



FRIENDS OF ALALAY (SANTA CRUZ)

Registered charity no. 1123425

LATE AUTUMN 2022 NEWSLETTER

Much of this newsletter will be devoted to describing recent exciting news from the Alalay Foundation. Earlier in October, thanks to other major donors, a 10-strong all-girls' football team from Alalay travelled from Bolivia to Doha to participate in the [Street Child Football World Cup 2022](#). The girls played against teams of street-connected children from 24 other countries, and we are very proud to announce that overall they finished in fourth place. Alongside this international football tournament, the trip included an International Congress to champion the rights of street-connected children worldwide. The delegation was joined by Bolivian politicians and the media.

The girls' team presented their hopes for the future to the attending President of the Bolivian Senate, through a country-specific advocacy plan they had developed, involving four key pillars:

- a life free of violence within the family, school and community;
- access to quality education, incorporating relevant technologies;
- the need for a state proposal for children and young people which prioritises programmes for the most vulnerable groups;
- for all children to have free-of-charge access to their birth certificates, especially those who live/work on the streets, or in some form of centre away from their families (such as Alalay) and/or are in a situation of vulnerability or social exclusion.

The team explained that this last point is the “door through which other rights can also be achieved, such as the right to education, work and health”.

In addition, the team participated in a Festival of Arts, and demonstrated their painting and dancing talents – showing a traditional Tinku dance to the other teams and attendees. It was clearly such a fantastic trip and the team have returned to Bolivia filled with energy and passion to change the World for the better (once they've got over their jetlag)! See the next pages for some photos and thoughts from the trip.



And we are thrilled to announce that Alalay has already signed up for the 2nd ever [Street Child Cricket World Cup](#) – to be held in India in September 2023! Once again the event aims to use sport as a platform for positive change. Unfortunately, Bolivia does not have much of a history of cricket, so the team will definitely need some serious training beforehand. Please do [get in touch](#) if you have any useful contacts or innovative suggestions from the cricketing world – for example, help ranging from providing kit and equipment to coaching is needed.

Closer to home, we'd like to draw the attention of any supporters living near to Bristol that on Saturday 26 November we will have our first in-person fundraising concert since late 2019! Please, please do come along to St. Matthew's Church, Kingsdown for an evening of music by WA Mozart and Robert Schumann. It promises to be a great event – we hope to see you there.

Annie Syrett-Jones, Bristol – October 2022

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"To be able to participate in the World Cup [...] was an unforgettable experience: moments of happiness, new cultures, but above all, the impact of listening to the problems faced in other countries..."

I am happy to know that one of the most important state figures of our country was present at the event. I feel that we were listened to and that, with the help of God, our proposals will now become laws or norms...

Personally I feel proud for this big step, and that alongside it, we were able to reach the semi-final of this football tournament. It is a really big achievement for the team, I am very excited to return to my country."

Laura, Alalay team midfielder



Tinku dance





"To be in the Street Child 2022 football tournament brought joy, many other emotions and nerves! We didn't just go to play, we went to tell people about the problems in my country. It was interesting to know that other children want to do something about the challenges that they also face in their countries.

We spent a long time preparing so that our proposal could be understood. After listening to the problems from other countries, I told them that they should never give up on trying to reach what they want, to keep going with their dreams! We will do the same until all of our rights are fulfilled!"

Debora, Alalay team defence



"In my opinion this experience was really marvellous, fun and full of learning. To reach the semi-final was a very big achievement but also to get to know people from other countries and their cultures. It was also fun to socialise and share with other delegations from different countries with hand signals or speaking, and to share proposals to improve the rights of children and young people."

Valeria, Alalay team goalkeeper

