



# A Breeze Of Hope



## History

As survivors of childhood sexual violence, Brisa De Angulo and Parker Palmer created A Breeze of Hope Foundation to restore victims' lives and build a world in which all children grow up in safe, loving environments.



## Who we are

A Breeze of Hope Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity that:

- Restores** the lives of those who have suffered childhood sexual violence;
- Prevents** sexual violence; and
- Promotes** healthy, comprehensive childhood development.

## Since 2004

Since opening in 2004, we have:

- 1. Provided free holistic support to over 1,450 child victims and their supportive family members.**
- 2. Educated and trained over 80,000 people in Sexual Violence Prevention and 9,080 in Early Childhood Development.**
- 3. Maintained a 95% conviction rate in the hundreds of criminal trials we have prosecuted (i.e. the highest conviction rate for sex crimes in the world).**

Support our work!

*Your donations to A Breeze of Hope Foundation are tax deductible.* DONATE

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## Tamar's Story

I grew up in a broken home. Mom and dad were always arguing about something. And dad was always screaming at me and beating me.

My twin brother was always treated better than me. Mom and dad protected him, let him play with friends, and encouraged him to go to school. But because I was a girl, they made me cook, scrub floors, wash clothes, shine shoes, and so much more.

I was 11 years old when mom went to Spain to look for work. Dad's drinking immediately worsened, as did his violence. Many times we didn't eat because he spent all of our money on liquor. There were countless days when I didn't eat breakfast before going to school. I would struggle to pay attention because I was so hungry. And I can't count how many nights I went to bed hungry.



One night when mom was gone, dad molested me all night. I froze. I could only dry my tears. The abuse worsened with time. He started raping me. He would tell me, "If you tell anyone, I'll beat you to death and do the same to your brother."

I had nowhere to go, no one to ask for help. I wanted to die.

Mom eventually returned from Spain and dad stopped raping me for a while. But then mom got pregnant and he started again. I tried to kill myself several times I once cut my veins so badly that I passed out and woke up in a pool of blood.

After living this hell for some time, I told mom what dad was doing. At the time she and dad were arguing about something, so she supported me and took me to CUBE. But after a while she started blaming me. She told me I was a whore for trying to steal her husband. Then she started beating me. And one day she and my brother beat me severely and left me to die.



Thank God this time I knew where I could get help. As soon as I could, I lifted myself off the floor and ran for miles until I arrived at CUBE. I was crying hysterically as I walked in, covered with torn clothes, blood, sweat, open wounds, and bruises. The people there embraced me and cried with me. They treated my wounds and helped me figure out what to do. They even gave me a place to live.



In 2015, my lawyer at CUBE won my trial! The judges convicted my dad of rape and sentenced him to 15 years in prison without parole. I've never felt this safe! Thanks to CUBE's support, I finished high school and today I'm a sophomore in college. I go to CUBE as often as I can and still receive delicious meals and free psychological and social support. I'm also part of CUBE's Child Survivors Advisory Board and I constantly participate in CUBE's healing programs.

I want to thank everyone at CUBE, especially Margarita and Filomena (the vocational training coordinators) because they have filled the void my mother left. And because they have become a family that supports me, provides me with the tools I need to succeed, and that pushes me to dream big and fulfill my dreams!





Enjoying childhood  
without violence!

## Our Approach

The Pan American Health Organization states that Bolivia has the highest rates of sexual violence in Latin America. We take a three-tiered prevention approach to address this serious problem.

**Our Primary Prevention** strategies aim to eliminate the drivers of sexual violence and create healthy, safe environments for children. To accomplish this, we:

- (1) Provide sexual violence awareness education to students, professionals, and government officials;
- (2) Promote healthy childhood development;
- (3) Engage in legal and policy reform efforts; and
- (4) Organize public information campaigns.

