

## Background

### • 2012

- Asociación Civil El Almendro continued training a group of professionals willing to provide their collaboration through workshops carried out at the headquarters of the association, at privately-owned schools as well as public schools of the Government of the City of Buenos Aires and of the Province of Buenos Aires, at community centers and parishes where these professionals provided comprehensive prevention, emotional support and encouragement to children and teenagers, whose family groups were facing a risk situation whether because of poverty, marginalization (Unsatisfied Basic Needs, as abbreviated "NBI" in Spanish), exclusion, addictions or other factors. Open meetings were held with the testimony of addicts under treatment and of families to show that it is possible to recover from this illness.
- During the period 2012 we continued operating within the framework of the agreement through SCHOLARSHIPS granted to young adults with substance abuse problems who were derived by the Dirección General de Políticas Sociales en Adicciones (General Office of Social Policies regarding Substance Abuse Problems) of the Government of the City of Buenos Aires, and in this manner we were able to continue with the normal operation of the Day Care Center. We are working with patients who are derived by the Area of Young Adults of the Government of the City of Buenos Aires and who complete the program every 6 months.
- Furthermore, the Instituto el Almendro continued giving courses for the training of professionals in the education and health fields and to organizations and operators who provide help to persons with substance abuse problems.

During this period, we carried out, among others, the following activities:

- On January 22, the teenagers of the Day Care Center and of the Institution went out to a day in the countryside.
- On March 5, the Annual Course of Permanent Training was retaken by former students of the Chemical Dependency Counselors Course, from previous years.
- On March 21, the first meeting of the year was held with the professionals who work at our institution and with Dr. Graciela Rodríguez with the purpose of discussing about emo-

tional support strategies. This training was carried out throughout the period.

- The web page was updated.
- In April, a new Outpatient Workshop for patients with substance abuse problems started on Tuesdays from 8 to 10 P.M.
- On Sunday, April 22, we carried out a Training and Debate Conference: "Emotional Support to our Patients" with the entire work team of our institution.
- On Thursday, June 7, we started meeting each Thursday to prepare a documentary of the Association and stage plays with debates that will be presented from time to time.
- We started interviewing workshop coordinators who perform different arts for the Day Care Center.
- On Thursdays, we invite anyone willing to participate in the theater workshop carried out for the beneficiaries of the treatments that we offer.
- On August, Wednesday 16, a meeting was held with María Luisa Oviedo, Bachelor, in her capacity as the new Social Assistant, with the purpose of joining our institution.
- We went on a road trip to the coast of Argentina, to Mar de Ajó, with a group of young adults under recovery from August 25 through August 28. The trip was very rewarding for all of us and helped them strengthen their recovery.
- On October, Wednesday 17, we participated in a cable TV interview where we share tell our 20-year experience with the testimony of a person in recovery.
- It was communicated that Dr. Patricia Guadalupe de la Peña (holder of License No. 96692), in her capacity as Technical Director, ceased to be the Technical Director and was replaced by Dr. Cecilia Inés Almaraz, holder Id. Document [DNI] No. 26587081 and License No. 119368.
- On November, Friday 30, at 8 P.M., we celebrated the Institution's 20th Anniversary with a panel that shared the work experiences of the institutional team and testimonies of the persons with substance abuse problems and family members in recovery.
- On December, Monday 10, the first semester of the Chemical Dependency Counselors Course was completed. This course is aimed at training its participants in the task of dealing with different addictions. It is aimed at teachers, professionals and to those persons who are interested in this area.
- On December 24, some of our patients, together with the parish community members,

participated in the Silent Night Mass and the dinner at our chapel Our Lady of Luján (located in the neighborhood of Caballito).

- During this period, our godparents and benefactors continued providing their help through their generous contributions.
- The Executive Committee has continued making the efforts to obtain the necessary economic and financial support which is paramount for our institution in order to be able to intensify the Day Care Center operation according to the goals planned.

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- On March 14, the annual Chemical Dependency Counselors Course which is lectured by

the institution every year was carried out.

