Our Work in Brazil

PADF has worked in Brazil for over a decade, engaging corporate and NGO partners in a variety of projects to improve literacy, education, children’s health and welfare, elderly care, and responding to natural disasters. PADF supports Brazilian initiatives and organizations by linking them with corporate donors, sending in-kind donations and mobilizing support from the Brazilian Diaspora in the United States.

Access to Health for Vulnerable Populations

With support from Medtronic, PADF developed a program with local NGO Viva Rio to improve access to health services for vulnerable women in communities in Rio de Janeiro. Viva Rio offers quality services that provide a more humanistic and integrated approach to primary care and improve access to chronic disease prevention services.

Additionally, PADF and Medtronic are working with the Youth Diabetes Association in Brazil to expand their reach so they can increase advocacy, education and direct services to patients and families affected by diabetes in Brazil.

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Conservation of the Brazil Forests

PADF has worked to preserve the last remaining native areas of the Atlantic Rainforest in southern coastal Brazil thanks to funding from Boeing and Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. and in partnership with Brazilian NGO Sociedade de Pesquisa em Vida Salvagem e Educação Ambiental (SPVS). The program implements the following actions:

- Preserve native Araucaria forests through education and partnerships with land owners
- Contribute to the conservation of biodiversity in the Brazilian Atlantic Forest
- Raise environmental awareness among children
- Provide support to a community-based ecotourism association in Paraná

In addition, Caterpillar has provided $750,000 to PADF to support the ConBio program, which fosters the protection of urban natural areas located in southern Brazil in order to improve the population’s quality of life in relationship to their environment. The project seeks to increase the number of green urban areas adequately managed with sound environmental practices in the municipality of Campo Largo, Paraná. Through workshops, educational support to teachers and children and other activities with members of the community, the project is increasing citizens’ knowledge on conservation, and empowering them to become actively engaged in the protection of their green areas.

In-kind Donations

PADF’s In-Kind Donations program plays an important role in helping vulnerable communities in Latin America and the Caribbean. With the support of a network of partners including public agencies, manufacturers, and universities, PADF distributes in-kind donations worth millions of dollars. These include medical and dental equipment for health care institutions and tools for professional training at technical and vocational education institutions.

About PADF

The Pan American Development Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, brings together many stakeholders to improve livelihoods, empower communities, strengthen civil society, support human rights, protect the environment and respond to natural disasters in Latin America and the Caribbean. Established by the Organization of American States in 1962, PADF has worked in every country in the region. In 2014 PADF reached more than 15 million people by investing over $92 million in development resources in 27 Latin American and Caribbean countries.

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