



FUNDACIÓN PRO NIÑOS DE LA CALLE, I. A. P.



www.proninosdelacalle.org.mx

proninos@proninosdelacalle.org.mx

+52 (0155) 5597 9299 / 01800 714 6505

 /FundacionProNinosdeLaCalleAP

 @FProninos

 /ProNinos



WHO ARE WE?

We are a private assistance institution founded in 1993 looking after children, teenagers and young men who live or who used to live on the streets of Mexico City, whose ages range from 10 to 21, regardless of their origin, physical condition, emotional deficiencies, health condition and addiction to psychoactive substances. We also provide support to children and teenagers who are at risk of living on the street, starting at 8, thus preventing them from doing so through comprehensive interventions including every member of their family.





“Understanding and assisting children living on the street in a personalized manner, supporting them in a gradual process that enables them to choose another way of life, and providing the conditions to remain in it.”

OUR GOAL:

Provide assistance to children, teenagers and young men living on the streets or being at risk of living on the streets, comprehensively and personally, by providing them with adequate environments so that they can exercise their own rights and choose the future they want to live.



H

HOW WE WORK?

We work with an innovative educational model focused on the restitution of human rights, development of life skills* and promoting participatory processes in which children, teenagers and young men can make their own decisions.

We have a multidisciplinary team of professionals in the areas of Psychology, Sociology, Pedagogics and Social Work, which together, intervene in a comprehensive and personalized way to create safe spaces where children and teens have the opportunity to transform their conditions of life, out of the street.

Program: From the streets to hope

We take care of children and teenagers ranging from 10 to 17, living or who have lived on the streets, through a gradual process starting with our first contact with them at the place where they spend the night, and concluding when they decide by themselves to build a new life plan, whether they go back to their family or register in a residential program or start an independent life on their own.

This program includes three stages:

a) Street work

During this stage, we locate and have our first contact with children and teenagers on the street. Our objective is starting a friendly and respectful relationship that enables us to get acquainted with them and gain their trust with the aid of playful games and creative activities that appeal to them, so that we can subsequently invite them to the Daily Activities Center.

This process of working on the street has an approximately duration of two weeks and it concludes when the child or teenager expresses his interest in visiting the Daily Activities Center and continuing with the process.



* Necessary skills towards an adequate and positive behavior that enables children and teenagers to face daily life challenges. They are a group of psychosocial skills whose development increases the likelihood that individuals can increase their performance in their daily life.



b) Daily Activities Center

This is the place where children and teenagers attend every day from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. We provide them with comprehensive care consisting of different motor, creative and reflexive activities geared towards achieving their emotional stability as well as stimulating their development of skills and healthy habits that enable them to regain their self-esteem and evaluate their life situation by recognizing it as transient.

Once children are able to stabilize in the process, work focuses on them reflecting on their life expectations outside the street and resulting in realizing a new life plan with achievable short and medium term goals.



c) Life option

When children and teenagers reach this stage in their process, they are assigned an educator, who will help them build a custom life plan that enables them to leave the streets for good, selecting one of three different options: going back to their family, entering a new environment through a residential program or starting an independent life on their own.

At this stage, they are supported in their detoxication process, through therapeutic communities, clinics and mutual-help groups.

Transition House for an Independent Life

This started operating in the beginning of 2009 and its objective is to offer a safe and predictable environment that favors the development of emotional, cognitive and social skills, as well as skills for an independent life.

This is one option of temporary residence for teenagers and young men between the ages of 16 to 21, who due to different reasons cannot go back to their family or enter an institution which offers a residential program, and who wish to prepare for living a life on their own. They have access to education, health, recreation and decent employment and especially, to the possibility of choosing the future they want to live.

The preparation process takes from 6 to 24 months, depending on the conditions and skills of every teenager or young man.



Program: Taking Care of Families

This prevention programs began operating in 2012 and focuses on taking care of low-income families living in Mexico City and suburban areas, with children ranging from 8 to 17, who are at risk of living on the streets.

Families with whom we work show factors that favor the possibility of children and teenagers will become street children, such as violence, consumption of psychoactive substances, scarce economic resources, school desertion and lack of coexistence rules or standards for living in a family situation.





Facing this reality, the program model is based on a psycho-educational intervention focused on generating safe and healthy family environments. Given this, we work in a periodic way with every family member for recovering their emotional fabric and for developing emotional, cognitive and social skills, both individually and collectively, that enable them to generate protective factors* for preventing children from leaving their homes and going to the streets.

Another key strategy of the program is supporting families to create support networks with other institutions that provide them with services through which they can improve their life conditions, such as private and government institutions, therapists, institutions for the treatment of addictions, schools, sports centers and cultural centers.

* Perceptible features in an individual, group or community contributing to general or specific vulnerability reduction by mitigating the impact of risky behavior, increasing tolerance to negative effects and/or favoring human development and health maintenance or recovery.

WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED?

In 2013:

158 Children, teenagers and young men have benefitted from our three care programs.

23 Boys and teenagers stopped living on the street, of which:

11 Went back to living with their families.

8 Enrolled in a residential program of a sister institution.

4 Went to the Transition House for an Independent Life (CTVI, Casa de Transición a la Vida Independiente).

6 Young men graduated from CTVI and started an independent life on their own.

42 Families were taken care of.

105 Families and individuals who were close to the children, teenagers and young men were taken care of indirectly.

875 Children and teenagers stopped living on the streets between 1993 and 2013.





R RECOGNITION

2013 *Certificación de Filantropía, A.C. (Philanthropia Certificate)*, obtained through an institutional development assessment of a 3.33, on a scale of 0 – 4, positioning us as a competitive organization according to international best practices.

2012 *Premio Razón de Ser (Reason for Being Award)*, granted by Fundación Merced, A.C. an award for consolidation and high social impact in the educational model Pro Niños (in favor of children) supporting kids living on the streets.

2009 *Premio Reina Sofía contra las drogas en su 8a. edición iberoamericana (Queen Sophia Award against Drugs – 8th Iberoamerican Edition)*, granted by Fundación de Cruz Roja Española para la Atención a las Toxicomanías (CREFAT) (Spanish Red Cross Foundation for Supporting Individuals with Drug Addictions).

2006 *Certificación Institucionalidad y Transparencia (Institutionality and Transparency Award)*, granted by Centro Mexicano para la Filantropía (CEMEFI, the main institution that promotes Corporate Social Responsibility in Mexico) for the accreditation of Pro Niños as an institution operating with the highest level of transparency and accountability with its donors.

2005 *Certificación Certeza (Certainty Certification)*, granted by Fundación Merced, A.C. and Universidad Iberoamericana for endorsing Civil Society Organizations (OSC) transparency and professionalism.

De la calle a la esperanza. Propuesta educativa de la Fundación Pro Niños de la Calle (From the Street to Hope. Educational Proposal by Pro Children on the Streets Foundation). 1st edition, Mexico City: Noriega Editores, 2000. 179 p.

De la calle a la esperanza. Modelo educativo de la Fundación Pro Niños de la Calle (From the Street to Hope, Educational Model by Pro Children on the Street Foundation). 1st edition, Mexico City: Lenguaraz, 2010. 88 p. (Update of the educational model).

Makowski, Sara; Flores, Julia; Ednica, I.A.P.; Fundación Dar y Amar, I.A.P.; Fundación Pro Niños de la Calle, et all. ***Niños, niñas, adolescentes y jóvenes en situación de calle. Elementos para repensar las formas de intervención (Boys, girls, teenagers and youngsters on the streets. Elements that make us rethink forms of intervention).*** 1st edition, Mexico City: Lenguaraz, 2010. 127 p.