**Our Secondary prevention** strategies aim to halt the progress of short-term (and by implication long-term) physical, psychological and social consequences of sexual violence. To accomplish this, we provide **free** legal, social, psychological, and medical support to child and adolescent victims. We encourage and protect child survivors at every step of their healing journeys and throughout the judicial process.

**Our Tertiary prevention** strategies aim to reduce the long-term impact of the psychosocial consequences of sexual violence and to restore survivors' rights and sense of wholeness. To accomplish this goal, our unique center provides long-term support and rehabilitation programs, as well as long-term interventions in social, educational, and familial environments where sexual violence has occurred.

## Our Programs

A Breeze of Hope operates two programs in Cochabamba, Bolivia:

- [1] *Comunidad Educativa para la Vida (CEV)*, a holistic childhood development program, and
- [2] *Centro Una Brisa de Esperanza (CUBE)*, a center for child victims of sexual violence.



## CEV

CEV works with children and their parents to promote five key health determinants: (1) Cognitive Nutrition; (2) Nurturing Environments; (3) Emotional Nutrition; (4) Self-Agency; and (5) Physical Nutrition.

### Cognitive Nutrition & Nurturing Environments

We use innovative methodologies—including Montessori and Pikler—to promote rich cognitive development. Our educational activities promote an environment of respect, cooperation, and partnership in which children can fully exercise their rights and reach their full potential.



### Emotional Nutrition

We also focus on building healthy parent-child emotional bonds, which form the foundation of a child's capacity to learn and adapt to ever-changing social conditions. To foster healthy emotional bonds, we work with mothers and fathers since early pregnancy. Our activities focus on building healthy conflict resolution skills and compassionate and respectful parenting practices.

### Self Agency

CEV encourages children to develop the capacity to recognize themselves as the primary agents of their thoughts, emotions, and behaviors. The development of this capacity is a prerequisite to self-regulation, self-efficacy, and solid self-esteem. Children who believe in themselves and in their capacity to change the world around them, are children poised to become powerful agents of healing and social transformation in their families and communities.



### Physical Nutrition

CEV nurtures the whole child. We know that physically active and healthy children have lower anxiety levels and display increased academic performance. In addition to having daily opportunities for vigorous play, children at CEV receive free psychological, medical, and dental care, as well as free nutritious breakfasts, lunches, and snacks.



## CUBE

### The First and Only

CUBE is Bolivia's only transdisciplinary center dedicated to preventing sexual violence and restoring the lives of child victims. Our professionals move beyond discipline-specific approaches to understand the child in his or her wholeness. We consider every aspect of the child's life.



### Personal Restoration

We focus on building each child's sense of self and capacity to dream for the future. To accomplish this, we use child-directed therapies, including: Dance; yoga; music; fit-ball; art and ceramics; trauma focused cognitive behavioral therapy; trauma focused play therapy; and vocational therapy. We also work to improve each child's relationships with supportive, non-offending family members.



### Protagonism

Loss of control is the core of trauma. Thus we work to ensure that each child has meaningful control over her life and healing journey. At CUBE children decide which therapies to use, select group therapy topics, organize vocational therapy activities, and participate in board meetings and team meetings.



### Political Participation

We strive for each child to find her voice, understand her rights, and develop her capacity for economic independence and property ownership. Our skilled attorneys prosecute sex offenders, unmasking them and giving voice to the children. Children and adolescents also participate in vocational therapies to develop their capacity for economic independence, property ownership, and political participation, which reduces their vulnerability to further violence.





## 2015 Program Outcomes

### CEV

CEV provided **173 children** with high quality education, and **80 parents** participated in CEV's training workshops. CEV trained **4,200 teachers, legislators, ministers of education, and other government officials** in early childhood development. Participants came from: Ecuador; Peru; Costa Rica; Bolivia; San Luis de Potosi, Mexico; and Monte Rey, Mexico.

### CUBE

CUBE provided free holistic support to **422 children**, and the legal team maintained a **100% conviction rate**—52 trials, 52 convictions!

