

## OCTOBER REPORT

### Reparation of the damage by Angélica Yniesta Hernández

October 3, 2018 is a historic day for the defense of the human rights of those who live in public spaces. On this day, the Government of Mexico City concluded the process of reparation for the harm done to a young man who lived on the streets and who years ago suffered a serious violation of his right to health.

In 2015, the Human Rights Commission of the Federal District of Mexico (CDHDF) presented, among others, recommendation 8, on cases of Deficiency in Health Care, referring to people in street situations. At that time, ednica incorporated 2 cases for the recommendation.

It took four years for one of the recommendations to close its cycle and thus, although there is no financial resource to restore the effects suffered, reparation of the damage will contribute to his having a better option of life outside the street.

We are certain that human rights violations should not occur, but in this case a step was taken to reverse an injustice; which, by the way, was possible thanks to the accompaniment of the Human Rights Commission of the Federal District.

It is important to continue working to prevent the systematic violation of people's rights; no matter where they live, what they do, what their beliefs are, their economic, political, religious or social condition. At ednica we will remain committed to this struggle.



## Let's go camping! by Erandi Villanueva Dávila.

At the beginning of October, the teenagers of the Ajusco Community Center attended a camp where, in the company of other boys and girls of their age, they were able to share, live together and enjoy this pleasant experience.

The setting for this meeting was *La Villa María Inmaculada* located in *Tepoztlán, Morelos* Mexico, where they worked on issues of good treatment, teamwork, gender equality and non-discrimination, providing them with tools and skills that will help them form a full and healthy life.

It is important to emphasize that part of ednica commitment to children and adolescents is to encourage this type of action and what better way to do it than through these experiences, in which they can relate and put into practice the life skills that have been promoted within the psychoeducational spaces with which ednica has.

The experience was unique and unrepeatable for each of the participants. We hope to receive an invitation for this type of event that strengthens skills and bonds.

We are very grateful to *Proyecto Cantera* for having extended this invitation to us, and for having involved the teenagers who were the protagonists during that weekend.



## Strengthening of social skills by Roman Diaz Salgado.

One of the purposes that we generated from the project "Social-emotional Skills for Children and Teenagers" for the year 2018, has consisted in contributing to the development of pro-social behaviors that are oriented to prevent and modify impulsive and/or disruptive behaviors in this population.

In order to achieve this purpose, therapeutic educational sessions have been implemented throughout the year through which intra- and interpersonal skills are strengthened, such as emotional self-regulation and the management of social relationships, for example.

In this way, the social-emotional skills that we have strengthened throughout this project cycle are: Self-realization, Self-impulse control, Autonomy, Empathy, Collaboration and Management of social relations.

Specifically, regarding the Management of social relations, from the activities developed to date, the participants approach the notion that this ability implies the set of necessary behaviors that must allow them to coexist and relate adequately with those who interact in the different spaces of socialization in which they develop, such as the school, their family, the community center and their community in general. In addition, the participants have also exercised skills such as listening attentively, respecting personal space, looking into the eyes during dialogue, communicating their interests and tastes, as well as what they dislike, in an assertive manner. Another important aspect that has also been addressed regarding the topic of Management of social relations in Children and Teenagers is that of promoting that they learn to handle in an adequate manner the situations of rejection and social pressure that they could suffer.

It is important to point out that the Management of social relations in Children and Teenagers goes hand in hand with the development of other capacities such as self-control of emotions, autonomy, communication and assertive decision making, among others; hence, it is extremely important to implement and follow up the present project that promotes emotional health, as it has an approach that favors the integral growth of intra- and interpersonal capacities from the perspective of life skills and prevention of risk behaviors.



## Moments of reflection by Alfredo Navarro Colula.

We are 2 months away from ending this year, a difficult year but, little by little, the objectives and goals have been fulfilled. In October, different events were held in which the young people involved in street life participated and reflected in order to show what they had learned at the Morelos Community Center (CCM); they also attended the Mexico City Human Rights Program (PDHCDMX) and the traditional Day of the Dead offering could not be missing.

