

Interim Report – March 21st 2019

Financial summary:

Project agreed: November 21st 2018: Grant of US\$ 15,400 from the Fondation Eagle to the Condor Trust for Education for the continuation of eye tests/glasses in and around Quito, Ecuador

Amount remaining from previous phase: US\$3,151.

Spent in period November 2018 to February 2019: US\$9,224;

Amount remaining February 28th 2019: US\$9,327

Background to the Project

The Condor Trust provides funding for secondary and further education for young people from low-income families in Ecuador. Several years ago, we became aware that many children are not making the most of their education because of sight problems. Encouraged by the Eagle Foundation, we looked into how we could help improve this situation, and linked up with a local Ecuadorian charity, Vista para Todos (Sight for All), which provides eye-tests and glasses.

Since mid-2012 the Eagle Foundation has been supporting this project. We have now received six rounds of funding (the current project is the sixth), and so far in total we have:

- Performed 4,564 eye tests;
- Provided 1,764 pairs of glasses.

The Current Project

Between the end of October 2018 and the end of February 2019, we organised a total of six campaigns:

- We visited FUDELA twice. This is a charity on the outskirts of Quito, which works with disadvantaged young people and their families
- La Carolina is a school for children from low-income families, and is situated in a park in central Quito. We first visited the school a few years ago. This return visit enabled children who have recently enrolled to have eye tests
- Fundación Colectiva para el Desarrollo (FCPD, Collective Foundation for Development) is a foundation which works with vulnerable groups, including children and young people
- Casa Hogar Maria Campi de Yoder, on the southern outskirts of Quito, is a home for orphans up to the age of 12, owned by the Metropolitan District of Quito
- In addition, 17 of our own Condor Trust students and their siblings needed glasses.

Project Ref: FF 0474-34- Eye Tests & Glasses– Condor Trust, Quito, Ecuador

Expenditure Details and Notes

Expenditure on Eye Tests and Glasses, November 2018 – February 2019					
Organisation	Eye tests (US\$)	Glasses (US\$)	Total Costs (US\$)	Glasses provided	Average price per pair (US\$)
Fudela – 1 st campaign	200.0	2,155.0	2,355.0	69	31.2
Fudela – 2 nd campaign	275.0	2,712.0	2,987.0	88	30.8
La Carolina, central Quito	142.5	1,257.0	1,399.5	21	59.9
Fundación Cóndor	53.0	531.0	584.0	17	31.2
Fundación Colectiva para el Desarrollo	177.5	1,179.0	1,356.5	36	32.8
Casa Hogar Maria Campi de Yoder	65.0	477.0	542.0	13	36.7
TOTAL	913.0	8,311.0	9,224.0	244	34.1

- As indicated on the above table, we have provided 244 pairs of glasses over the period from late October 2018 to the end of February 2019. The average cost of the glasses is just over US\$34 per pair, although there is some variation, depending on the complexity of the eye problems.
- The proportion of children needing glasses after having their eyes tested also varies from school to school. In some cases, teachers have done a preliminary screening and only put forward for eye tests those children who are identified as having a visual problem. In other cases, Vista para Todos considered it better for all children within an age group to be tested, as they are able to pick up problems which are not always obvious to non-trained personnel.
- On the second visit to FUDELA, we went beyond our original remit of working with children, due to exceptional circumstances. FUDELA is in an area of the city where there are a lot of Venezuelan families who have arrived recently in Ecuador as refugees, all of them in a very poor state. Some of them had apparently walked all the way from Venezuela to Ecuador. Many of the adults, as well as the children, were desperate to have glasses, as they said they had not been able to obtain them in Venezuela for a very long time. Our team were naturally very sympathetic, and Vista para Todos tested the adults as well as the children. Most of the people who had turned up definitely needed glasses. In total, 110 eye tests were conducted and 88 pairs of glasses provided. This all happened very quickly, but was agreed by the Foundation Eagle trustees on December 19th 2018
- As in previous years, we and Vista para Todos have not only provided the glasses, but also given advice and guidance on how to use them and look after them. The glasses are delivered to the children in a case with a cleaning cloth, and are also equipped with a string, so they can be hung around the children's necks. Parents and teachers, as well as the children themselves, are involved in these discussions.
- As we have observed in previous years, the proportion of children needing glasses tends to be high in comparison with developed countries' standards. This appears to be due primarily to poor diet in low-income families. In some cases in the past, poor lighting in schools and homes has been an additional factor. All the schools visited this year had made efforts to provide adequate lighting, but poor housing conditions no doubt continue to contribute to poor sight in some cases.