We educated and trained **16,081 people** in sexual violence prevention, the importance of disclosing sexual violence, and effective application of laws protecting child victims. Participants came from *Bolivia, Canada, and the United States* and included:

- \* 10,420 Students    \* 103 University Students    \* 1,568 Professionals    \* 19 Volunteers
- \* 1,162 Parents    \* 140 Postgraduate Students    \* 479 Teachers
- \* 2,140 Judges, Prosecutors, Police, and Other Government Officials

-We also brought awareness to **52,600** people through 15 public information fairs.

### New Vocational Training Programs!

CUBE created two new survivor directed vocational training programs: *The CUBE Salon and the CUBE Healing Spa*. Three wonderful survivors of childhood sexual violence designed these programs. They provide daily courses on *Small Business Management* with an emphasis on economic independence. Of our recent 12 graduates, 8 found well-paying jobs. And they're saving money to pay for college!

**Also, 12 adolescents from CUBE graduated from high school and have plans to go to college!**

### August 9<sup>th</sup> Walk:

We had another successful walk Against Sexual Violence and In Solidarity with Child Victims with over **10,000 participants!** The children were so encouraged by the thousands of people proclaiming, "You're not alone!" that they plan to create *The Child and Adolescent's Network Against Sexual Violence*.

Finally, our Founder and CEO, Brisa De Angulo won the 2015 Global Impact Award!



## Volunteers and Partners



**Jennifer Salinas**—Bolivian world champion of women’s boxing and outspoken advocate against child sexual abuse—was appointed CUBE’s Ambassador by the children. Since then, Jennifer has relentlessly advocated for child victims’ rights.

**21 Rutgers University** nursing students provided well-child check-ups to 400 children to detect physical/sexual abuse, malnourishment, dental problems, and common illnesses. The nurses also vaccinated stray dogs against rabies to make Chilimarca safer for children who walk to school on a daily basis.



**Tara Van Ness, Hannah Gorman, and Maggie Kernan** provided healing through yoga to 105 children from CUBE and also trained 25 instructors in trauma focused yoga therapy.

**7 Eastern University Students** assisted with the August 9<sup>th</sup> annual march against sexual violence. Together, they distributed over 10,000 flyers, prepared and hung posters, prepared street banners with children from CUBE, created a giant balloon ribbon for the walk, managed information tents during the week of the march, and walked hand-in-hand with the children, providing protection and support.



**Special thanks to James Buffin** who created a short film of CUBE’s Annual March and its historical origin and growth. Please view our film at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIGyfDc\\_P\\_o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIGyfDc_P_o)

**Special thanks to NoVo Foundation** for believing that change is possible and for being a beacon of hope for hundreds of Bolivian child survivors

### THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

A Breeze of Hope would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their generous support in FY 2015 and for making our work possible!

**CHILDREN’S SUPPORTERS  
(\$250 - \$499)**

- Amy & David Estes
- Caroline Garriot
- Kristin Walker
- Janda Solazzon
- Sarah Ricks
- April Ernisse
- Beth Stephens
- Jessica Hurst
- Antonieta Jaspers
- Central Baptist Church

**CHILDREN’S FRIENDS  
(\$500-\$999)**

- James McFaul
- New Illusions
- Jada Lynn Ingalls
- Michael Courtney

**CHILDREN’S ADVOCATES  
(\$1,000 - \$2,499)**

- Gail & Jim Schroder
- Steven Zimmerman
- Mary Ellsberg
- Sheila Heinze

**CHILDRENS’ CHAMPIONS  
(\$2,500 - \$9,999)**

- Cecellia Rudsille
- Paul Courtney
- Faith Christian Fellowship
- Light My Fire
- John Courtney

**CHILDREN’S ANGELS  
(\$10,000 AND ABOVE)**

- NOVO Foundation

# *A Breeze Of Hope*

Eradicating child sexual violence  
and building a world where children  
develop in safe, healthy  
environments!



**A Breeze Of Hope**

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