

2026 Mid-Year Report: As needs grow, sustaining safe spaces is becoming increasingly challenging

Today, in Chile, talking about LGBTQIA+ children, adolescents, and young people means talking about prevention, mental health, and human rights. It also means recognizing that the environment surrounding them has become increasingly complex.

Throughout the first half of 2026, we have seen not only the consolidation of a political and social climate that is less supportive of diversity, but also the tangible ways in which this climate is affecting the daily lives of young people.

Public narratives that question established rights, the normalization of violence in digital spaces, and a weakening commitment to inclusion across institutions are contributing to greater isolation and vulnerability. These trends create environments in which LGBTQIA+ children and young people face increasing barriers to feeling safe, accepted, and supported.

Recent evidence confirms that these concerns are not simply anecdotal. Chile's 2025 National Youth Survey found that seven in ten LGBT+ young people have experienced discrimination. Among transgender respondents, that figure rises to more than eight in ten. Nearly half report symptoms of anxiety or depression, while two in five have experienced suicidal ideation. Psychological, physical, sexual, and online violence continue to occur primarily in the very places where young people should feel safest: their families, schools, and communities.

These findings are reinforced by another alarming source of evidence. The National Survey on Health, Sexuality and Gender found that nearly 40% of LGBTQ+ people in Chile had thought about or planned suicide during the previous year—more than twice the rate reported by the cisgender heterosexual population.

Behind every statistic is a person who often struggles to find a place where they can speak openly and without fear. This is precisely why the work of Fundación Todo Mejora remains as essential today as ever.

The people we serve

During the first half of the year, we observed a trend that confirms what we anticipated at the beginning of 2026: the demand for support continues to grow.



Our #HoraSegura (SafeHour) and Familia a Colores (Families in Color) programs have experienced sustained increases in demand. More young people are reaching out for a space where they can be heard without judgment, while growing numbers of parents, caregivers, and families are seeking guidance to better support their children and adolescents through circumstances they often feel unprepared to navigate.

We know that feeling heard is one of the strongest protective factors for mental health. We also know that isolation significantly increases risk. A single conversation may not immediately solve someone's problems, but it can prevent a young person from facing those challenges completely alone.

To respond to this growing need, we completed the implementation of a new digital platform for #HoraSegura during 2026. This investment has improved accessibility, reduced barriers to entry, and strengthened our ability to provide timely support as demand continues to increase.

At the same time, maintaining this technological infrastructure requires ongoing investment. Technology allows us to reach more people than ever before, but it also depends on secure systems, technical support, maintenance, and sustained operational resources.

Today, sustaining a safe space also means sustaining the infrastructure that makes that safe space possible.

Our organization in today's context

The challenges have not only grown for those seeking support—they have also intensified for organizations working to provide it.

Throughout 2026, Fundación Todo Mejora has had to adapt parts of its organizational structure and operations in response to a significantly more demanding funding environment. Like many nonprofit organizations around the world, we have seen declining interest from companies and brands in supporting initiatives focused on diversity and inclusion. International organizations have reported similar trends, reflecting a broader shift in philanthropic and corporate giving.

Paradoxically, this decline in available funding comes at precisely the moment when evidence shows that needs are increasing. In other words, as more young people require support, securing the resources needed to provide that support becomes increasingly difficult.

This tension represents one of the greatest challenges facing our organization today. During the first half of the year, we were required to reduce our projected annual budget by 10%. Current forecasts suggest that this reduction may need to increase during the second half of the year if additional funding cannot be secured. As a result, the foundation must continually reassess priorities and make difficult decisions to protect the continuity, quality, and long-term sustainability of its programs.

Our mission remains unchanged

Despite these challenges, our mission remains the same. We continue to believe that mental health is shaped not only by what happens within an individual, but also by the environment that surrounds them. Young people thrive when they feel safe, affirmed, and connected to supportive communities. For this reason, our work extends beyond crisis response to strengthening the systems, relationships, and institutions that foster belonging and well-being.

This vision is reflected in four strategic areas that together provide comprehensive support to LGBTQIA+ children, adolescents, and young people across Chile.

- **#HoraSegura (SafeHour)**

Our free, confidential, and specialized emotional support service provides timely assistance to children, adolescents, and young people experiencing emotional distress, discrimination, violence, or social isolation. Every conversation represents an opportunity to reduce risk, strengthen protective factors, and remind a young person that they do not have to face their challenges alone.

- **Familia a Colores (Families in Color)**

Families play a critical role in protecting young people's mental health. Through Familia a Colores, we provide parents, caregivers, and professionals with evidence-based guidance, practical tools, and supportive resources that help transform homes into environments of acceptance, safety, and affirmation.

- **Comunidad Diversa (Diverse Communities)**

Preventing violence requires more than responding after harm has occurred. Through Comunidad Diversa, we work alongside schools, educational communities, and local organizations to strengthen inclusive practices, promote respect for diversity, and build environments where discrimination and violence are less likely to occur.

- **Research, Evidence, and Advocacy**

Lasting social change depends on reliable evidence. Through research, data generation, and public engagement, Fundación Todo Mejora contributes technical expertise that supports stronger public policies, informs institutional practice, and promotes more informed public conversations about mental health, well-being, and LGBTQIA+ inclusion.



Together, these four areas represent an integrated approach to prevention—one that addresses immediate needs while also helping create the conditions for long-term social change.

Looking ahead to 2027

If the first half of 2026 has taught us anything, it is that the need for safe, evidence-based support will continue to grow.

The available data on discrimination, violence, polyvictimization, and mental health show no signs of improvement. On the contrary, they reveal that thousands of LGBTQIA+ children, adolescents, and young people in Chile continue to grow up in environments where simply being themselves comes at a profound emotional cost.

The funding landscape presents an equally significant challenge. Opportunities to sustain innovative, evidence-based programs supported by rigorous intervention models remain limited. This reality affects not only Fundación Todo Mejora, but also many organizations around the world working to advance diversity, equity, inclusion, and mental health.

Against this backdrop, our greatest priority is to ensure the long-term sustainability of what we have built.

Over the past several years, Fundación Todo Mejora has developed programs and services that are widely recognized for their quality, credibility, and impact. These initiatives have demonstrated sustained growth in the number of people they reach and hold significant potential for adaptation and expansion beyond Chile.

Protecting this progress means ensuring that our core programs continue to deliver high-quality services while remaining accessible to those who need them most. It also means continuing to strengthen the foundation's role as a trusted technical partner—producing research, developing specialized resources, evaluating interventions, and generating evidence that contributes to more effective public policies and institutional practices.

As demand continues to grow, our commitment remains unchanged.

Every young person deserves to know that they are not alone. Every family deserves access to the tools needed to support their children. Every school and community has the potential to become a place of belonging rather than exclusion. Because at Fundación Todo Mejora, we continue to believe—even in the most challenging times—that things can get better. But they only do when communities, institutions, and individuals work together to ensure that no young person has to face these challenges alone.