

# Annual Report 1997





## I. OUR CONTEXT



As we approach the end of the 20th century, a great part of the Mexican and Latin American societies still live in poverty; according to UNICEF, more than 45% (45 million people) of the Mexican population lives in absolute poverty, and among this group, 9 million are children. According to the same source, 3 out of 5 of these children who live in poverty drop out of school and start working between 46 and 48 hours a week. The ones who continue going to school work between 24 and 35 hours a week(1). These numbers allow a better understanding of the quick increase of children working and/or living in the streets of our country during the last few years. Data from the UNICEF indicates that about 60 thousand children live in the streets of our country, 14 thousand of these in the streets of Mexico city, the capital. About 3 thousand children are working in the streets of Oaxaca(2) and 15% of these live in them.

Mexico ratified the agreements of the World Summit for Childhood, during which Children's Human Rights were set. However, during 1996, the National Commission of Human Rights of the Federal District reported daily a mean of 318,35 cases of child mistreatment in our country. UNICEF also reported that out of the 2 million children who are born annually, 158 thousand die; and out of those, 40 thousand die because of malnutrition.

These numbers underline a reality that cannot leave us untouched, given that everyday the Rights of our children are being violated, thus favoring an increasing number of children entering street life in the big cities.

**Because of all this, we strongly feel the need to concentrate our attention towards the Children of Today, to build together the Oaxaca of Tomorrow.**



## II. IN WHAT CONDITIONS DO THE STREET CHILDREN OF OAXACA LIVE?

In the state of Oaxaca, the figures of unemployment, health, education, quality of life and public services are below national average(3). This means that 74,6% of the municipalities are considered excluded or highly excluded(4). In Oaxaca, 42% of the children from 6 to 9 have to deal with chronic malnutrition. Their average schooling is of 4,6 years, 50% lower than the national mean(5).

These facts show us that certain conditions endanger the stability of the children of our state, given that the major part of the 3 thousand children working and/or living in the streets of Oaxaca have the following characteristics:

- 64% of the youngsters who work and/or live in the streets are boys.
- The age of these children varies greatly: 25% are younger than 6 years old; 37% are between 7 and 12 years old; and 38% are older than 16 years old.
- 64% of these children are working, the rest of them only wander along the streets.
- The rural origin of the grand-parents and parents stands out - migrants looking for better opportunities - in contrast with the urban character of the youngster, who is trying to understand his roots; 76% of these children do not speak their parents' language.
- Families are characterized by their extensive number of children; 62% are constituted by more than 6 members, which means the attention to the smallest children is distributed throughout the family, parents and older siblings. Because of that, serious problems often arise at home, and violence among family members is very usual. The lack of living space and affection pushes the youngsters to leave home behind and enter street life.
- 30% of the families consider the mother as the head of the family. The childhood and the later life of the mothers of street children is often based on work; in average, they left home around 13 years old. So the education of the family is mainly





## II. IN WHAT CONDITIONS DO THE STREET CHILDREN OF OAXACA LIVE?



provided by the mother, who usually has a high level of illiteracy.

- 72% of the fathers work at a basic level without qualifications, mainly in activities of the informal sector; 40% of the families dedicate themselves to migrant work. Because of that, 36% of the children working in the street are themselves involved with migrant work.
- Children are also involved with: domestic work, shoe-cleaning, office apprentice, wind shield cleaning, stevedore, prostitution, among others.
- Home, with all its problems and limitations constitutes a fundamental point of reference for the children.
- Participation of children in housework is required very early on, be it inside the house or away from it. Children consider working in the street as a way of life, since this constitutes their daily activity. However, street life exposes children to many risks of violence, abuses and addictions.
- School doesn't answer the real expectations street children have because it is based on long term results and does not satisfy the immediate needs of the children.

Finally, it is necessary to consider each street child as an individual, with concrete and different needs according to his personal background, the reasons that encouraged him to take part in street life, the time he has spent in the street on his own... The solutions for handling each of the above will be dependent upon professional and individual intention.



### III. CANICA, Centro de Apoyo al Niño de la CALLE de Oaxaca, A.C. (Street Children Support Center of Oaxaca)

#### 1. Origin

In 1991, a group of 10 people, greatly concerned by the situation faced by children working and living in the street of Oaxaca, decided to try to do something about it. In 1992, CANICA, Centro de Apoyo al Niño de la Calle de Oaxaca (Street Children Support Center of Oaxaca), Mexican Civil Association, a non-profit organization, was created with the fundamental aim of transforming the negative factors affecting youngsters in street situations into learning opportunities.

#### 2. Philosophy

At CANICA, we believe human rights cannot be disassociated from our nature as human beings. It is a fundamental freedom that we should be able to develop and fully use our capacity as human beings. Therefore, we all have to participate actively to achieve a culture built upon respect and tolerance and which guarantees that children grow up safely, respected and respectful, healthy, responsible, and living happily in a country where they can be proud of their culture.

