

2008: The Year in Review

2008 was an exciting year for Viva Bolivia! This year was filled with firsts:

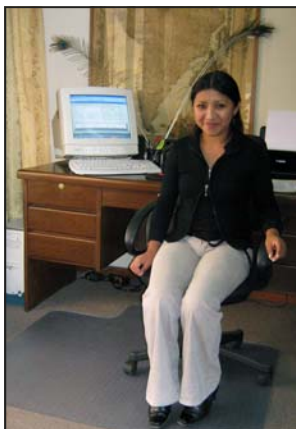
During 2008 we received our permanent status as a 501(c)(3) organization from the IRS. You can view our final ruling letter on our site at: <http://www.vivabolivia.org/support/>.

We completed our first (and only) 5th year anniversary as a Public Charity!

We celebrated our first full year in the Viva Bolivia offices in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

We hired a new team member Maria Elena, who began working a full-time schedule this past December.

Jonathan and Karin returned to the United States leaving Viva Bolivia – Bolivia, in the capable hands of Juan, Roxana and Maria Elena!



Maria Elena — The newest member of our team!



Our team at a recent conference

We are so thankful for the opportunity to have served in Bolivia and praise God for allowing us to be a part of the work He is accomplishing in Bolivia.

The following list includes our primary accomplishments for 2008. On behalf of all those who were helped by the work

of Viva Bolivia, thank you for your encouragement, prayers and financial partnership. Together, we are developing leaders for today and creating hope for tomorrow!

- More than 2800 hours of organizational consulting, conflict resolution, technical services, accounting and legal services and general support were provided to 20+ different missions, churches, communities and projects working in Bolivia and serving the Bolivian people.
- Jonathan handed over his responsibilities as Church Treasurer for the International Church to Poly Gonzales (a Bolivian) who is now serving in this role.

- More than 2000 hours of fair trade work provided for the women of FreeHands Prison Ministry and more than 4300 hours of work provided for VBPS employees. Together this work not only provided dignity and training opportunities, but also served to help provide for the basic needs of mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, children and grandchildren.
- 1350+ bags of Café Yungas sold in Bolivia through VBPS. The proceeds from the sale of this coffee were used to help in sustaining VBPS.
- 950+ bags of Café Yungas sold in the USA with all the profit going back to Bolivia in the form of grants and support for the work there.

Here is a partial list of scholarships and grants funded by the US sales of Café Yungas:

- Grant to the Cochabamba International Church (CIC) to pay for their CCLI music licensing fee for 2008
- Grant to CIC to help pay for accounting and legal services
- Grant to CIC to help cover the cost of filing for tax-exempt status for their newly purchased property. The exemption was later received and will save enough in taxes and fees over the next five years to pay for two full-time staff salaries for two full years!
- Support for the “Day of Prayer” in Bolivia
- Grant to Casa de Amor Children’s home (CDA) to help pay for accounting and legal services and to purchase Christmas gifts
- Support for the distribution of Samaritan’s Purse gift boxes to more than 700 children around Cochabamba

Bolivia Trivia

Our office is based in Cochabamba, Bolivia. What does the word Cochabamba mean?:

- A. Fertile Valley
- B. Land of the Llama
- C. Swampy Plain
- D. Dry Golden Hills

(See page two for the answer.)

- Grant to purchase Christmas gifts distributed by Servicio Integral Agropecuario Bolivia (SIAB)



- Grant to help in purchasing a new loom for the Candelaria Weavers
- Grant to Tim to help with costs of dialysis and other medical costs
- Grant for Magaly to attend a job training course



- Grants for Victor to attend Christian elementary school (Fatima's grandson)
- Grant for medical supplies (first aid) for the Elementary School "Pablo Cano"
- Grants for Roxana to complete her law studies
- Grant for Maria Jose (young attorney) to help purchase new computer system
- Grant to Juan Jose to purchase guitar pedal for leading worship at CIC and for an outreach program in Alto Cochabamba
- Grant for computer desks for Valle Hermoso Children's home (computers were donated by another charity)
- Grant to Abelina to update her prosthesis



- Grants to support Alexandra (blue dress) as she attends the Laredo Institute music and arts elementary school (she is Roxana's oldest daughter)
- Grant to VBPS for the purchase of green coffee beans used in the sale of Café Yungas in Bolivia
- Grant to support FreeHands with their administrative costs and base material purchases to provide job training and leadership development



Thank You!

- Grant to purchase Bibles for the Alto Cochabamba church
- Grant to Ivan and Miriam (from CIC) to attend a "tent-making" missions training seminar in Peru
- Various other small grants to help with education, training and leadership development

In addition to the Café Yungas grants we were also pleased to help facilitate a number of other grants. The following grants were funded by your generous donations and by some specially designated gifts during 2008:

Bolivia Trivia Answer:

C. Swampy Plain

Editor's Note: In 1542 a group of Spanish colonizers settled in the Kjocha-Pampa valley. Later the name was changed to Cochabamba. The two Quechua words: kjocha (swampy) and pampa (plains) are certainly not accurate today. Cochabamba is now a dry, but beautiful valley and is considered to have the best year-round weather of any city in Bolivia.

