Lewis & Clark College

"IMPACT.AR: Social Change, Community, and Resilience".

José Manuel Maidana Cejas '24 August 1st 2022 - September 2nd 2022 Salta, Argentina

Context:

Salta, is the largest city in Northwestern Argentina. Due to its geographical location, it has served as a point of reference and connection with other regions of the country as well with the bordering countries of Chile and Bolivia. Despite the city's developmental potential, it is the capital of the poorest and most unequal province in Argentina. Research has found that the city faces a deprivation of resources and the most underserved population rendered invisible due to neglect from the state. Several non-profit organizations and community organizing groups are constantly working to change outdated policies that marginalize the younger and underprivileged populations, where unemployment and dropout rates have increased since the pandemic began and the Argentine economic crisis worsened.

In Salta, the vast majority does not have access to quality education or non-traditional learning such as leadership, financial literacy, and emotional intelligence. Through) project 'Impact.Ar', one aim is to provide access to alternative learning opportunities with a special focus to a historically neglected region with an underserved population that, wants and deserves to thrive. Healing, and understanding the traumas and flaws in our community are, too, part of a learning process that can be beneficial at large. The purposes of this program are to promote the recognition of leadership in two areas personal and community wide-, to engage with stakeholders and local actors, bridge the gap of inequality, and promote peace and healing via community-based projects.

Project Overview, Expected Impact and Sustainability:

Throughout a five-week period, 25 community organizers between 18-40 years old will participate in a series of workshops with specific themes, and a community 'hands on' activity following the workshop's attendance. The workshops will follow topics such as personal leadership and community organizing, community-based project assessment and planning, interpersonal violence, trauma and healing, financial literacy, sustainability, networking, and fundraising. The 'hands on' activities include visits to soup kitchens and shelters, as well as fundraising campaigns in one of the shantytowns near Salta City. Following an outreach campaign to the main hubs of community organizing in Salta, the participants' selection will be done by the project's student leader in collaboration with Community Partner organizations from March to mid June; under the criteria of contributing to a positive impact in the community and sharing changemaking values to others. Proper channels for both in-person and online interest forms and applications will be set during the outreach period. During the program, participants will give feedback on the workshops and content learned as well as ideas for the improvement and betterment of their local community.

Through this program, it is expected that each participant will be able to:

- Demonstrate skills associated with inspirational leadership anchored in values of responsibility, integrity and humility.
- Demonstrate an understanding of interpersonal violence and healing.
- Learn tools for public speaking, difficult conversations, creative negotiation, constructive feedback, team management and leadership.
- Develop, hone and strengthen interpersonal skills, such as authentic communication, constructive negotiation and coordination.
- Achieve the project's goals and emotional well-being by taking value-based actions in the community.

Community Partners will provide mentorship to the participants and the participants -through a pledge- will continue on the task of evaluating the needs of the local community and once empowered, can contribute to generate change in Salta. The local chapter of JCI Salta (Junior Chamber International) will serve as a nexus between the participants and mentors who will provide guidance and advice to the future leaders of the community. They will follow up on the participants' ideas after the program is completed and will work on trying to replicate the project's outcomes in the future. The workshops as well as mentorship program will be taught by instructors from the Catholic University of Salta, the Institute Jean Piaget, local government representatives of the Municipality of Salta, and the student leader. Whilst some content is already being instructed by these prestigious institutions, newly customized workshops will be based upon the participants' overall experience, interest and feedback. Additionally, the Community Partners will follow the framework of the UN Sustainable Goals aiming that the training will contribute towards Reducing Inequality, Sustainable Cities and Communities, and Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions. Whit a holistic assessment of the program's goals throughout the 5-weeks and a follow up on the participants' own projects by mentors from the Community Partners organisations, a most strong sustainable impact is expected in months after.

As student leader in the project, I will be managing logistics, co-leading workshops and analysing feedback for improvement. I have worked with all of the community partners previously. I have directed the Salta's 10 Most Outstanding Youth Awards in the past, largely developed training for JCI locally and nationally, and executed the pilot program for the Young Spirit Leadership learning series. With the Municipality of Salta, I have co-led training in anti-violence and understanding of diversity for its executive departments. I have participated in food drives and fundraising for soup kitchens and several other non-profit organizations of the city that focus mainly in sustainability. As a Davis Scholar, having attended Pearson College UWC, I understand the significance of personal development and community involvement opportunities, and how they can help us overcome barriers of poverty and social injustice. The experiences and opportunities that were once offered to me opened doors for new ways of development, new ways of thinking, new ways of being for me, for those who supported me, and for those who will come after me in my community.

Jose Manuel Maidana Cejas IMPACT.AR: Social Change, Community, and Resilience Projects for Peace 2022 Budget

Budgeting				
Expenses	Cost in USD*	Detail	Price Source	Funding Source
Venues				
Coworking Space SLA	\$950	Rental for meeting space for 25 people for the mo	https://www.coworkingsalta.com/	Davis Funding
Coworking Space SLA			https://www.coworkingsalta.com/	Davis Funding
MAC / Museo de Arte Contemporáneo	\$285	Rental for meeting space with stakeholders, comm	https://www.coworkingsalta.com/	Davis Funding
Food				
Brunch	\$2,970	Brunch for 25 people, for 25 days	http://www.bixicoffeehouse.com/menu	Davis Funding
Coffee Breaks	\$900	Coffee Breaks for 25 people, for 20 days	http://www.bixicoffeehouse.com/menu	Davis Funding
Retreats Materials	\$900	Assistance Food Drive and Fundraising	https://www.vea.com.ar/	Davis Funding
Supplies and Work Materials				
Materials		Stationary supplies, art materials, binders, folders		Davis Funding
Internet / Hotspot			https://www.personal.com.ar/internet?icn=internet&ici=home_quicklinks	Davis Funding
Promotional material	\$100	Flyers and digital media done by Caribe School Sa	http://www.caribemultimediaschool.com.ar/?fbclid=lwAR0LSaunijVIX6bqqgnXNA3	Davis Funding
Certificates	\$100	Certificates printing.	http://mundograficosa.com.ar/	Davis Funding
Retreats Transportation	\$2,000	Bus rental with driver 5 days for 30 people.	http://www.empresapalavecino.com/?fbclid=lwAR0BiUDrDesh5HuFkmy3rnw6Uoa	Davis Funding
Stipend and Expenses coverage for Coordinators and Instructors	\$1,320	\$220 stipends for the month for each one of the in	structors, coordinators (6)	Davis Funding
Other expenses	\$196	Unnexpected expenses, fees.		Davis Funding
Student Expenses				
In-country travel/commuting	\$100	Commuting by public transport	https://saetasalta.com.ar/	Davis Funding
Flight to Argentina	\$1,500	Flight to Argentina / EZE from PDX	https://www.despegar.com.ar/	L&C President Funding
Food & lodging	\$500	Food and lodging in a strategically located rental in	https://www.vrbo.com/10916020ha?adultsCount=1&arrival=2022-07-18&departure	L&C President Funding
Total Davis Funding Expenses	\$10,000			
Total L&C President Funding Expenses	\$2,000			

\$12,000

*USD to ARS 1:100,18

Total Expenses