Facing this structural problem, we reaffirm our promise to work critically and objectively in front of the problems affecting children in street situations. We believe that the way to transform the situations these children are facing nowadays is to educate them through a process of social actions which will help them to modify, create and remember ways of thinking which will allow them to look positively towards the future.

As such, CANICA continues to involve the social community in its activities. We, the people associated with CANICA, as well as the people working at CANICA, do our best to preserve our ideological independence as well as to work honestly.





### III. CANICA, Centro de Apoyo al Niño de la Calle de Oaxaca, A.C. (Street Children Support Center of Oaxaca)



3. **Mission** To encourage the development of children facing life in the street - working or living in the street - or at high risk of doing so, with the idea that they will overcome those personal, familial and social conditions that originated from living in the street, with the participation of their families and the caring community. This work is inspired by the application of an Educational Model which offers a program of services to street children. These professional services are based on both assistance and education. This Model could then be adopted by other communities throughout Latin-America.



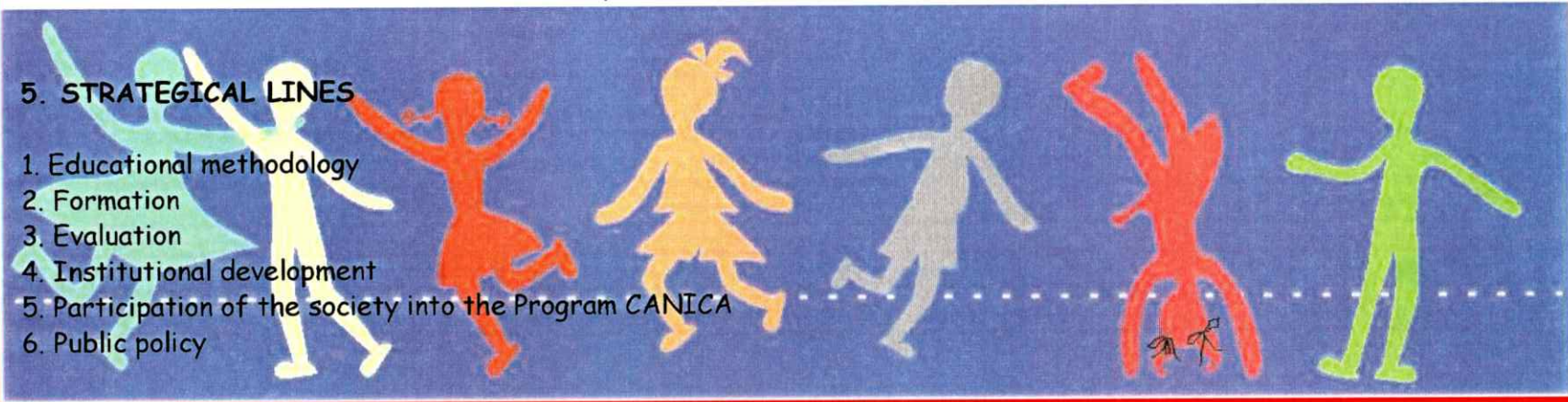
### III. CANICA, Centro de Apoyo al Niño de la CALLE de Oaxaca, A.C. (Street Children Support Center of Oaxaca)

#### 4. Strategical Objectives

- A. To strengthen CANICA's Program so as to decrease the amount of children who are facing life in the street in the city of Oaxaca, and to make sure the youngsters at risk of doing so do not end up working or living in the street.
- B. To collaborate in the development, the application and the testing of the Educational Model (META) for the support of children in street situations. It is the first Model of this type for children facing street situations, and is being put together and tested during the time span 1997-2000. Three other non-governmental organizations are working on this project: JUCONI, A.C. in Puebla, CIDES, IAP in the capital, Mexico city and JUCONI Guayaquil, in Ecuador. This Model is a first being so complete in the field; it explains in details the activities in the street, in the day centers, in the transition houses and in the families themselves. In addition, it will provide new organizations with detailed guides to strategies and activities for education.
- C. To spread to communities and society in general the aim of our mission. We consider that the existence of children and youngsters in the street is a social problem, so the ways to eliminate this social phenomenon will have to involve the whole of the society.

