



FSD Bolivia – Instituto Para El Desarrollo Humano

Cochabamba, Bolivia

Public Health Intern: HIV/AIDS Community Education Program

Organization Overview

Foundation for Sustainable Development is an international development organization that seeks to support communities in achieving their goals through asset-based development and international exchange in Bolivia(Cochabamba) and Argentina (Salta). FSD provides opportunities for students and professionals to engage in real community development work instead of a typical study abroad or drop-in service project program. The internships are thoughtfully designed to help you build your career while having a lasting impact on the people in the community in which you serve. Our internships have a strong emphasis on community ownership and follow the principles of Asset-Based Community Development. Interns receive extensive training in sustainable development principles and gain professional skills in project planning and budgeting, program evaluation, community assessment, and proposal writing. Interns apply their new and existing skill sets as they collaborate with their local colleagues on identifying, designing, and implementing a project to benefit the community.

Social Issue Focus & Impact

IDH is an organization that works to develop social and preventive medicine while promoting gender equity and basic human rights for everyone. The AIDSction program strives to slow the rate of HIV transmission by distributing both basic information on HIV and AIDS and information on the universal values of solidarity, equity, responsibility and respect. Instituto Para El Desarrollo Humano (IDH) was established in 1997 to address HIV/AIDS and related issues in Bolivia, through prevention and attention services for people living with, or at risk of contracting, HIV/AIDS in Cochabamba.

IDH's goal is to help improve the quality of life of the population, particularly in rural areas, through the development of programmes based on research, educational promotion and participatory action.

IDH currently works on two programmes. The first, SidAccion, is a holistic programme that offers direct medical support to people living with HIV/AIDS. As part of this programme, IDH holds an annual weeklong fair on HIV awareness that is attended by over 25,000 people.

The second programme, MediAccion, focuses on advocacy, working with schools for the prevention of HIV/AIDS, sexual violence and drug use among children and young people.

In 2015, IDH – with its strong links with governmental and non-governmental entities and networks, both within Bolivia and internationally – reached 21,915 direct beneficiaries.

Prevention: SIDAcción aims to diminish the transmission of HIV/AIDS on a local and national scale by providing complete and accessible information regarding the different aspects of HIV and the factors that favor its diffusion – such as gender inequality, machismo and excessive alcohol consumption. The program provides general education to lessen the stigma and fears associated with HIV-positive people in Bolivia. IDH reaches the Bolivian public through information sessions based on what they find in studies and with updated and reliable scientific information that they gather. These sessions are held for various groups, including high school and university students, parent associations, teachers, mass media, the armed forces, prisons, churches and other institutions and social groups. A subprogram involves the training of teachers and professors in these subjects. IDH also arranges public events and festivals in theater, dance and music that



aim to promote community health, such as its annual ExpoSIDA in Cochabamba. Finally, IDH creates articles, posters, radio and television programs.

Healthcare Formation and Training: This program provides training courses, seminars and conferences on the subject of HIV/AIDS to healthcare professionals. It also publishes materials directed towards the health sector and its personnel. These training sessions and publications include up-to-date information on HIV/AIDS and the principles of universal precautions to avoid the transmission of HIV in the delivery of healthcare services.

Human Rights: The Human Rights program provides medical, social, psychological, legal and spiritual support for people living with HIV/AIDS and their relatives through self-help groups and voluntary companions. It is also dedicated to political incidence and the promotion of human rights for people living with HIV/AIDS in Bolivia. It works to strengthen groups of people living with HIV/AIDS, as well as the national network of these groups.

Epidemiological Research: IDH conducts surveys and research on sexuality and AIDS in Cochabamba and publishes various materials and articles based on the results

Position Description

SIDAcción aims to diminish the transmission of HIV/AIDS on a local and national scale by providing complete and accessible information regarding the different aspects of HIV and the factors that favor its diffusion – such as gender inequality, machismo and excessive alcohol consumption. The program provides general education to lessen the stigma and fears associated with HIV-positive people in Bolivia. IDH reaches the Bolivian public through information sessions based on what they find in studies and with updated and reliable scientific information that they gather. These sessions are held for various groups, including high school and university students, parent associations, teachers, mass media, the armed forces, prisons, churches and other institutions and social groups. A subprogram involves the training of teachers and professors in these subjects

Student Profile

IDH is a well-known organization in Cochabamba and Bolivia for its work in research on HIV, violence and sexuality prevention. The student who applies will have a lot of support and different opportunities in research in public health, human rights and education. The impact of the information generated is large, since it is published and applied in the work of different other organizations related to this theme

Time Frame

The program it is flexible for the start between May 17 and June 14 2021