

PROJECT EVALUATION SUMMARY
(Submit to MO/PAV after each project evaluation)

Mission or AID/W Office Name
USAID/Chile

2. Project Number
OPG-513-0300

Project Title
Day Care Center for Hardship Children

Key project dates (fiscal years)

Project Agreement Signed	9/30/76	b. Final Obligation	12/31/79	c. Final input delivered	FY79	5. Total U.S. funding - life of project	\$109,000.00
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Evaluation number as listed in Eval. Schedule

7. Period covered by this evaluation

From:	Sept. 1976	TO:	April 1978
Month/year		Month/year	

8. Date of this Evaluation Review
5/12/78
Month/Day/Year

Action Decisions Reached at Evaluation Review, including items needing further study (Note--This list does not constitute an action request to AID/W. Use telegrams, aigrams, SPARS, etc., for action)

10. Officer or Unit responsible for follow-up

11. Date action to be completed

Signatures:

Project Officer	Mission or AID/W Office Director
<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
Typed Name	Richard F. Apodaca
Date	May 30, 1978

SUMMARY - Summarize in about 200 words the current project situation, mentioning progress in relation to design, prospects of achieving purpose, major problems encountered, etc.

This Project's basic purpose is to test whether day care centers with family participation, study-programs and operating workshops is a preferable alternative for hardship children than orphanages and/or limited-care centers for these children.

This project is now over 2/3 complete. An average of 300 children attend the Open Day Care Center (CAD) daily to participate in the study-programs, receive training in the workshops and receive about 3/4 of their daily nutritional requirements through one or two meals served to each one at the Center.

A basic initial problem was the PVO's weak managerial capacity. This has been overcome by a change in personnel. The project is now advancing at a normal pace. The Project's completion is scheduled for its termination date of December 31, 1978.

EVALUATION METHODOLOGY - Describe the methods used for this evaluation, i.e. was it a regular or special evaluation? was it in accordance with the Evaluation Plan in the PP with respect to timing, study design, scope, methodology and issues? What kinds of data were used and how were they collected and analyzed? Identify agencies and key individuals participating and contributing.

This is the first evaluation undertaken of this Project. The purpose of this evaluation is to assess the following:

- 1) OPG's effectiveness in attaining its stated goal.
- 2) Evaluation of the Project's effectiveness in reaching the target group.
- 3) The OPG's major effects on the target group, namely: improvement of the children's nutritional level, learning capacity, and general psycho-social attitude.
- 4) Analysis of the Project's deficiencies and their causes, if any.
- 5) Suggestions conducive to the Project's increased effectiveness.
- 6) Possibility of applying the experience gained from this Project to "hardship groups" in other LDCs.

The information on which this evaluation is based has been obtained from the following sources: YMCA's Santiago Central Office, Santiago; YMCA's Open Day Care Center, San Bernardo, YMCA's Social & Psychological Study Committee, YMCA's trained social workers. Documents to be revised to reflect decisions noted page 1 (other side:) and group leader team

- Project Paper (PP) Logical Framework CPI Network Financial Plan
- PIO/T PIO/C PIO/P Project Agreement Other

This evaluation brought out ideas for a new project -- a Project Identification Document (PID) will follow.

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15. Evaluation findings about EXTERNAL FACTORS - Identify and discuss major changes in project setting which have an impact on the project. Examine continuing validity of assumptions.

Project equipment needed was to have been imported from the U.S. through the PVO's New York Office. The PVO's New York office proved unresponsive to requests for assistance in procuring of the equipment, causing delay in the Project's start.

17. Evaluation findings about GOAL/SUBGOAL - For the reader's convenience, quote the approved sector or other goal, (and subgoal, where relevant) to which the project contributes. Then describe status by citing evidence available to date from specific indicators and by mentioning progress of other projects (whether or not U.S.) which contribute to same goal. Discuss causes--can progress toward goal be attributed to project, why shortfalls?

