

Visiting the „Don Bosco“ project in Colombia

During a private travel in February 2013, Dr. Helmut Schwarz, Vice Chairman of Primavera e.V., and his wife visited the social project "Don Bosco" in Cali / Colombia.

The complex is set in a slum with simple dwellings and unpaved roads. Social problems and high crime are unfortunately part of everyday life.

“Don Bosco” was established in 2008, with the aim to get young people off the streets and to protect them from drugs, prostitution and violence. Education and quality training have ever since been pursued and implemented in order to provide young people with a positive outlook on life. The spacious premises include workshops (carpentry, welding, machining, auto mechanics, etc.), classrooms and a kitchen, as well as sleeping and living spaces for young people who live here in a supervised community.

Employees of RBCO have established with donations from Primavera four training courses for heating and air conditioning, hydraulic and pneumatic systems as well as precision engineering and automotive technology. The 6- to 9-month training courses, for 45 young people each, are certified by the Ministry of Education. Two of them have even been rated best of the province in their respective category.

The plant itself makes a clean and well-organized impression. Established by RBCO, classrooms are not only appealing, but also technically equipped with latest machinery and equipment.



At a glance

Topic: Project visit

Location: Cali, Columbia

Date: 03.2013



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Mr. Schwarz, who visited the facility in February with his wife, describes his impressions: "After a warm welcome by Father German Londono, director of Don Bosco, and meeting other representatives, we could meet with several young people from the project, asking questions and having a good conversation. They were all very friendly and outgoing.

During our visit we were also accompanied by Edivaldo Santos, head of Bosch Colombia (RBCO) and two of his employees, who accompany the project as volunteers. All of them assured us, that they are working for the project with great enthusiasm and would like to offer further trainings in the future. So they hope to give more young people the chance to find a safe workplace and lead a self-determined life after completing the training. Finally, we received a detailed documentation of all expenses and the use thereof.

We were deeply impressed by the commitment of the project's supporters and the positive attitude of the young people. "



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