- Since April and throughout the year until December, Dr. Graciela Rodriguez provided training to the professionals of our institution regarding better strategies to deal with our patients.
- In May, we participated as institution by describing our experience at a workshop organized by Pastoral Social Nacional at the Universidad Católica Argentina (Argentine Catholic University, as abbreviated "UCA" in Spanish), located in the City of Rosario. In this month, we signed a new agreement for the Day Care Center with the Secretariat of Addictions of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires with an increase in the number of patients.
- In June, we participated by sharing our experience at the School of Theology of the Argentine Catholic University.
- On June 14, we participated with 4 young adults of our institution at a meeting of the Legislature, held at Congressman Nadeo's office. These 4 young adults were elected to receive training in a project for reentry in the labor market in which the Ministry of Justice, the Legislature and the Ministry of Labor of Argentina were participating.
- In September, we presented our work as an institution which works in the recovery of persons affected by addictions and emotional support to families in a chair of addictions of the Medicine School of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires.
- In September we also received a financial allowance from the Ministry of Social Development, Sub-Secretariat of Addictions. Such allowance enables us to finance one year of Training Workshops aimed at Emotionally Supporting persons with addictions and their families.
- On October 15, we participated as exhibitors at a Workshop, sharing our work experience with the population having substance abuse problems, on a World Health Day Event, which took place at Manel Belgrano School, in the City of Buenos Aires.
- On November 3, we participated at a meeting held in the Ministry of Labor of Argentina, located at L.N. Alem 630 PB, Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, in a program for reentry in the labor market of some of the young people who participate in our Institution.
- On November 20, we went out on a day in the countryside with all the assistants of our institution, for leisure and introspection.

• On December 2, we held a Public Meeting where we presented testimonies of recovery

from addicted persons and their families, there were 74 participants.

- On December 5, the students of the Chemical Dependency Counselors Course which is offered at our institution took their exams. On December 12, the course finished with the issuance of the relevant certificates.
- Workshop on “Addictions”, Parish St. Joseph, district of Flores, University of Flores.
- Workshop and conference for directors and teachers, School of Commerce No. 32, Autonomous City of Buenos Aires.

## • 2010

- Participation in the Workind Day aimed at Family and Human Strengthening. Subject: “The addictions and the consequences thereof”. Universidad de Concepción del Uruguay, Gualeguychú, Province of Entre Ríos.
- Participation in the Public Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous, Parish San Luis Gonzaga
- Participation in the Public Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous, Parish St. Mary.
- Participation on the Subject “Addictions”. Chair of Social Pastoral, Argentine Catholic University.
- Participation in the gathering of the Social Pastoral, Workshop “Problems related to teenagers”, Sanctuary of St. Cayetano, located in the district of Liniers.

## • 2009

- Course on “Social Doctrine of the Church”, at the Argentine Catholic University, Villa Devoto branch.
- Workshop Course in “Caritas”, Vicarage of Devoto
- Training at the Instituto Pastoral “Miguel Raspanti”.
- Training at the “Caritas Gathering”, Parish Mother Cabrini.
- Participation in the Program “CURE WITH OPINION – Radio “Splendid AM 9,90”. Subject: Alcoholism. Host: DR. DANIEL CASSOLA.

## • 2008

- Participation in the Public Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous held at the district of Ramos Mejía.

## • 2007

- “Intense Course on Addictions”, 10 gatherings, Parrish of the Good Shepherd.
- Work Day at the Department of Sociology to share experiences regarding social emotional support to family with substance abuse problems

## • 2006

- “Debate regarding the New Law 26061”. Work Day of Juvenile Justice, coordinated by the National Bureau of Human Development.
- Course “A current reality of our Church”. Catechism Gathering of Archdioceses
- Debate “Difficulties encountered in deriving minors with drug problems”, Asociación de Magistrado
- Work Day “Ruling of Law 26061, Comprehensive protection to the rights of children and teenagers”. Fundación Navarro Viola.
- Gathering “Vélez Sarsfield Hospital”, attended by all Social Services of Public Hospitals in and for the Federal District of the Argentine Republic, where we introduced the services of our Institution.

## • 2005

- “Informative Meeting for community workers”, 2 gatherings. Casa del Niño (Villa Bosch).

## • 2004

- “Work Day for Addictions Prevention and Drug Trafficking Control”, coordinated by the Addictions Prevention and Drug Trafficking Control Committee. The House of Representatives.
- “Informative Meeting: Addictions Prevention”. Teachers, Educational Center St. Francis Xavier.
- “Charla informativa: Prevención de Adicciones”, which consisted of five gatherings. Institution “Our Lady of Good Remedy”.



