

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

For Projects Abroad Mexico 



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Projects Abroad

EDITORIAL



In October Projects Abroad Mexico, alongside our fantastic volunteers, continued to work to help our various placements and project partners. All the volunteers were enthusiastic in assisting during our medical outreaches and dirty days, as well as taking part in our cultural and Spanish workshops.

In this new issue of our Newsletter you will have the chance to get to know some of the work our volunteers and staff get up to here in Mexico and, hopefully, get inspired by them.

Also featured is the celebration of the Mexican Independence Day which takes place during the days of the 15th and 16th of September. In these days, Mexicans all over the world celebrate the independence of Mexico from the Spanish crown 200 years ago.

During these days everything is painted red, white and green (the colors of the national flag) and people take to the streets to see the many parades taking place across the country.

Our volunteers also get to experience first-hand what Mexico is all about with kindness, happiness, fraternity and a big smile for everyone.

So I hope you enjoy reading this issue.

Juan Miguel Ruiz Flores
Communications Officer Mexico



PROJECT UPDATES

Helping Niños y Adolescentes en Armonía, our sports and teaching projects

On Friday the 3rd of October, volunteers from different parts of the world got together to help renovate the main yard. This is our most recent contribution to this placement.

Leonard Boelen (Holland), Tiffany De Almeida (France), Thomas Jolles (UK), Jakob Ernst (Germany) and Sylvain Thibault (Canada) dedicated their time and efforts to paint and renovate more than one hundred square meters of floor. The final result looks great.



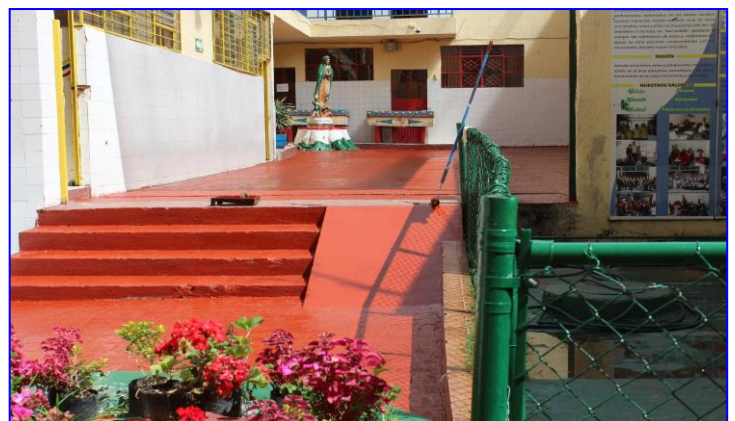
Niños y adolescentes en armonía is one of our newest project partners in Mexico. We have been working together since May 2014, when Dutch volunteer Simon Hendrikse joined us to work as a capoeira coach (a martial art rooted in Brazil). His work marked the beginning of our partnership with this new sports placement, and it turned out to be a complete success.

(<http://www.mytripblog.org/pg/blog/JuanMiguel/read/348695/capoeira-to-change-the-lives-of-less-fortunate-children-dutch-volunteer-simon-hendrikse-tells-about-his-experience-in-the-sports-project-at-nios-y-adolescentes-en-armonia>).

The main goal of Niños y adolescentes en armonía is to contribute to the personal development of children and teenagers living in adverse conditions by focusing on their education and by giving support in the areas of psychology and healthcare.

In the past six months we have received more than ten volunteers who have contributed in the areas of sports, English teaching and institutional development. Jonatán Torres, Projects Abroad project coordinator for sports, teaching and care projects in Guadalajara sees Niños y adolescentes as a family in which our volunteers are quickly integrated: "Volunteers love this placement and even stay extra hours after finishing their day as they want to continue helping".

Congratulations for such great work guys! Gefeliciteerd! Félicitations! Herzliche Glückwünsch! ¡Felicidades!



VOLUNTEER STORIES

French volunteer, Jessica Porreye, and her passion for animal care

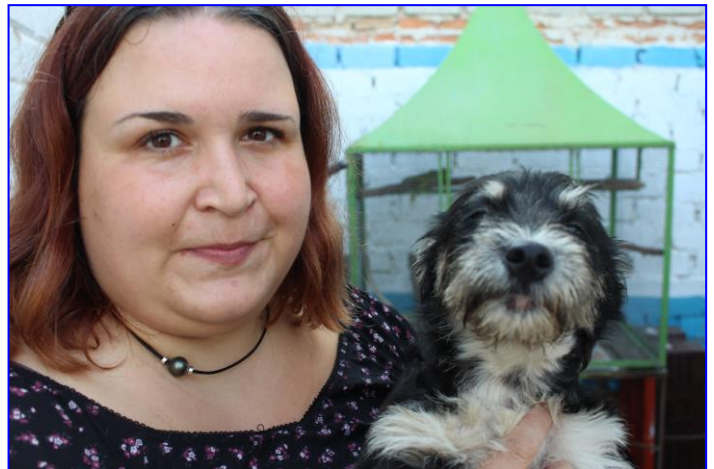
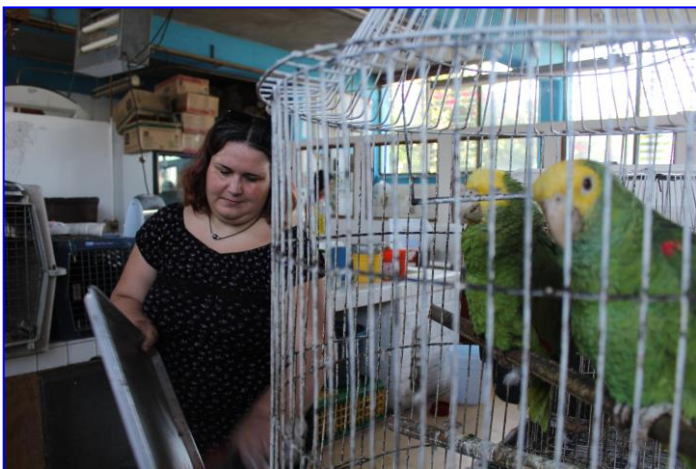
When asked about her experience in Mexico, Jessica Porreye has only one answer: “It has been the journey of my life”. One has to believe her: When talking to Jessica you hear the passion with which she speaks about her work at the animal rehab center in Guadalajara and her verdict is clear: She loved the work she did, the people she worked with and the closeness with the animals of the center.

Jessica is radiant with happiness when she speaks about how she grew as a human being while working in this placement: “Having worked at the animal center has not only enriched my knowledge about animals and how to handle them. It has also helped me enhance my interpersonal relationships”. The staff at the center including Andrés Gonzalez (director of the center), Luis Alberto Cayo and Tatjana Kotschenreuther were very welcoming and kind to her. Jessica remembers them all very dearly.

“The animal rehab center really needs the help of volunteers. Any help is welcome”, says Jessica who hopes that anyone who reads this and is willing to volunteer abroad chooses this placement: “It has an excellent work environment. People are nice, helpful and kind and the whole experience is like an adventure”, shares Jessica.

Here you can read the full story about Jessica’s time at the animal center.

<http://www.mytripblog.org/pg/blog/JuanMiguel/read/368573/jessica-porreye-and-her-passion-for-animal-care>



Country update

Mexican Independence Day celebration in Guadalajara

The 16th of September is the Mexican Fiesta par excellence! On this day Mexicans all over the world celebrate Mexico's independence from the Spanish crown rule.

In Guadalajara, the local state government organizes a street military parade to celebrate the bravery of those who devote their lives to the security of the country. People here take special pride in their security forces and this is the date on which they celebrate them.

I hope you enjoy the pictures!

