



# Turimiquire Foundation

## Annual Report 2004

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING HUMAN SERVICE AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS IN THE TURIMIQUIRE WATERSHED OF NORTHEASTERN VENEZUELA, WITH AN EMPHASIS ON FAMILY PLANNING AND EDUCATION.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: *THERE IS SO MUCH MORE TO BE DONE*



Foundation President Steven Bloomstein (left), board members Dr. Lesley Alpert, Bob Albert, and Willie Bloomstein (second, third and fourth from right in rear) at the Cantarrana public health clinic on the outskirts of Cumaná, with chief of nursing Clemencia Márquez (third from left) and other Venezuelan and North American friends and co-workers. All of our Venezuelan and North American board members donate their services, which is one way that the Foundation keeps its administrative costs so low.

In 2004, our work was publicly recognized in two important ways. First, in July we were certified by the Sucre State Government as a social service NGO qualified to work directly with minors under the new Law for the Protection of Children and Adolescents (LOPNA). Second, in November we were recognized and thanked for our various programs in family planning and reproductive health education at the regional **United Nations Population Fund Cairo plus Ten Conference** in Cumaná. This was gratifying, but the main message at this conference was that there is so much more to be done.

In this annual report, we have asked some of the community members with whom we collaborate to speak about their efforts. We hope their stories communicate the importance and urgency of this work.

**Thank you for your support!!!**

*Steven Bloomstein*

### LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT MY WORLD by *Amarilis Jiménez*

Amarilis Jiménez is a sociologist from Chiguana, a small town 50 miles east of Cumaná. She directs student affairs at the same high school that she attended, a live-in technical school for rural students. Amarilis offers Foundation-supported reproductive health workshops and family planning services in her community. She is shown with her family (seated far left), and giving a reproductive health workshop to rural schoolchildren.

“My community has many wonderful qualities, and one huge problem. We live in a beautiful place and the quality of the people is excellent. But we lack the political and social assistance we need in every important area – education, economic welfare, and health. Everywhere, there are so many young people who lack all the basic necessities – they do not have beds in their homes, they do not have enough food, they cannot go to school because they can't pay the expenses, and they are unable to find work. Thanks to the support of the Foundation, I give workshops on sexuality and lifestyle for adolescents and women in my community, and supply contraceptives to the local clinic. This is so important for women here because so many are in difficult situations, and they don't have money to buy contraceptives. I also give workshops in my high school. I love what I do because I feel I am able to offer real help to my students and the people of my community. In this way, I serve myself, my profession, my community, and my country.”



# Our Story in PEOPLE: *The Foundation helps community mem*

**Reproductive Health Education and Family Planning:** Our work is directed by a talented group of professional women with direct hands-on experience about what is needed in their communities to achieve reproductive health and gender equality. With their help, we offer reproductive health education workshops in local clinics, community centers, and schools. We also offer family planning services at 10 public and private clinics in Cumaná and surrounding areas.

## Lucina Alfredo: Adolescent Center

*The Foundation helped launch the Orientation Center for Adolescents in the Ambulatorio Fe y Alegría in 2002. We provide the Center with educational materials for its library, office supplies and contraceptives, and support for client outreach. Lucina Alfredo (seated center in the photo, with nurse Betty Coronado and adolescent clients) has been a counselor at the Center since May of 2003.*

*"Our Center is for adolescents – it is the place where they can talk about their bodies, and about all the things they have been told you can't talk about, like sex. Providing such a resource is my way of helping my community grow better and stronger."*



## Noris Cova: High School Reproductive Health

*Noris Cova (far right in photo on the right) is Coordinator of the Sexual and Reproductive Health Program of the State Office of Gender and Women's Affairs. She directs Foundation workshops on sexuality and gender in high schools in the Cumaná area.*

*"I am a sociologist, and I have worked in the area of sexual and reproductive health for 12 years, focusing on gender issues and the problems of women and adolescents. At present, I work with young people in our regional high schools. Adolescents are a vulnerable population, susceptible to problems with drugs, violence, unwanted pregnancies, and sexually transmitted diseases. Our workshops help these young people understand that sexuality is much more than sex; it is something natural and enjoyable, but has to be undertaken with great care and responsibility."*

## 2004 Highlights

- > Accreditation by the government as a social service NGO certified to work directly with children and adolescents.
- > Public recognition for our work at the 2004 United Nations Population Fund Cairo+10 meeting in Cumaná.
- > A more than twofold increase in our family planning program, responding to a constantly increasing demand.
- > A growing program in reproductive health education, including workshops in public high schools, reaching over twice as many clients as in 2003.
- > Support for educational activities in public health, such as Breast Feeding Week, Oct. 4-8.
- > A growing library of materials for staff educators at the public health and school sites where we work.
- > Staff training at public institutions, with follow-up support.
- > Rural outreach workshops.

