



Annual Report 2019-2020

Dominica site Luque, Paraguay



Chalice has partnered with Proyecto Dominica and the Dominican Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament since 2004. Dominica sites supports both children and elders, many of whom are either reliant on agricultural livelihoods or in precarious urban dwellings. The site focuses on educational support of children and access to food through soup kitchens and feeding programs. The site provides adult skills training workshops on baking, embroidering, sewing, leadership, and entrepreneurship. Dominica site also has a partnership with a local health centre to provide checkups for the children and elderly.

Child



- Dominica site supports 1205 sponsored children and elders.
- Site staff had to modify their operations with the pandemic, replacing school visits with telephone calls. They held telephone meetings with parents and family circle leaders to understand the families' needs. Site staff is "accompanying, stimulating and supporting this process of change."
- The site runs a literacy program with the support of the Ministry of Education, usually held in community classrooms. That program is now either online or students receive assignments on paper to their homes.
- Prior to the pandemic closures, the site's medical dispensary, staffed by volunteer healthcare professionals, carried out 4-6 medical consultations per week.

Family

- Dominica site works with 640 families organized into 43 family circle groups.
- The site staff can see that the parents in the family circles have incorporated their financial literacy training into their daily lives, because the families have shown increased resilience to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Practices such as budgeting, individual and group savings, and navigating governmental support have sustained the families through the periods of job losses and economic downturn.
- The Dominica site also provided the families with extra financial support through Chalice's COVID-19 disaster fund.



Community

- 140 children received a hot, nutritious meal at the site's Virgen de las Mercedes Children's Kitchen every week day supported through through the Chalice nutrition program.
- During the closure periods, 140 children received the meals through a volunteer-run delivery system.
- The site currently offers 1500 plates of food per week.
- 120 families improved their homes with beds, mattresses, pillows and fans, thanks to supporters of Chalice's gift catalogue.

