

Youth Voluntary Service at Puerto Leda and Puerto Esperanza, Paraguay

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The Youth Voluntary Service was held by the Foundation for Sustainable Development in North and South America from August 29 to September 9, this year and saw the participation of a total of 19 people from different countries: Paraguay 5 ladies, Japan 2 ladies and 8 men, from the United States 3 men and from Argentina 1 lady.

The program and activities for the young volunteers were carried out in Puerto Leda and Pto. Esperanza. August 30 and 31, the first and second group of young people arrived in Leda, and took part in a welcoming dinner.

Activities in Puerto Leda

The activities carried out in Puerto Leda, a Providential place, were diverse, and the youth had the opportunity to learn, have fun, and, above all, discover more about the history of Leda. Since September 1, they have been participating in the Hoon Dok Hae every morning, in Conferences conducted by Rev. Sano, Rev. Iwasawa, testimonies by Messrs. Peter Paulo, Pablo Chávez, and Mr. Shimada.

They also carried out daily activities where they fed Pacú, Pacú harvest, fishing, song practice, and Agriculture projects. They learned about livestock and Horse Riding (Puerto Canaán) from their older brothers, among many others.

On September 9, a closing ceremony of the International Youth Volunteer Service was held, where each participant received a certificate of recognition for their work.

So we can say that Leda is surrounded by nature, which characterizes her. That place has a significant meaning since True Parents established it.

For that reason, it is said that one must "experience Leda to Feel the heart of True Parents."





1. Heading to Port. Hope
 2. Arrival at Port. Hope
 3. The children of the community enjoying the Children's Park
 4. Delivery of Soccer Balls to the School Director
 5. Rev. Iwasawa gave a few words

Volunteering in Puerto Esperanza

On Sunday, September 4, a group of participants went in the morning to Puerto Esperanza in the Indigenous Community riding a boat led by Mr. Pablo Chávez. In the afternoon, the other young people embarked on the ship "New Hope AMERICA" with Mr. Peter Paulo.

The following day, on September 5, the volunteer activities began with an opening ceremony with VIPs. The F.D.S.A.N.S. made donations for students and teachers of school materials and donated a playground made of Palo Santo (Main Donation Project for the Institution), curtains for the classrooms, and soccer and volleyball balls.

The volunteers began their activities in the 'Escuela Básica N° 2483 de Puerto Esperanza'; these activities started very early with the Hoon Dok Hae, breakfast, and some improvements for the school. Among the upgrades for the educational Institution are:

- *Painting of walls of the Institution*
- *Drawing and painting in the dining room*
- *Handicraft painting on tires*
- *Placement of nets in soccer field arches*
- *Placement of curtains in classrooms*
- *General cleaning throughout the Institution, among many other things*

Despite the activities, the young people found time to play and live with the boys and girls of that community, thus demonstrating that despite not speaking the same language with unity and a pure heart, borders can be crossed.

The volunteer service lasted two full days, from September 5 to 6. On September 7, Puerto Esperanza turned 38, and the schools and colleges in that area participated in a Student Parade, presenting cultural acts such as dances and a parade of horse riders. Where the International Youth Voluntary Service 2022 also participated in parading along with the students and teachers of Basic School No. 2483, presenting its representative song of the Singer Diego Torres 'Color Esperanza', giving a message with this that Nothing is Impossible. It is only a question of removing fears and fighting for dreams.

After the Parade, the teacher José Olmedo gave a few words of gratitude to all the volunteers for their work and also a special thanks to the F.D.S.A.N.S for the unconditional support. Rev. Michihito Sano and a Young Volunteer, Akihiro Yamasaki, gave gifts to Professor José Olmedo. That same afternoon all the Volunteers returned to Puerto Leda, where they continued their activities until September 9.

Conclusion of Volunteering

Being in Puerto Esperanza was quite a challenge for all the young people since, in that place, they have many needs that many of the volunteers had not experienced before, such as the lack of electricity and drinking water were essential factors at the time

of stay in that place. They say that sometimes you need to be away from your home, your loved ones, and

the comforts you have to learn to value what you have in life.

Being in Puerto Esperanza, carrying out this help service for others is a unique experience that leaves much to reflect on. One of them is that we must open our minds and hearts, look beyond ourselves, leave our fallen nature aside, and realize that outside of our cities, outside of our countries, and in the whole World, there are people, animals, and nature itself that need us to wake up and do something.



We already know that it is difficult to want to make essential changes for the World due to selfishness, but it is better to try than not to do it. Nothing is impossible for those who believe! Remember that everyone here on this earth has a Mission to fulfill. Heavenly Parent and True Parents will give us that strength and that orientation to fight in this World that needs brave people willing to provide that Pure and Sincere Love for the good of humanity.



This reflection comes from the heart urging all the people worldwide to analyze and reflect on their behavior and life and ask themselves: What am I doing for the good of others? What is my Mission? Is what I give to my brothers enough?, Am I grateful enough for the blessings granted to me from Heaven?

Once you leave your heart open for Heavenly Parent to work on it, all your doubts will dissipate. Once Heaven touches your heart, your whole life will change, and you will be an example to others.

Remember: "It is preferable to be different in this world than to be the same as the rest of the world." Your time has come; make a difference.

Become a Global Leader!