



Argentina has a history of female leaders, as well as internationally recognized images that symbolize the heavy participation of women in the political, social, and domestic fields. These range from the beloved Eva Peron, the most remembered and influential Argentine First Lady, to the more recent Madres de la Plaza de Mayo – a weekly reunion of hundreds of mothers who protest against the unaccountable disappearances and murders of their children during the dirty war. However, despite their inclusion in politics and business, Argentinean women are still shadowed by the historically traditional, Catholic influence and “machismo” culture.

The rise of social movements resulting from the people’s protest against the harsh conditions of the 2001 economic crisis and the “dirty war,” contributed to the rise of solidarity between women. With the disappearances of thousands of men, women stepped up in response and defended their families. Similarly, the loss of income due to the 2001 crisis required both men and women to contribute to the family resources. Both these factors motivated women to take leadership roles in many of the grassroots movements igniting throughout the country.

FSD seeks to promote this coalition and solidarity movement of women by giving these groups the resources and skills they need to exponentially grow. Most women’s groups need capacity building activities, organization assistance, technical assistance, aid in promotion and marketing, and encouragement through solidarity with international women’s support mechanisms.

Internship/Volunteer opportunities in women’s empowerment in Argentina include:

- Offer trainings and workshops to marginalized women so that they may successfully integrate with the working community and find steady employment.
- Assist teaching of handicraft skills to unemployed women for the production of popular goods sold in local markets.
- Continue an FSD project that offers bread-making training to the directors and cooks of local shelters, as well as to local unemployed women who in turn receive government aid for their community service. Pizzas, desserts, and jams are made to sell at local markets and to feed participant families.
- Support trainings that provide mothers with appropriate child raising techniques and how to address the legal conflicts that these children frequently encounter.
- Offer legal counsel and emotional support for women suffering from intra-familial abuse and mistreatment.
- Continue an FSD sewing project for mothers to learn a marketable trade, produce towels, curtains, and aprons for sale, and clothe their families.
- Assist in the development and implementation of workshops that educate vulnerable adolescents and women about violence prevention.

For more opportunities in women’s empowerment in Argentina, visit our website or contact us directly.