Therefore, in October, personnel from the Private Assistance Board in Mexico City (JAP) visited us in order to learn about the work carried out in ednica and in the Morelos Community Center and especially in our Program for the Defense and Promotion of the Human Rights of Children, Adolescents, Youth and Families who live in public spaces. At the end of the visit, the JAP invited the group Sangre Azteca to sing songs of the Mexican regional genre; everyone had fun, danced, and even sang a duet with the group.

In another event that young people linked to street life attended was the 1st Fair of human rights for people in street situations and members of street populations, which was held in the facilities of the Human Rights Program of Mexico City where they had access to medical services, civil registry, hairdressing and legal advice.

Also, this month could not miss the traditional Day of the Dead offering and although for many it is a moment of sadness and reflection, they decided to remember their friends in a fun and loving way despite the fact that most died as a result of drug use and the ravages of life on the street.

We will continue to work to achieve all that is proposed and that young people linked to life in the street learn, demand, exercise and defend their human rights so that they can build alternatives for a dignified life.





## Living our Rights by David Sánchez Ramírez.

At ednica we consider the street situation to be a series of external factors that affect people and distance them from the exercise of their rights and bring them closer to the streets.

In this sense, people linked to street life find themselves in a situation of serious social exclusion, their human rights being continuously violated in all areas of their development spheres.

We continually seek alliances that allow adolescents and young people linked to street life and who are part of ednica, to build a life project based on the exercise of their rights, acquiring social skills that will lead them to stop living on the streets.

Therefore, ednica was pleased to participate in the First Human Rights Fair for street people and members of street populations, organized by the Human Rights Program of Mexico City.

In this event, we had the opportunity to participate in the Forum "Opportunities and obstacles in the enforceability of human rights and social integration of people in street situations and members of street populations, the need for a regulatory framework. In this space our general director shared the challenges in the enforceability of the rights of these people from an institutional perspective.

Also, Itzel, co-author of the book we recently published called: "Al encuentro de mis pasos. Recuperación de miradas de mujeres que habitaron el espacio público", which you can read on our website, shared her experiences regarding the exercise of her rights and the personal challenges she faced to overcome her life in the streets.

For ednica it is indispensable to join this type of alliance, since this event seeks to lay the foundations for the construction of a law initiative in Mexico City that considers the rights of people in street situations, and therefore of children, adolescents and young people who are part of ednica's mission.

We do not want to stop thanking those who with their donations in kind and economic allow us that every day, in each ednica space, new stories are built in the search for dignified life alternatives.



## Woman without freedom by Claudia Cervantes Cano.

"She decided she could continue her profession,  
learn from it and be truly free."

Nayeli Vázquez.

Author of the story:

"Woman without freedom"

In order to contribute to the promotion of awareness and to promote gender equity, the following book was presented: "Cambiando Historias Cuentos con perspectiva de género de adolescentes y mujeres en situación de calle" (Changing Stories with a Gender Perspective of Adolescents and Women in Street Situations), by 24 adolescent assistants from the three ednica community centers, with the support of the People and the Government of Australia, in the facilities of IBBY Mexico, on October 11, 2018, date that coincides with the International Day of the Girl Child.

This presentation was made by some of the authors of the book: Yuliana Gabino, Citlali Lozano, Paola Guerrero and Belem Rodríguez, who were accompanied; by Dr. David Engel, Ambassador of Australia in Mexico; Norma Medina, coordinator of the Xochimilco Community Center; and Arely León, workshop leader of the "Leer nos incluye a todos" program of IBBY Mexico.

Recently, women's empowerment and the struggle for gender equity has taken on great importance, given the situations of risk and disadvantage that women suffer in Mexico -such as the alarming cases of femicide or school desertion, among many others-; therefore, products and activities such as those described here become fundamental weapons to promote women's empowerment, by giving their authors a voice.

This creative work is the result of the joint effort of the ednica team in conjunction with the population it serves, which contributes to the improvement of self-esteem, empowerment and favors the autonomy of all participants from an early age.