## Marisa Pearson: U.S. Intern

*Marisa spent several months assisting in local clinics before returning to the U.S. to begin a nurse practitioner program.*



*"I am impressed with the dedication shown by the local women I have been lucky enough to work with. To think of all that might be accomplished with more outside aid to support the existing network of local educators and providers is exciting!"*

## Dr. Silvia Quijada: Rural Health Education

*Dr. Quijada (see photo below) coordinates workshops in reproductive health and rural hygiene at Ambulatorio Cantarrana and in peripheral barrios of Cumaná.*

*"I am very happy with the work that the Foundation has done. Our rural health workshops have been invaluable in orienting this very poor community, which needs our support."*

## Dr. Yolanda Gutiérrez: Family Planning, State of Sucre

*Dr. Gutiérrez is Director of Maternal-Infant and Reproductive Health for the State of Sucre. "We are thankful for the material and administrative support that the Turimiquire Foundation offers us at our public health facilities. This assistance has helped reduce the number of undesired births in Sucre and Montes Counties over the last five years. This valuable collaboration goes beyond the provision of contraceptives, since Turimiquire also supports our programs of prevention of adolescent pregnancy, and helps to operate our Orientation Center for Adolescents. Public health workers have thus been better able to serve the lower income citizens of our state."*






*Women working for their community, from left to right: social worker Luisa Elena Rodríguez, assistant María Ancheta, sociologist Amarilis Jiménez, Dr. Silvia Quijada, Dr. María Eugenia Yañez, sociologist Carmen Milagros Maita, Dr. Yolanda Gutiérrez, and sociologist Noris Cova.*



s from all walks of life in their efforts to realize their dreams.

**Education and Rural Livelihood:** Ongoing projects include our rural kindergarten and elementary school, a new rural library, scholarships for rural students who are attending high school, subsidized school supplies, support for micro-businesses, sustainable livelihood activities in rural areas, and emergency support to families in need. The Foundation's house in Cumaná also has a computer center, a kitchen for micro-enterprise projects, and housing for students and interns.

<b>Bob Albert: Rural Livelihood</b>	<b>2004 Highlights</b>	<b>Manuel Rojas: Barrancas Library</b>
<p><i>Board member Bob Albert, shown here planting trees with Pedro Maria Rodríguez, is President of the Neighborhood Association of the Brito valley in addition to his work running the Foundation farm, Dos Pasos Juntos.</i></p>  <p>"A long-term project near and dear to my heart is developing lesser-known fruit trees and other crops for our area. People are now harvesting jackfruit and canistel from second and third generation trees we introduced, and their families and neighbors continue to plant new seeds. We have put in some durian seedlings in Barrancas from our first harvests at Dos Pasos, located in strategic areas where they will be available to others."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Inauguration of our small rural library, <i>Biblioteca Comunal Barrancas</i>, with the support of <i>Fundación Tu Biblioteca</i> of the <i>Universidad de Oriente</i>.</li> <li>&gt; Expanded high school scholarship program assisting 31 rural students with books and supplies, clothing, and transportation costs.</li> <li>&gt; A computer facility for adolescents in <i>Casa ServYr</i>, the Foundation house in town.</li> <li>&gt; Carpentry workshops using fallen wood harvested ecologically.</li> <li>&gt; <i>Centro Escolares</i> offering subsidized school supplies to rural students.</li> <li>&gt; Two used clothing sales to raise money for our scholarship program.</li> <li>&gt; Five more rural households set up with gravity-fed running water from clean mountain streams.</li> <li>&gt; Support for the new cafeteria in the valley elementary school.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Manuel, who was instrumental in the construction of our new rural library, is shown here (left) in front of the library with other community members. He also built the Foundation's kindergarten in 2001.</i></p>  <p>"I work with the Foundation because we have common social interests and a desire to help a community that is very poor. It is important to foment in our community a spirit of collaboration and awareness that we should get involved, because we are the ones who will benefit."</p>

