



A Breeze of Hope

What We Do

- Prevent** sexual violence against children
- Restore** the lives of child survivors of sexual violence
- Promote** healthy childhood development

Since 2004 We Have

1. Provided free legal, social, and psychological support to **1,812** child survivors and their supportive family members
2. Educated and Trained **101,014** people in Sexual Violence Prevention and over **15,000** in Early Childhood Development
3. Maintained the highest conviction rate in the world in criminal trials against child sex offenders: **95%**



2018
Annual Report

|| Delcy's Story

My troubles began when I was eight. That's when my cousin raped me. For years I buried the memories and pain beneath my rigid routine. So much was beyond my control—my cousin, street violence, the weather, my classmates. But my daily routine? That I controlled, and it made me feel safe.

My daily routine centered around school. I walked the same route to school every day. I began my homework at the same hour in the same place every day. My obsession for routine calmed my inner torment. I never stopped thinking about my routine or criticizing myself for failing to keep a perfect schedule. Breaking my routine brought up everything, and the pain was unbearable.

As I got older, I began to isolate, and my obsessive routine stopped protecting me from the horrible memories. I started hiding in heavy, layered clothing. I felt valueless, invisible, and empty.

"I'll either tell her or kill myself," I thought as I watched my breath drift through a winter morning's crisp air. I played with the idea that death would relieve my suffering and bring new joy to my soul. Then—and I never understood why—I suddenly leapt from my bed and told my mother everything my cousin did to me when I was eight.

Right then my mom and I decided to visit A Breeze of Hope. I bonded with my psychologist on day one.

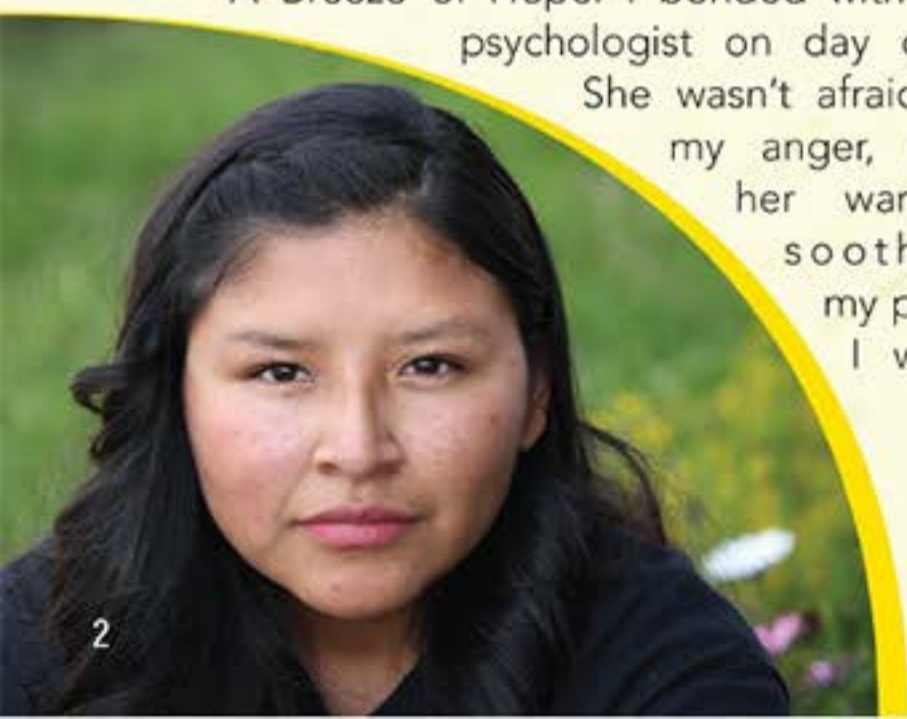
She wasn't afraid of my anger, and her warmth soothed my pain. I went



back every day after that to speak with her. For weeks I observed the other girls at A Breeze of Hope. It was hard for me to accept that a girl could feel happy again after being raped. Gradually I came to believe I could feel joy like those other girls—that I wasn't as different or alone as I had thought.