## • 2003

- “Meeting on addictions”. Immaculate Conception Institution.
- “Workshop: What to do about family violence”, Annual Diocese Catechistic Gathering, Lasalle School.
- “Juvenile Pastoral Meeting”, Holy Heart School, neighborhood of Caballito.
- “Care Centers Work Day”, National Board of Catechism.
- “Social Pastoral”, Caritas Buenos Aires.
- “Home organization for homeless children”, Sanctuary of St. Cayetano.
- “4th Workshop on Addictions Prevention: Life Gathering”. Adults and students, Our Lady of Good Trip School, district of Morón.
- “2nd National Gathering of the Educational Pastoral: Violence, Mistreatment, Abuse and Addictions in schools and families”. National Board of Catechism.
- “Course aimed at Pastoral representatives who work with children, families in risk and addictions”, which consisted of four workshops. National Board of Catechism
- “Workshop: Addictions Prevention”. Aimed at teachers, Our Lady of Good Trip School, district of Morón.
- “Workshop: Addictions Prevention”. Aimed at parents, Our Lady of Lourdes School.
- “Workshop: Addictions Prevention”. Aimed at students of 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th years, Patriots’ Our Lady of Luján School.
- “Workshop: Addictions Prevention”, Parish St. Charles, district of Moreno.
- “Workshop: Addictions Prevention” aimed at a leading group, Parish Presentation of the Lord.
- “Workshop: Addictions Prevention” aimed at adults. Juvenile Foundation 2002.
- “Workshop: Addictions Prevention” aimed at parents, Parish School of Father Osimato, district of Haedo.
- “Workshop: Addictions Prevention” aimed at parents, Our Lady of Good Trip School, district of Morón.
- “Workshop: Addictions Prevention” aimed at students, St. Joseph’s School.

## • 2002

- "Lectures and dramatizations on addictions". Directors, catechists, teachers and students, St. Judas Tadeo Institute.
- "Lectures aimed at directors, profesors, preceptors and students", Argentine Excelsior Institute.
- "Lectures and dramatizations on addictions", Institute Cabrini.
- "Lectures for Students", Good Shepherd School.
- "Course Matthew 25". Catechists, voluntary workers of prisons, House of the Catechist.
- "Workshop on Addictions" -EAC, Laypersons and priests, National Board of Catechism-
- "Juvenile Pastoral Gathering". Priests, Holy Hear School.
- "Catechism Gathering of Archdioceses". Lasalle School.
- Course on Addictions: A pastoral challenge in the Family and School". National Board of Catechism.
- "Course aimed at Pastoral representatives who work with children, families in risk and addictions", National Board of Catechism
- "Course: Reflection on pain from the Magisterium point of view". Seminar. Matthew 25, Diocese Catechistic Board – Department of Persons at Risk.
- "Course aimed at Pastoral representatives who work with children and families in risk. Subject: Medical Aspect - Alcoholism and drugs". National Board of Catechism.
- "Course aimed at Pastoral representatives who work with children and families in risk. Subject: Codependency". National Board of Catechism.
- "Workshops on the prevention of addictions", which consisted of three gatherings aimed at students and teachers, St. Judas Tadeo Institute.
- "Workshops on the prevention of addictions", which consisted of two gatherings aimed at students, Argentine Excelsior Institute.
- "Course aimed at Pastoral representatives who work with children and families in risk and addictions" aimed at laypersons, priests, professionals and catechists, National Board of Catechism.
- "Third Gathering of Archdioceses on Childhood and Youth Pastoral". National Board of



Catechism.

- “Evaluation III. Gathering of Archdioceses on Childhood and Youth Pastoral”. National Board of Catechism.
- “Workshop on the prevention of addictions: AIDS”. House of the Catechist.

## • 2001

- “Workshop on the prevention of addictions: Drugs and Alcoholism” aimed at teachers and students from different public schools, Secondary School Pastoral, School of the Society of Mary.
- “Workshop on the prevention of addictions: Drugs and Alcoholism” aimed at coordinators, volunteers of Caritas, families and teachers, Parish St. Claire.
- “Course Matthew 25”. Catechists, voluntary workers of prisons, House of the Catechist.
- “Workshop on the prevention of addictions: Drugs and Alcoholism”. Secondary school students, Víctor Martínez 42.
- “4th Social Pastoral Work Day: Policies and societies”. Holy Heart School.
- “Gathering of Priests”. Our Lady of Lourdes School.
- “Four workshops aimed at Pastoral representatives who work with children, families in risk and addictions”. National Board of Catechism.
- “Third gathering of Actions Network, Health Pastoral, Argentine Episcopal Conference (as abbreviated “CEA” in Spanish)”. Marín School, San Isidro.

## • 2000

- “Health Volunteer Network”, Archdiocese of Buenos Aires.
- “Project on Children and Family in Risk Pastoral. First Stage: Joining of Community Networks” Vicarage of Flores, Archdiocese of Buenos Aires.
- “Course for Priests and laypersons”. First gathering of priests, Immaculate Virgin of Lourdes School.
- “Gathering of Priests – Addictions”. Parish Immaculate Virgin of Lourdes.
- “Course aimed at Pastoral representatives who work with children and families in risk and addictions”. National Board of Catechism.
- “Training”. The Good Shepherd House.

- 1999

- “Training to directors, teachers, parents and students”. Institute Cabrini, Immaculate Virgin of Lourdes School, Evening Model Institute.

- 1992-1999

- “Course aimed at Pastoral Representatives and Minor Institutes”. Lacarra 1340.