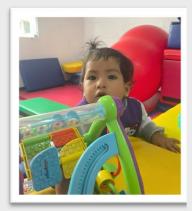
STICHTING VRIENDEN VAN ARIE

Asociación para la Rehabilitación del Infantil Excepcional Lima, Peru

Victoria Flores Mendoza

Victoria is the one year old daughter of young parents, living in Cieneguilla. They travel to ARIE La Molina to receive care for Victoria. Out of fear and precaution, since her birth, Victoria stayed in her room with her mother, avoiding going outdoors.

During a routine child check-up, it was observed that she had high bilirubin levels for an extended period, leading to a suspicion of brain damage.







Continued growth for ARIE

The team in Lima, headed by Dra Maria del Carmen Rodriguez on the medical and Johanna Susffalich Sarmiento on the management side are growing their reach and impact on children in need. In 2024 they have focused on improving their levels of care by utilizing more technology and seeking efficiencies in processes and expenses to keep helping the children of Peru. One of the main objectives is to ensure that the majority of children complete 100% of their treatment, as per the prescribed medical recommendations. They will leave ARIE equipped with the tools to lead a fulfilling life, with independence and self-sufficiency.

The team currently project closing the year with 490,000 provided treatments (7,500 patients), of which 20% are subsidized or financially supported treatments for low-income families. This represents 98,000 treatments, benefiting over 1,000 children. These numbers are a record for the institution in its 36 years of existence.

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María Sofía Rodriguez Ramirez

María Sofía (5 years) and her mother, Madith, attend five therapy sessions per week. They are a family with very limited resources and face significant dysfunction. They have experienced discrimination at schools because María Sofía has Down syndrome.



Faced with economic concerns and frustration over family issues, Mrs. Madith has considered placing María Sofía for adoption. However, her love for her daughter has motivated them to seek help and work hard. They rely on ARIE to continue to face their challenges and view Arie as their second home.



The Avanzar Program

As ARIE has retained stable revenues, has built a professional base and continues to grow the focus of Stichting Vrienden van ARIE has shifted slightly. For the coming years we have encouraged the local team to grow the outreach to very lowincome families for which we will provide donations over the full course of treatment for these additional children.

In May 2024 this initiative started with enrolling 100 children into ARIE's Avanzar program. The average age of the children starting is 4 years old. By the end of October, all the spots in the program have been filled in coordination with the social workers that support ARIE. The therapists have already provided 5,200 treatments.

Main Diagnoses

- 37% are children with Down syndrome
- 15% are children with autism spectrum disorder
- 12% have cerebral palsy
- 10% have language disorders



New Technologies at ARIE

At ARIE, the team is implementing cutting-edge diagnostic tools and innovative first-rate treatments to more objectively assess the initial condition of children and track their progress. These advancements allow them to provide more precise and effective care. One of the new tools ARIE is using is *Aula Nesplora*, a virtual reality software that helps psychologists evaluate attention and concentration levels. This tool is particularly useful for identifying sustained attention, concentration capacity, and emotional regulation in children—areas often affected in individuals with ADHD.



By leveraging this technology, therapists can better understand each child's unique challenges and design tailored interventions. Continuing with the trend of virtual reality, our Villa El Salvador facility now features *Nirvana*, an immersive virtual reality software designed for neuro-rehabilitation. Nirvana uses motion sensors and projections on walls and floors to create engaging therapy sessions for children. This interactive approach not only makes therapy more enjoyable for the children but also delivers tangible results that parents and therapists can observe.



These innovations are transforming how we deliver care, making therapies more effective and accessible while empowering families with clearer insights into their children's progress.

Santiago Orozco Palomino

Santiago (3 years) lives alone with his mother, who is a very young woman and has been reaching out to various institutions in search of help.



She is deeply concerned about her son's overall development and is making an effort to learn at Arie how to understand his needs. Santiago has spastic diplegia and is undergoing physical and behavioral therapy.



Committee changes

This year brought changes within

our committee as we said

goodbye to two long-standing members: Alexander Beelaerts

van Blokland and Ton Spoor.

instrumental role in guiding Stichting Vrienden van Arie over

the years, and their contributions

We are pleased to announce that Beryl van Andel (daughter-inlaw of Ton) joined the committee.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Alexander and Ton for their years of dedication to ARIE.

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will be greatly missed.

Both

Supporting professional development at ARIE

On the path to reaching more children the availability of qualified therapists is critical. Since 2023, ARIE has been recognized as a training institute for medical specialists, which is a significant acknowledgment of the organization's quality. Given the limited financial resources to compensate top talent at market-competitive rates, Stichting Vrienden van ARIE will explore ways to support ARIE in attracting and retaining this talent. For example, by providing scholarships to increase the number of training positions, as there is a shortage of such opportunities in Lima.



Stichting Vrienden van ARIE can continue treating many more children in Peru because of your generous donations. Thank you for your continued support.

Founder

Carola Beelaerts van Blokland

Committee

Roderik Bolle Margot Kraijenhoff Selina van Panhuys Beryl van Andel

Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling ANBI

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