

Alliance for Humanitarian Architecture

Life with Dignity Project Sponsored by TAIWAN H.H.

OVERVIEW

As a side effect of the lockdown caused by the COVID-19 spread in Chile beginning with its capital Santiago on May 16th 2020, people have started rioting, confronting the government asking for food and help.

The government are providing food and cleaning supplies to the most vulnerable families. Also, people and organizations have started food donation campaigns all over the city to complement the help provided by the government, that is largely perceived as insufficient.

Although Alliance for Humanitarian Architecture focuses primarily on architectural support, its South American office is based in Santiago, and could not ignore this situation and have decided to support with our own food donation campaign, named "Life with Dignity" project.

Our initial aim was to support the families to supply roughly 2 weeks of food (comparable to the ones provided by the government) in the La Bandera neighborhood.

PRODUCTS CONTAINED in the BOXES

(Each box is roughly 42USD)

COOKING OIL	900cc
RICE	2kg
PASTA	4 PACK 400g
TOMATO SAUCE	4 PACK 200g
FLOUR	2kg
SUGAR	1kg
TEA	1 BOX (100 BAGS)
MACKEREL	2 CANS (425g per CAN)
TOOTHPASTE	1 TUBE
TOILET PAPER	1 PACK (4 UNITS EACH)
SOAP	1 UNIT
SANITARY PADS	1 PACKAGE
CANDLES	1 PACKAGE (10 UNITS)
BLEACH	1liter
BEANS	2kg
SALT	1kg
MILK	1kg



Contents inside the box



Boxes before assembly



Boxes being prepared



Boxes ready for delivery

“La Bandera” Neighborhood

This is a popular, low income neighborhood in the commune of San Ramón in the southern part of Santiago.

This neighborhood started as an informal settlement by people without access to housing solutions from the government. It has a strong identity and internal organization, derived from its roots as an informal settlement. The families in “La Bandera” are organizing and trying to get as much help as possible, to provide food and other goods to the community. Many people have lost their Jobs or have informal Jobs, that can't be done because of the general state of lockdown in the city.

The first 25 boxes with food and supplies were delivered to the community in La Bandera neighborhood on Saturday June 13th. These 25 boxes were delivered to the poorest members of the community, people who recently lost their jobs, single mothers, etc.



Aerial map of La Bandera neighborhood



"La Bandera" Neighborhood



Boxes being loaded



Boxes being loaded

Assembling the boxes

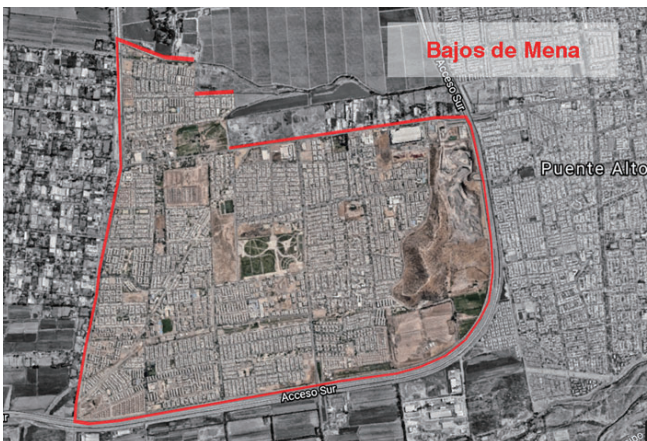
Over 200 boxes delivered to contain all the food were hand assembled by the AHA South America members and their families, as well as the neighbors and friends. Also the students from the University of Santiago have helped assemble the boxes.

“Bajos de Mena” Neighborhood

This is a popular, low income neighborhood in the commune of Puente Alto in the southeast part of Santiago.

This neighborhood started as a small settlement during the 1960's but grew exponentially during the 1990's with the building of many social, public housing buildings for poor people. This area is considered the biggest settlement in Chile, with a population of around 140,000 people, most of them living in public social housing units.

Here we have helped an organized group of people in this community who work in a small, informal market in Bajos de Mena. This organization consists of 141 families of small scale merchants, who sell used and cheap items on the street. With the decrease in economic activities related to the lockdown, many of them are not earning enough money to pay rent, buy groceries or bills.



Aerial map of the Bajos de Mena neighborhood



"Informal Market" Bajost de Mena



Informal market members in a community meeting



"Bajos de Mena" neighborhood

Delivery to “Bajos de Mena” Neighborhood

On Sunday June 28th, Alliance for Humanitarian Architecture delivered the first batch of 45 boxes to the people in Bajos de Mena. Another 45 boxes were delivered the following Sunday on July 5th, with the final batch of 51 boxes on July 12th to complete the delivery of boxes to 141 families in Bajos de Mena.

July 5th



Boxes being delivered to the Bajos de Mena neighborhood

July 12th



Boxes being delivered to the Bajos de Mena neighborhood

Expanding the help

After delivery of 166 boxes to the two communities we had initially proposed, we were fortunate to have some money left to support some more families who needed the food box.

Alliance for Humanitarian Architecture got in touch with the Social workers at the University of Chile and the University of Santiago which are both the biggest public universities in the country. Many of the students in these universities come from very low-income families, generally receiving free education. Alliance for Humanitarian Architecture have agreed to donate around 50 boxes to families of low-income students. At the end, we have delivered 20 boxes to the students in the University of Santiago, and 25 boxes to the students in the University of Chile, through each university's student social services office.

Summary

With the support of friends, family and other organizations, we were able to deliver a total of 216 boxes than the initial 166 planned providing 2 weeks of food and supplies to 2 communities and students from 2 universities.

June 13th	25 boxes delivered to "La Bandera" neighborhood
June 28th	45 boxes delivered to "Bajos de Mena" neighborhood
July 5th	45 boxes delivered to "Bajos de Mena" neighborhood
July 12th	51 boxes delivered to "Bajos de Mena" neighborhood
July xx	25 boxes delivered to poor student families from the University of Chile
July xx	20 boxes delivered to poor student families from the University of Santiago

Total of 216 boxes distributed. Helping 216 families for 2 weeks, a total of 432 weeks.

Thank you!

Alliance for Humanitarian Architecture would like to thank you for your heartfelt support to our cause. We hope your satisfaction is met with these results, and look forward to future collaboration.

If you have any questions regarding this project, or would like to know about other projects we are currently working on, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time.

To end this report, we have received several thank you message to our facebook account and would like to share one with you.

"Buenas tardes muchísimas gracias por la cajita con mercadería , que llegó a mi familia se le agradece de corazón porque estábamos por momentos muy difíciles"

Soto Rosa
July 2nd 2020

Alliance for Humanitarian Architecture
Executive Director
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