As part of my healing journey, I chose to study communications at the university. I remained silent for years after my cousin raped me. I barely spoke to anyone. Now, my communication skills are my greatest strength. For example, I organized A Breeze of Hope's 2018 Annual Walk Against Sexual Violence, and over 13,000 people walked with us! I did such a good job that I'm now staff at A Breeze of Hope. Also, as part of my thesis project, I'm creating a school-based strategy to prevent sexual violence and equip survivors with the skills they need to get help and find freedom.

I'd say I have too many dreams for the future. I want my story to inspire other girls to break the silence and fight for their dreams just as I fight for mine. My biggest dream for the future, however, is to be Bolivia's first female president. Not too long ago I was voiceless. Now I believe my voice can represent my entire country. I want every girl to experience the healing I have at A Breeze of Hope.



Our Approach

Bolivia has the highest rates of sexual violence against children in South America (PAHO, 2012). Our approach to this problem has three strategies:

Primary Prevention

Eliminate the root causes of sexual violence and create safe environments for children.

Secondary Prevention

Bring aggressors to justice and restore survivors' sense of well-being.

Tertiary Prevention

Equip survivors with powerful life skills and reduce the likelihood of long-term difficulties commonly associated with traumatic experiences (e.g. chronic depression, joblessness, substance abuse, etc.).



Our Programs

Centro Una Brisa De Esperanza (CUBE) is Bolivia's first center for child survivors of sexual violence. CUBE offers free and accessible support in six areas of healing:

- 1 *Personal Healing*
- 2 *Social Restoration*
- 3 *Education*
- 4 *Political Participation*
- 5 *Economic Independence*
- 6 *Property Ownership*

We foster healing with a variety of activities, including dance, art, yoga, meditation, trauma-focused play therapy, family systems therapy, and trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy. We also use vocational therapies to build life skills and financial know-how. Additionally, we provide fully integrated educational support, social services, and legal advocacy, including criminal prosecution.

Comunidad Educativa para La Vida (CEV) is an innovative school that serves an impoverished community on outskirts of Cochabamba City. CEV promotes strong parent/child bonding, rich cognitive development, self-agency, and fine and gross motor skills. Our child-directed learning methods encourage powerful imagination and outdoor learning.

Our school also serves as a powerful platform for sexual violence prevention. Our teachers use human rights education to transform families and communities with values of love, respect, gender equality, and celebration of diversity.



2018 Accomplishments



Personal Healing

538 children and youth received services from A Breeze of Hope in 2018. The therapeutic services they received included art, music, meditation, dance, yoga, mindfulness, trauma-focused cognitive-behavioral therapy, trauma-focused play therapy, family systems therapy, and vocational therapies. This year, **75%** of the children increased their self-esteem, **59%** improved their body-value (i.e. positive regard for physical body), **58%** experienced improved interpersonal communication, and **73%** reported improved relationships with supportive, non-offending family members.



Pursuing Justice

315 children and youth received free legal services and reclaimed their voices through the pursuit of justice. This year 35 cases reached trial, and our attorneys won **34** trials, maintaining a **97%** conviction rate!

Education

94% of the school-aged children at our center remained or re-enrolled in school. This year, **11** survivors graduated from high school, and one of them graduated second in her class! **35** survivors are attending college. One survivor from our center received the **Best Student Award** from her nursing program at Cochabamba's largest university.



Economic Independence

94 children and youth graduated from our vocational therapy programs. **34** graduates produced income with their new skills. **3** youth opened independent savings accounts. We continue to challenge the social norm that teenage girls can't have private bank accounts. These are exciting steps toward bright futures filled with self-confidence and economic independence.

|| Political Participation and Awareness Raising

240 survivors received training in human and civil rights advocacy, gender-based violence prevention, and how and where to get help. They used this knowledge to conduct similar awareness raising events at their schools. For the second consecutive year, the National Child and Adolescent Network Against Sexual Violence, created by girls at A Breeze of Hope, coordinated our August 9th Annual Walk Against Sexual Violence bringing over **13,000** people together.