<b>Jorgelina and Yarbelis Rodríguez: High School Scholarship Program</b>	<b>Nórgida Del Valle Reyes: ServYr Computer Center</b>
<p><i>Jorgelina and Yarbelis (below with other scholarship students; Jorgelina is third from the left and Yarbelis is fourth from the right) are two of Juan and Selsa Rodríguez's nine children. With the help of the Foundation, they are continuing their studies at the Agua Santa High School.</i></p>  <p>Jorgelina: "I am 16 years old, and have 8 brothers and sisters. I am in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade at the Agua Santa High School. When I finished elementary school, I couldn't go to San Fernando High School, because it was too far away. Then Lindsey (a Foundation volunteer from American Jewish World Service) helped my sister Yarbelis, Yorbin, and me register to study at Agua Santa. Now we all go to school together. I want to graduate and become a nurse, so that I can help my parents, who are doing so much for me. I wish my high school had a library, working bathrooms, a water filter so that we could have water to drink, and a place to get something to eat. Please help us with the things we need, it is so important for us. That's all I have to say! Your friend, Jorgelina."</p>	<p><i>Nórgida teaches computer classes to Cumaná adolescents and adults at the Casa ServYr computer center.</i></p>  <p>"When I find low-income people who are interested in finding new methods to study and access technology, I invite them to my computer classes. I am proud and pleased to help and support students who want to accomplish more with their lives."</p>

## Our Story in NUMBERS: *we make your money count!*

In 2004, we grew more than we anticipated – both our reproductive health education and family planning programs expanded by well over 100% in services provided! The work we do is made possible by the financial contributions of our North American supporters, and by donations in Venezuela to our sister foundation, *Fundación ServYr*. We administer your donations carefully, and keep our costs to a true minimum – less than 5% of our expenses in 2004 were administrative overhead.

2004 Income			2004 Expenses		
Income	Amount	Percent	Administration: 4.8%	Amount	Percent
Donations over \$5,000	\$ 33,000	51.7	Office and Administration	\$ 1,001	1.8
Donations up to \$4,999	\$ 25,550	40.0	Fund Raising	\$ 1,656	3.0
Foundations	\$ 4,000	6.3	<b>Programs: 95.2%</b>		
Interest Income	\$ 1,276	2.0	Casa ServYr	\$ 1,131	2.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 63,826</b>	<b>100%</b>	Staff	\$ 1,074	1.9
			Family Planning	\$ 42,805	76.7
			Education	\$ 3,949	7.1
			Rural and Agriculture	\$ 2,034	3.6
			Assistance and Micro-Enterprise	\$ 1,067	1.9
			Community Projects	\$ 1,112	2.0
			<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 55,830</b>	<b>100%</b>

### SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:

AMERICAN AIRLINES - AMERICAN JEWISH WORLD SERVICE - AVESA CARACAS - DIRECT RELIEF INTERNATIONAL - FUNDACIÓN TU BIBLIOTECA - FUNDA SALUD ESTADO Y MUNICIPIO SUCRE - ORGANON VENEZUELA - PLAFAM CARACAS - PROSALUD INTER-AMERICANA - SCHERING VENEZUELA - UNIVERSIDAD DE ORIENTE

Years	Reproductive Health Education				Family Planning Consultations							Tubal Sterilizations		
	Cumaná		Rural		Number of New Women Served	Number of Patient Visits	Monthly Cycles of Birth Control Pills	IUDs	Related Health Care	Mean Age	Mean Number of Children	Patients	Mean Age	Mean Number of Children
	Work-shops	Partici-pants	Work-shops	Partici-pants										
1997-2002	138	2977	—	—	4107	10191	6032	1876	1437	24.2	2.5	1232	29.1	4.5
2003	131	2626	63	1267	1606	3152	2177	481	541	24.1	1.8	230	27.3	3.2
2004	247	5754	135	2590	2746	7341	6266	396	926	24.2	2.1	228	27.7	3.2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>11,357</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>3857</b>	<b>8459</b>	<b>20,684</b>	<b>14,475</b>	<b>2753</b>	<b>2904</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1690</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>3.6</b>

## Looking Ahead

**REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH:** In 2005, we are initiating *Pana a Pana*, a program of adolescent youth groups, as part of our expanding program of teen and rural services.

**RURAL EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT:** We are fundraising to refurbish *Casa Barrancas*, an abandoned rural school that will serve as a community center for the lower Brito valley, and to expand our nearby kindergarten-library educational facilities.

**THE TURIMIQUIRE FOUNDATION  
IS A 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION.  
ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.  
PLEASE HELP US CONTINUE OUR WORK!!!**



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