



## Meet Madam President, FANDIC



The President, Olga Santamaria, assists a child at FANDIC'S "Child's Day"

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### Global Steps Together

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CAPD is a registered Canadian charitable organization.

"I am a physiotherapist. I have been with FANDIC for 4 years, 2 of which were in the Board of Directors. I am also a professor in the University of Santander(UNDES).

Thanks to the workshops that FANDIC has offered with CAPD, we've started to change the paradigm of what is community based rehabilitation. Now, FANDIC is a leader in this type of community work. The workshops have been key to attracting people to join us and in keeping them with us.

The people who are close to FANDIC feel that they are growing with it; that not only are they giving, but are also receiving. They

see a different way to work as a volunteer, one that is outside of the conventional.

We have also seen a great change in the families and children because they now feel that the foundation provides them with more opportunities to participate jointly in activities. We are now in reciprocal exchange.

FANDIC has a lot of people who collaborate, but at the same time, they are very busy. Despite the fact that there are few people in the operational part of FANDIC, we have managed to maintain equilibrium and supply all the needs in terms of the site, the resources, the contact with the collaborators and the workshops, (continued p. 4).

## Children with Self-Confidence and Acceptance



These two children are brother & sister. They have been integrated into school and therapy since 1997. They have progressed by leaps and bounds in their social skills and they can now walk and run without falling. Verbal communication remains difficult but that

does not stop them from making friends as shown by the picture on the right. Look at their faces and body language, for this tells the story. They have a positive sense of who they are; they are confident; and they are friendly.

Working with these children not

only helps them, but also deeply affects their volunteer helpers. The comments below were made by a university student practicing physiotherapy in FANDIC:

"The experience we are creating here is phenomenal. The children are very friendly. An outsider might get another impression, but when we work with them we find that they are affectionate and very appreciative. They are conscious that the things we are doing with them are for their own benefit, for their future."

A grade ten student providing tutoring to FANDIC's children has these comments:

"I like it because, above all, one learns a lot. At first it was difficult to communicate with them because for me, their world is different. I don't know, but for them to write is so difficult; it's a slower process than for us. I like to be here because one learns a lot. I like to share with the children. This work really attracts me."

In participatory research, we talk about the transformative effect of involvement. Relationship building affects both the child and the volunteer, leading to a change in attitude and behaviour.

## Working with Others to Create a Better Life



She's happy! She can finally sit up in a chair and has a table for eating & drawing. Before, she spent her days lying down because she didn't have a chair to give her adequate support. The table & chair were designed and constructed as part of a

workshop CAPD held with FANDIC in April.

On the construction team were her mother, her uncle, an engineer, two social workers, an educator, an accountant and a therapist.

When we work as a multi-disciplinary team, the process is creative and the results are innovative. The feeling of accomplishment is exhilarating!

# Children & Mothers Dare to Dream



The woman dressed in a white t-shirt is the mother of the girl to the left. Both have made impressive gains with FANDIC. I'll let her tell her story.

"My daughter is 7 years old and

is studying in kinder. I thank God that I have people to help me, especially FANDIC because now I have been here more than 4 years. I thank all the people who have given of their hearts, who are humanitar-

ian and who help the children because in many places the children with disability are rejected, are practically thrown out of their families.

One learns to value life more, having a child with disability, because each moment with them is a gift. I am so proud & happy at each birthday because she has made it another year. She has grown and developed impressively & despite her disease she has almost learned to walk.

My idea is to have a day care for children with disability. It is my great dream because it has been difficult to find someone to leave my daughter with, and I know it is the same for others. And we can't leave the children on their own."

As you know, dreaming is one of the first step to achievement. This mother is working with FANDIC to make her dream a reality.



Please meet Nicholas and his mother. They represent another family that participates in FANDIC community programs.

Nicholas and his mom rest as the activities of the "Day of the Child" party continue unabated. They are contented, not only with the party but also with the results of a workshop that made a special walker for Nicholas (see picture on right).

The family wanted a walker that Nicholas could use either sitting or standing & was suitable for the dimensions of their house. They all joined in the effort to design & construct something special for him and are very pleased with the result. So is Nicholas!

# Meet Madam President, FANDIC (cont.)

but with lots of effort. Perhaps we need more people in the operational side. It is difficult because not everyone can spend a full day here without receiving compensation, even if they'd like to. We have been making contacts to try to get what we need for the children and their activities. We still need more people and institutions to collaborate with financial assistance, so we can do many more things.

I believe FANDIC has a high vision. We don't contemplate closing FANDIC because we are missing something. No, we have a vision to take our concept of community development to other places. We feel satisfaction because we have reached the hearts of people in other places who also want to start this work. Our dream is precisely this—that we continue

to extend ourselves little by little and people keep on approaching us.

FANDIC has had a huge impact in my personal life. I always wanted to work in the community, but didn't have the opportunity or know how to get involved. I believe I have achieved this part of my life, to do something different. And because of this, I have also grown with FANDIC. It has been really terrific to demonstrate that one can do many things. If a person has studied and has the capability to do certain things, he or she should do them and not wait until the last day to tell others what one has achieved in life. I really love FANDIC. It is not something external, it is part of my life and for this reason I defend it a lot and I like many people to form part of FANDIC."

## Please Support FANDIC's Community Programs!

Program	Description	Beneficiaries	Needs
Community Kitchen	Support the creation of a community kitchen run by the mothers, with assistance from FANDIC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40 FANDIC children/families</li> <li>• Students</li> <li>• Volunteers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kitchen equipment</li> <li>• Start-up funds</li> </ul>
Day Care	Support the creation of a day care for children with disability and staffed by mothers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40 FANDIC children/families</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equipment such as mattresses &amp; toys</li> <li>• Start-up funds</li> </ul>
Small Business	Support the training of mothers in courses such as accounting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 mothers to take courses</li> <li>• 10 mothers in business</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funds to take courses in technical college</li> </ul>



### Canadian Association for Participatory Development

#### Our Vision

The vision of CAPD is to facilitate the integration of people with disabilities as contributing members of their communities and society through the building of individual and organizational capacities internationally.

#### Our Mission

CAPD builds long-term relationship of trust and respect with our partners in developing countries through a process of 'accompaniment' in which there is reciprocal learning and understanding. We value authentic participation of partners by affirming abilities, promoting local leadership and enhancing opportunities for self-actualization. We develop and assist with educational activities, financial support, technical support, networking and research

#### Our Activities

We promote and support:

- Awareness about disability and disability policy
- Participation of people with disability in projects that enhance accessibility
- Visionary leadership in organizations promoting disability issues
- Educational opportunities for people with disabilities
- Networking and information sharing on a local and international basis