



Arigatou International
G N R C



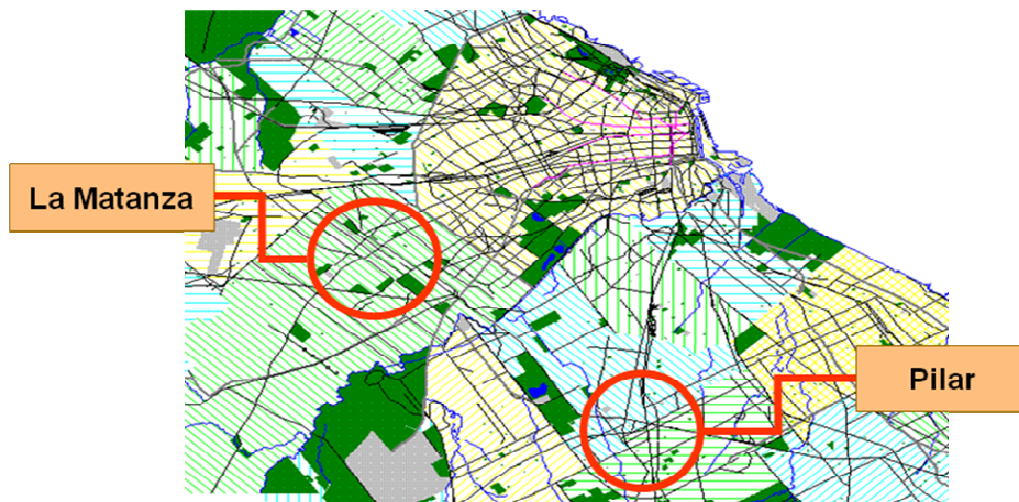
GNRC YOUTH GROUPS

The Global Network of Religions for Children, GNRC, provides spaces for children and young people to learn about peace, ethics, and children's rights through interfaith and intercultural encounters. There are several worldwide best practices of GNRC groups where children actively participate in the promotion of the message of peace and mutual understanding.

The Youth Programme in Argentina is an example of a well-structured interfaith collaboration among different organisations to provide a programme on peace education for children and youth living in areas of severe poverty conditions.

Youth Programme, Argentina

Building Together a Culture of Peace, Searching Together for Non-Violent Paths



The Programme started in Buenos Aires by organizing regular meetings in two areas of Great Buenos Aires: La Matanza (Western area) and Pilar (Eastern area)

Who are the participants of the programme?

Children 12 to 18 years old from two zones in Argentina: La Matanza and Pilar.

In La Matanza the institutions that take part are: Centro de Día Osvaldo, Santa Clara Parish, Un Techo para Todos and the Bahá'í Educational Center for Peace.

In Pilar: Instituto Movilizador de Jóvenes and Servicio de Paz y Justicia.

Most of the participants come from broken family structures (domestic violence, unemployed parents or single mothers) some have no family reference. The programme provides them with an opportunity to strengthen their faith and hope for a better place in the world.



How many participants in each group?

Each group has between 50 and 80 participants



How often do the participants meet?

The youth from each area meet once a week from 8:30 to 18:00.

From one meeting to the other the leaders or mentors of each place continue deepening the topics.



How is the content of the program selected?

The content selection is based on a diagnosis of the population done with the support of the "mentors" in each area.

Before initiating the activities, the Steering Team organises a meeting with the "mentors" to establish the needs and priorities of each group, which allows setting goals, development stages, processes and the activities conducive to achieve the goals.

What kinds of topics are covered in the programme?



- ✓ Self-esteem and trust, talents and personal characteristics. "Life: a divine gift"
- ✓ Faith, trust and strength - our beliefs- other beliefs. Building peaceful communities
- ✓ Friendship among people- friendship among peoples of the World.
- ✓ Faith - Diverse forms of expressing faith. Value of Faith. Peace Messages from different religions.

- ✓ The world of human relations- what is a conflict? Difference between conflict and violence ¿is it possible to live without conflict? Peace is not absence of conflict- How to solve conflict?
- ✓ Let us make a treat for a good treat.



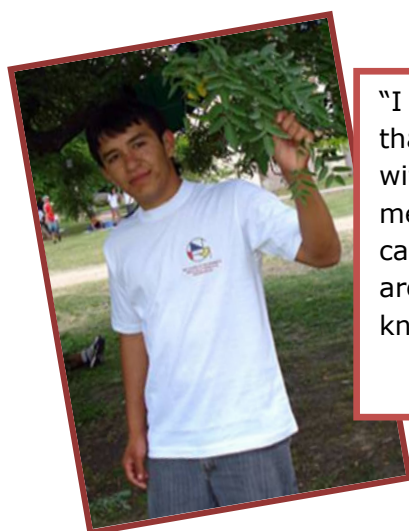
- ✓ "No human being is an island" --- equal rights and opportunities. Dialogue
- ✓ Creating a culture of Peace, through the Spirit that leads us to dialogue. How to choose and build solidarity values.



The programme also aims to establish bridges of dialogue with the government authorities with the objective to overcome serious problems that youth face: drug abuse, alcoholism, delinquency and school dropout, among others.

What is the role of the youth?

The programme intends to incorporate some of the youth to the facilitators' team through a learning process. The youth are going through a programme where they first improve their self-esteem and then take steps to facilitate some activities.



"I think it is very good that youth can bring with them a common message, so the world can learn that there are things worth knowing" Thank you

Youth participant

Where do the participants meet?

Each organisation that is part of the programme hosts a session. This creates enthusiasm and ownership of the programme.

When do both groups get together?

At the end of the year both groups get together for a camp, where they share their learning experiences and have fun through games and other activities.



Contact information:

GNRC Argentina Contact person:
Ms. Ana de Medio.

E-mail: anademedio@arnet.com.ar