

PROJECT REPORT

The Rotary Club of Palm Missions, Brazil in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Cary-Grove located in the town of Cary, Illinois, USA, developed a project for community integration and promotion of quality of life with the families of students attending the Rotary School of Music and Art.

The initiative aimed to achieve the Rotary theme "Building Communities--Bridging Continents" by promoting international unity, and community integration by improving the quality of life of children and families in social vulnerability in Palm City Mission. The goal of the project ties nicely with the Rotary theme. The International Rotary Club of Cary-Grove, of the United States, proposed the initiative to improve the issues of quality of life of children in Palm Missions. The Rotary Club of Palmeira das Missoes accepted, and the partnership continued.

In addition, as a backdrop, the project sought to strengthen the traditions of Rio Grande, providing opportunity to the poor with access to traditional culture through learning instrumental music, song, dance, ballads and poetry. The project was developed and its schedule featured a set of directed activities. Among the actions developed by this Matching Grants Project, we present: lectures on oral health and hygiene, psychological care, family visits by Rotarians, acquisition and distribution to all students a "quality of life kit" that included a endredom, a pillow and a towel, purchase of beds and mattresses, purchase of costumes and uniforms with the gaucho Rotary symbol and the event "Social Attitude."

This project began with a visit that occurred in 2010 in order to present the Rotary Club of Cary-Grove with a report on the activities developed within the School of Music and Art Club, a project developed jointly four years ago in the city of Palm Mission. That original project was to promote the social inclusion of socially vulnerable children, through access to culture, music and art gaucho. The Rotary Club of Palmiero das Missoes accepted the partnership to strengthen the social integration in Palm Mission through the Social Attitude event. This event serves as an instrument of community awareness about the importance of Palmeiras solidarity and the problems faced by low-income populations in the city.

Through the encounter between the two clubs, it was found that a problem still existed. There was still a need for providing decent home life for the children from the village Santa Catarina. They still suffered from the lack of beds, pillows, bedding, bath towels and toothbrushes. It was found that the students were not getting a quiet night's sleep or proper personal hygiene needs. This impaired school learning and the use of artistic and sporting activities that were offered. In this context, both Rotary groups agreed to join forces to develop a project that would assist students by improving their home life. Much needed bedding and other furnishings were provided as well as educating the students in the area of oral health and body.

Thus, a proposed Humanitarian Matching Grant Application was proposed to The Rotary Foundation. Fortunately, it was approved allowing for the successful completion of this project and improving the quality of home life for many children in social vulnerability. In addition to the activities already undertaken under the original project for the Rotary Club School of Music, this new project made it possible to form a social network of families and students by strengthening the intergration between the central area of the city and the low-income suburbs which achieved social awareness and respect in the community.