This project's primary goal is to "improve the mental, physical and emotional condition of hardship children, especially through improved nutrition in the 6-14 age group".

Preliminary research work done by social workers, group leaders and psychologists from the PVO tended to show that the weak nutritional intake common among hardship children tended to aggravate conditions common to this group, such as, low learning-capacity, anti-social behavior and abnormal psychological reactions. It was further detected that, despite these children's families low-income level, hardship children tended to show a faster recovery rate when they received assistance without being removed from their family-group, i. e. when instead of being interned in orphanages or similar "closed" institutions they attended others such as a day care center.

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18. Evaluation findings about PURPOSE - Quote the approved project purpose. Cite progress toward each End-of-Project Status (EOPS) condition. When can achievement be expected? Discuss causes of progress or shortfalls.

The purpose of this Project is to assist hardship children in becoming well-integrated members in their society, by helping them to improve their learning capacities and their social attitudes through an improved nutritional intake, and by providing them with adequate guidance and encouragement to improve their study-levels and their psycho-social behavior.

While the final evaluative psycho-social study conducted has not yet been completed, it appears that, there has been a marked improvement in the children's scholastic, social and psychological attitudes. Further, the children's parents, who at the Project's initiation were quite cold to the project and their children's progress, now also appear to display an active interest in their children's progress. Preliminary statistics will be available by October 1978.

This project is unique in Chile, and perhaps in Latin America. It will, if final evaluation bear out hypotheses demonstrate the Day Care Centers ^{are} more effective than cost to-operate orphanages and similar other closed institutions, and that hardship children are more receptive to beneficial influence when they are not removed from their family group (except in extreme cases, such as those of drug-addicted or alcoholic parents, etc.). This project's final psycho-social evaluation study has been delayed because, due to the uniqueness of this project, it was difficult to locate other institutions against whose pupils this Project's performance could be accurately compared.

19. Evaluation findings about OUTPUTS and INPUTS - Note any particular success or difficulties. Comment on significant management experiences of host contractor, and donor organizations. Describe any necessary changes in schedule or in type and quantity of resources or outputs needed to achieve project purpose.

The major inputs considered for this Project have been provided: a feeding program providing over 3/4 of each child's daily diet, a tutorial assistance program, health and legal assistance, workshops for technical training, all under an adequate staff provided by the PVO, are now operating.

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Evaluation findings about UNPLANNED EFFECTS - Has project had any unexpected results or impact, such as changes in social structure, environment, technical or economic situation? Are these effects advantageous or not? Do they require any change in plans?

No unplanned effects have been detected as yet.

CHANGES in DESIGN or EXECUTION - Explain the rationale for any proposed modification in project design or execution which now appear advisable as a result of the preceding findings (items 16 to 20 above) and which were reflected in one or more of the action decisions listed on page 1 or noted in Item 15 on page 2.

This OPG's basic design and execution plan remain as originally approved. They appear to be adequate for carrying out this entire Project.

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22. LESSONS LEARNED - What advice can you give a colleague about development strategy-- e.g., how to tackle a similar development problem or to manage a similar project in another country? What can be suggested for follow-on in this country? Similarly, do you have any suggestions about evaluation methodology?

It would have been better to have improved the recipient's management and implementing capacity prior to having launched this project. Fortunately, in this case, the recipient has reacted well and promptly by improving substantially its managing staff for the Project.

Because of the initial weakness already described, a very close involvement of the A.I.D. staff directly responsible for this OPG was necessary at the beginning of the Project.

23. SPECIAL COMMENTS or REMARKS (For AID/W projects, assess likelihood that results of project will be utilized in LDC's).

Because of this project's promising results, the YMCA is planning to replicate it in other youth centers in Chile. A project similar to this one should also be successful in other LDCs provided that the PVO in charge is able to understand and carry out its several stages according to plan.

CHRISTOPHER

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