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Campaign at the Casa Hogar Maria Campi de Yoder

Left: the outside of the home

Below: performing eye test, and an appreciative family



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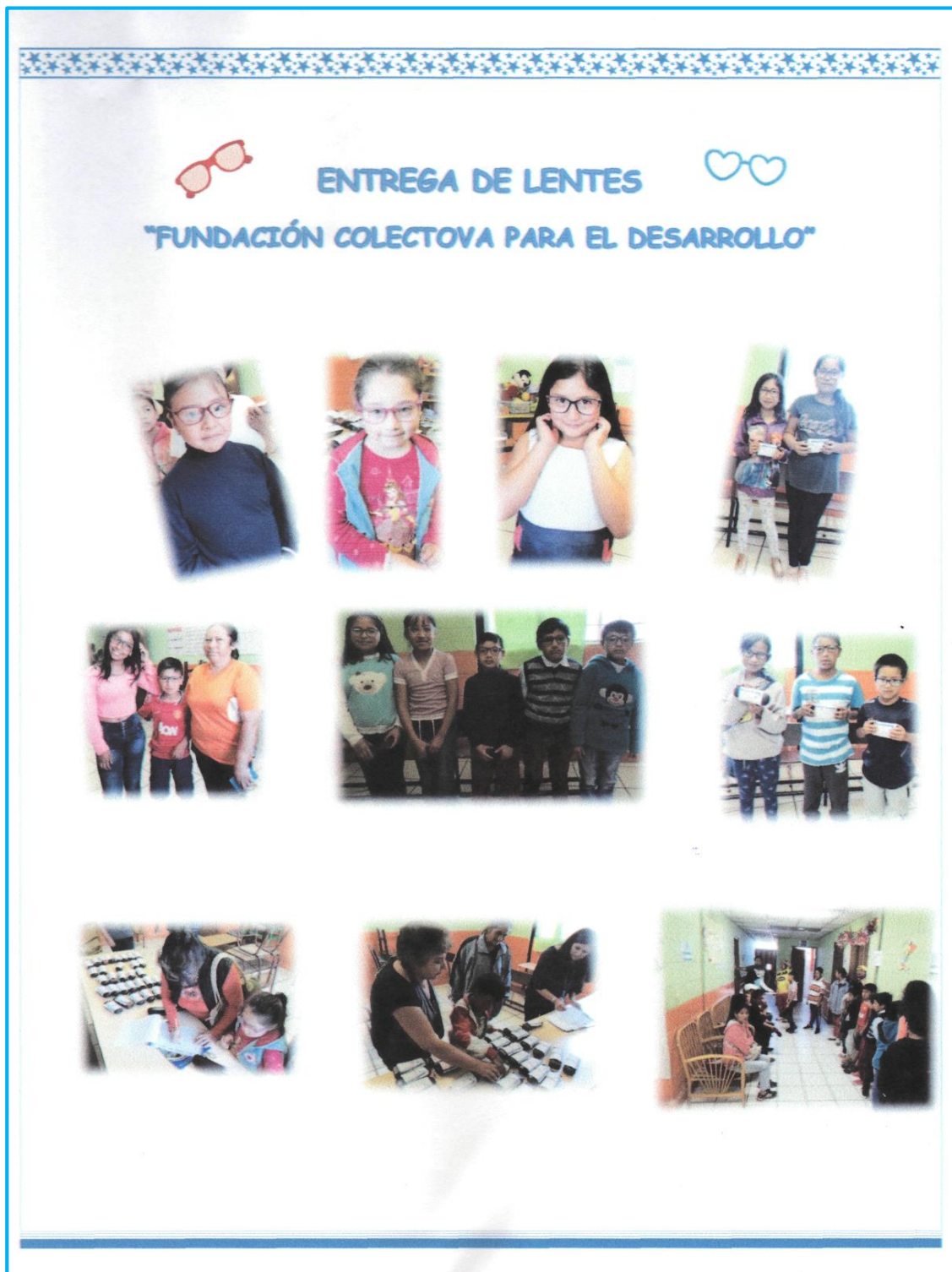
FUDELA campaign 2:
Venezuelan refugees
in Ecuador after
receiving their glasses



We were able to help one two-year old child with a visual impairment of 81%, by providing glasses with special lenses which had to be imported from Colombia

Right: child with his glasses, mother and the director of Vista para Todos





A sheet of photos produced by the FCPD showing some of the children with their new glasses