementing partners.

Elizabeth Hogan, USAID's expert in Latin America, visits Youth Center in La Independencia and meets with youth and community members

On June 24, Elizabeth Hogan, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator for USAID's Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, and Tom Delaney, USAID/Mexico Mission Director visited the Youth Center in La Independencia and met with the Municipal Government of Monterrey, USAID's partner organizations, and youth beneficiaries. During the event, Secretary Elizabeth Rosas Cervantes from the Social Development Ministry of Monterrey and Alejandro Armendariz from the Youth Institute of Monterrey, presented the Crime and Violence Prevention programs of the municipality. USAID implementing partners also presented the programs they implement in the city. Three youth that participate in these programs – Sergio Navarro and Ivonne Sandoval from Jóvenes Constructores de la Comunidad and José Refugio Escobedo from JcR – shared testimonies about how their lives have changed due to these interventions.

Jóvenes con Rumbo creates alliances with universities and private sector partners to benefit at-risk youth in Tijuana

The Technology and Science Museum “El Trompo” and JcR have created an alliance to benefit at-risk youth in Tijuana. In an agreement signed between María Rosario Ruiz Camacho, Director of El Trompo and Francisco Almanza, National Director of JCC, El Trompo has agreed to host JcR youth participants, free of charge, in their museum with the ultimate goal of bringing science and technology into the lives of at-risk youth. The Museum has also offered their facilities to host JcR’s events such as graduation ceremonies for youth participants when they finish their technical training courses.

Additionally, JcR signed an agreement with Berenice Abrego, Director of UNIDEP (University of Professional Development) in Tijuana. This partnership will enable UNIDEP students to gain valuable experience volunteering for the JcR program as facilitators in the technical trainings and in the school drop-out prevention model in middle and high schools.

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