



Photo by Kathryn Klaas

Although Argentina has an extremely high literacy rate - ninety seven percent - there is still a serious deficiency in educational support for marginalized children. After the economic crisis, those living at the bottom of the economic ladder ended up in poverty – creating a significantly larger percentage of children with inadequate living conditions and a need for greater educational support. There is a growing demand for tutor programs, community libraries, and supplemental educational programs in the arts, health, hygiene, physical activity, sex education, and peer mentorship. Many children are also in need of emotional guidance as they struggle to adjust to a life that was foreign to them before the crisis. This includes help in dealing with the pressures of drugs and alcohol.

The creation of community youth centers is an essential tool that can create community support, and divert Argentinean youth from substance abuse. NGOs working with youth and education projects are always looking for positive examples for Argentina marginalized youth – a role that many interns and volunteers provide. Also, the food kitchens and shelters which have become the jewels of the La Plata community are in constant need of manpower in order to continue providing essential services to the children. FSD interns in Argentina can play an important role in creating a brighter future for Argentinean children.

Internship/Volunteer opportunities in youth and education in Argentina include:

- Work in a daycare center that provides meals, counseling, tutoring, English classes, arts & crafts, cooking courses, and computer science classes for vulnerable children and their mothers.
- Develop an athletic education program for vulnerable children and adolescents. Other extra-curricular activities include craft-making, music, art, and environmental awareness through recreation.
- Continue an FSD project by spearheading an advertising campaign that will recruit new volunteers to serve as adult mentors for students ages 4-12, thus providing positive role models for marginalized and/or disabled children.
- Improve the level of education offered to working individuals and those who are otherwise excluded by giving capacity building courses in computer and English skills. Follow the progress of your students and support the scholarship program which allows marginalized students to enroll in classes.
- Develop ways to deliver resources to a community library for vulnerable children. Start a book drive, research funding sources, and/or create a book archive.
- Continue an FSD organic vegetable garden project that trains marginalized youth how to create a sustainable food source, offering hunger-relief, and a marketable skill for their future.

For more opportunities in youth and education in Argentina, visit our website or contact us directly.