**Review of First Four Months: March – June 2013**

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| March | * Arrival to Quito (March 13, 2013) * Visit with Central Plains delegation to Colombia and the Colombian Mennonite National Assembly * Orientation * Began helping with "Servicios Menonitas" - after school homework help and care during the week |
| April | * Orientation to the Quito Church, its new and existing ministries, initiated researching the theme of juvenile pregnancies in Ecuador to begin work on Vida Juvenil * Helped implement Peace Education Workshop * Participated in PROPAZ theology class * Taught Sunday School to school-aged kids * Servicios Menonitas |
| May | * Helped with planning and implementing Quito Mennonite Church's 4th church retreat * Carried out 2 meetings with Jardines del Inca neighborhood association and its president to move forward with Vida Juvenil * Sunday School teaching * Met with the Vida Juvenil support team to begin forming the project * Servicios Menonitas/Filled in for the ESL teacher |
| June | * Moved in to the Jardines del Inca neighborhood * Successfully planned and implemented an activity for QMC youth with David (about 13 youth attended) * Sunday school teaching * Met with Vida Juvenil team to plan the surveying of the neighborhood * Servicios Menonitas * Led the planning of this month's Peace Education workshop |
| July | * Youth Venture planning and implementation with David * Presented the Vida Juvenil project to the Jardines del Inca neighborhood association members * Implemented surveys to half of the Jardines del Inca barrio along with help from Vida Juvenil team and QMC members to assess the context in relation to juvenile pregnancy, sex/reproductive education * Inaugurated a new church plan in Jardines del Inca (helped plan the worship service and was selected to be a part of the council) |

**Annual Action Plan**

**August 2013-August 2014**

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| **Project** | **Goal** |
| Vida Juvenil | * Provide monthly workshops to the youth with help from support team, outside organizations, professionals within the church membership and/or Jardines del Inca neighborhood. * Provide 3-6 educational workshops for parents throughout the year. * Open the Vida Juvenil space between 2-3 times every week so that youth in the neighborhood are given options of how to spend their free time in fun, healthy ways. * Meet consistently with the Vida Juvenil team and potentially grow the team to include more adults while still receiving valuable opinions from local youth. * Encourage youth to successfully fulfill their roles/duties on the team as a way to teach them leadership and other important skills. * Continue learning about the context/needs surrounding the issue of juvenile pregnancy, sexual abuse, etc. to best serve the community |
| Servicios Menonitas | * Successfully implement a weekly routine with the Servicios Menonitas attendees * Advertise the service more throughout the Inca sector to increase attendance/awareness of the project * Attempt to build relationships and keep in contact with the parents/guardians of attendees |
| Peace Education workshops (EDUPAZ) | * Continue to help plan/facilitate the monthly workshops * Encourage the EDUPAZ team in completing the duties assigned them despite their busy lifestyles * Maintain an interrelation between Servicios Menonitas and EDUPAZ attendees to potentially increase participation and awareness of both of the programs. |
| Jardines del Inca church plant | * Fulfill my role as person in charge of managing finances for the new church and as part of the worship planning team. * Help to animate JDI church members through visiting/calling them, etc. * Visit potential/current members in the Jardines del Inca neighborhood at least a couple of times a month; invite new people to Jardines del Inca’s family group – encourage to the family group members the importance of inclusion and welcoming new people despite already being a tight-knit group. |
| PROPAZ theology class | * Complete all homework assignments * Increase my grade from a C to a B * Participate more in discussion |
| Youth group at Quito Mennonite Church | * As a co-team with David, at least provide bi-monthly opportunities/activities for youth to share, have fun together and to help break down barriers between economic, educational, ethnic/racial etc. statuses in the very diverse group of youth. |
| Other | * In all of my work, keep in mind the departure of the pastors to continue building a stable base for when they leave * Help out with special church services/events when needed and when I am able. |

Report important recent events or developments in the local church.

The Quito Mennonite church recently rented a space to begin having services in Jardines del Inca. This will make it easier for members to travel to church on Sundays and there are at least 25 people who will potentially attend consistently. The challenge is being a team of three who will plan worship every Sunday and seeking out people to preach so that the weight of the sermons is not only laid on Cesar and Patricia (who already sometimes preach 2 times per Sunday).

With what kinds of people are workers interacting?

My work has taken shape to where I interact with Quito Mennonite church members on Sundays but live among Jardines del Inca individuals (and also work among them through the Vida Juvenil project). They are a tight-knit community; a neighborhood with a history that began when families decided to relocate from Loja to Quito – so many of the families within the barrio have known each other for several generation or are related. The challenge of this can be being able to welcome outsiders. The area is very marginal – just recently being equipped with running water and paved roads. Learning to live among poverty/among the people I am serving is something that I felt called to do and it is bringing new insight to my experience.

What strategies and approaches are used in witness?

Lots of sharing through family activities (sharing dinners, celebrating birthdays, etc.) One peak for me so far was being able to take 3 of the Quito youth along with us on some of the Youth Venture travels. This served as a way for the youth to interact more in-depth but also gave me an opportunity to get to know these 3 youth better.

Note stories that will motivate and inspire the North American church.

Alba Silva, the church secretary is a great testimony to the work being done here over the years. Several people testify to how centered in her faith she is, how strong/confident she has become despite many life challenges and she is a great example for her family, people who make up the majority of the Jardines del Inca family group and new congregation. She is open in testifying to the work God has done in her life and she is a great example of hospitality. It would be great to be able to share her full story with the North American church to illustrate how God works wonders. She was recently elected to the neighborhood association’s council which I hope will serve as a great connection for the church and the Jardines del Inca neighborhood.