Special Project: Girls and Boys Clubs Talita Cumi and Talay Cumi

Goal:

The goal of the project is to provide Christ-centered clubs to promote friendships, values and self-efficacy for preadolescent girls and boys in high-risk social situations in Costa Rica.

Summary:

This project seeks to raise $12,000 to cover the 2027 cost of the materials for the clubs.

Description:



This project was started Costa Rica in 2022 and works with preadolescent youth 8-12 years old to provide a safe space modeling healthy relationships, an opportunity for service, spiritual formation and the development of good habits. The clubs meet once a week during the school year with trained mentors. A book guides them through 7 key Christian virtues that give them a foundation to build faith, self-esteem, ability to make wise decisions, identify positive relationships, develop conflict resolution skills and set goals for their future. The program lasts 3 years. We currently have 12 clubs of 7-15 participants each.

ABC missionary Barbara Bolick began Talita Cumi clubs in Chile over 20 years ago to fight the high rate of teen pregnancy. In Costa Rica we have expanded them to include boys.

Costa Rica suffers problems with dysfunctional families, a significant school drop-out rate, teenage pregnancy and drug-related crime. The churches need a formal program to help them guide children into a good path before they reach the risky stage of adolescence.

Total cost of the program: $12,000 per year

Suggested gifts:



A gift of $700 covers the cost of one club for one year
A gift of $60 covers the participation of one child for one year
A gift of $1000 covers the publishing cost of the second-year boys' book

Prayer requests:



Pray for the mentors, who give freely of their time and love to these children.
Pray for the coordinating team, for wisdom and guidance.
Pray for the girls and boys in the clubs, that they will understand God's love for them and develop the self-confidence, goals, and skills needed to serve God and neighbor with joy.

Managed by:

Ruth Vindas (IM missionary), Sue Hegarty, Ruth Mooney (former missionaries), Ginette Ramírez