The Network also organized **12** prevention events for the public that reached over **12,000** people. The network continues to give new hope to other survivors by sharing the joy of empowered recovery. A Breeze of Hope staff provided **138** trainings, reaching **9,714** people (including judges, prosecutors, government officials, and police force). In total, we brought awareness to **34,714!!**



|| Property Ownership

76% of the children and youth in our therapy programs articulated dreams of acquiring property and developed long-term plans to reach their dreams, including higher education, employment, and savings. Our hope is that one day the girls from our center will own property and thus continue challenging the male dominant social norms so deeply entrenched in Bolivia's culture.

|| Early Childhood Development

263 children received high quality education at our school, *Comunidad Educativa para la Vida*. With our human rights-based learning model, we successfully promoted gender-equality, nonviolence, self-agency and healthy nutrition as fundamental components of each child's development. Additionally, **784** community members including parents, medical staff, government officials and other professionals, received training in early childhood development, including parenting skills and parental support.



2018 Publications

Building Organizational Cultures of Peace: Constructive interpersonal conflict management and non-violent communication (ESP: Construyendo una Cultura De Paz En Las Organizaciones: Manejo constructivo de conflictos interpersonales y comunicación no violenta), 2018.



More Accomplishments

2018 Awards

Our CEO, Brisa De Angulo, J.D., M.A., was honored as a **2018 CNN Hero!** Brisa was also winner of the **2018 BBC Outlook Inspiration Award.**

Best Student Award

Karina, a powerful survivor from A Breeze of Hope was honored with the "Best Student Award" at the largest University in Cochabamba, Bolivia. We witnessed her journey from "barely hanging on" to first President of Bolivia's Children and Youth Network Against Sexual Violence. We're so proud of you, Karina!



2018 Gratitude Fellow

A Breeze of Hope was welcomed into the Gratitude Network for a very competitive one-year fellowship that focused on building organizational capacity.



A Breeze of Hope's work was featured by: , CGTN America, The Guardian, CNN, Heart's on Fire, Equality Now, Real Life Heroes by Manvi Pant, Global Citizen, and The Spectator.

Bolivia's 1st International Conference on Sexual Violence

In June 2018 we hosted Bolivia's 1st International Conference on Sexual violence. Over 400 Bolivian professionals and Government officials attended. Participants included police, judges, prosecutors, child psychologists, and forensic physicians from every region of Bolivia. Our international expert speakers covered topics including forensic examination protocols and best practices, child forensic interviewing, the neuro-physiological impact of sexual violence, advances in trauma recovery, and the developmental impact of sexual violence on children. We are especially grateful to La Universidad Catolica Boliviana, The Otto Bremer Trust for Safe and Healthy Children, The Corner House, and The Chadwick Center at Rady Children's Hospital.



Thank You! to Our Volunteers & Sponsors



21 international volunteers came in the summer to experience and contribute to the work we are doing in Bolivia and to be part of the communities we serve.

29 local volunteers from Cochabamba contributed endless hours of their time and experience to our staff and the children we serve.

Jon and Megan Heinly finished their year of amazing service with A Breeze of Hope in August. Their work focused on non-violent communication, family counseling, self-care for A Breeze of Hope staff, trauma informed practices, and resource development.

Andy and Rebekah Coval are currently volunteering for a year with A Breeze of Hope. Andy previously worked as an attorney for the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and is now assisting with CUBE's legal cases. Rebekah is a graduate student in clinical mental health counseling and is helping with alternative therapies, such as music and dance.

World renowned experts supported our First International Conference on Sexual Violence, held in June 2018 in Cochabamba, Bolivia. These wonderfully skilled experts included Dr. Nancy Harper, Dr. Suzanne Starling, Amy Sweasy, Esq., Dr. Jose Miguel De Angulo, Nancy Seger, LISW, Dr. Kate Shafto, Dr. Jada Ingalls, and Lauren Berenguel, MSW, LICSW.



Thank You! to Our Donors



Children's Angels (\$10,000 and above)

Hodge Hernandez Family
Salazar Family – *In memory of Patricio Salazar who sacrificed his life to save a woman from being raped. Pat's bravery and strength will never be forgotten.*

Children's Champions (\$2,500-\$9,999)

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Daniela Ligiero & Joao Augusto De Castro Neves
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As survivors of childhood sexual violence, Brisa De Angulo and Parker Palmer created A Breeze of Hope Foundation to build a world in which all children grow up in safe, loving environments and to help other survivors regain the joy of living.

Support Our Work! Your donations to A Breeze of Hope Foundation are tax deductible.

DONATE TODAY at www.abreezeofhope.org/donate