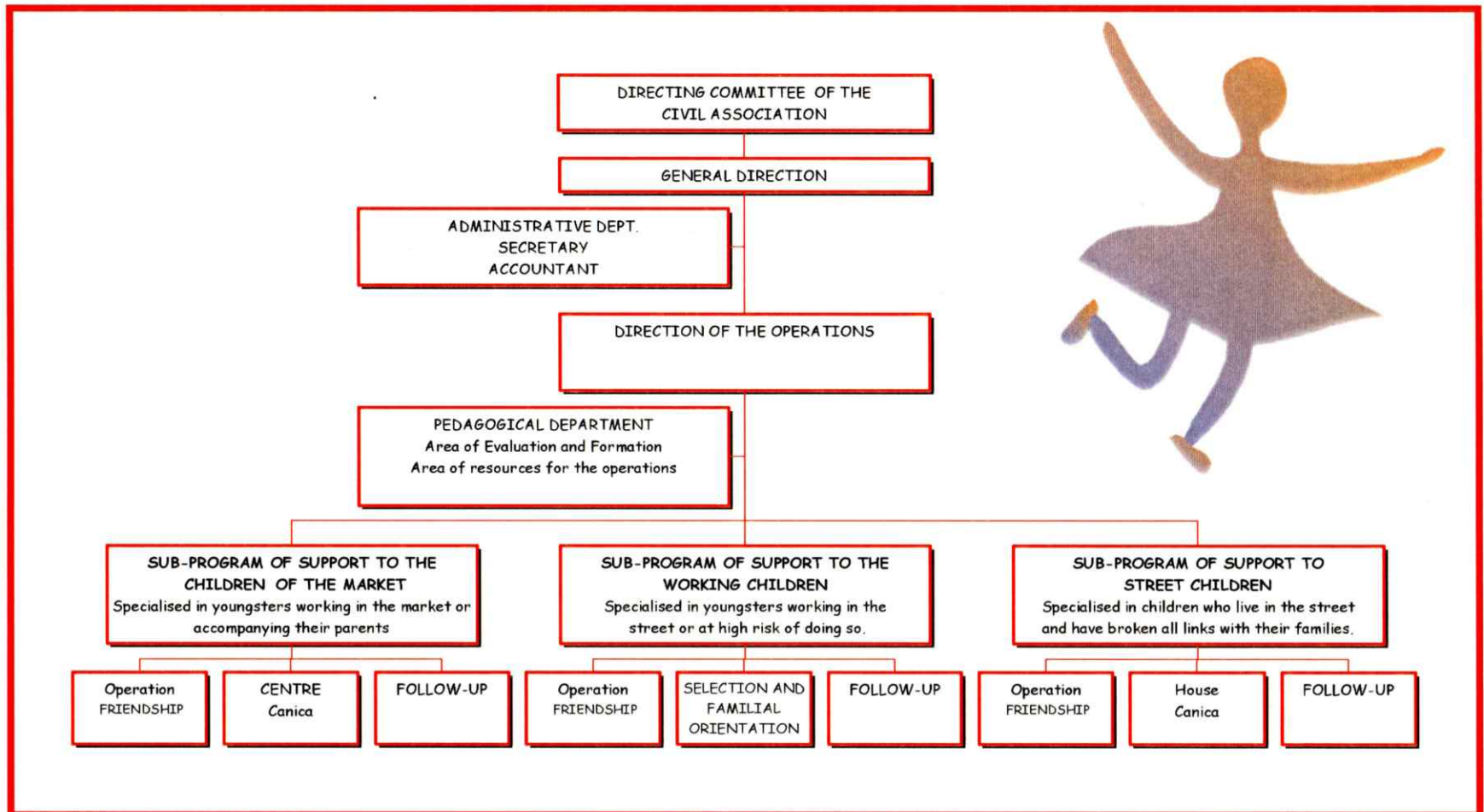
#### 5. STRATEGICAL LINES

1. Educational methodology
2. Formation
3. Evaluation
4. Institutional development
5. Participation of the society into the Program CANICA
6. Public policy





# IV. TABLE OF ORGANIZATION OF CANICA, A.C.





## V. PROGRAM CANICA

### SUB-PROGRAM OF SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN OF THE MARKET

**1. Operation Friendship:** The first contact with the children and their parents, who work in the market. This first step is taken throughout a period of one to three months.

**2. Day Center:** This is the intensive phase of the sub-program. During one year, children working in the market and their siblings will go through a preventive program. The objective of this phase is to maintain children away from the market, where they are exposed to a general atmosphere which is not favorable to their personal development (e.g.: work, violence, filthy surroundings,...). The Center's Program consists of both individual assistance and education, organized according to the age of the youngsters.

*The House of Daily Care* attends children from 3 to 6 years old.

*Orientation and Services* are offered to youngsters working who are from 7 to 17 years of age.

*Mothers and Fathers* is a section dealing with the family, through an educational plan that encourages children to stop working in the street and the Market. Moreover, parents participate in the running of the center, so as to feel responsible for the children.

**3. Follow-up:** The final phase of the Sub-program. Educators follow the family and the youngster to make sure that he can continue to count on sufficient social and familial support, that he is going to school and that he does not have to work in the street or in the Market. This phase can last a year or more.

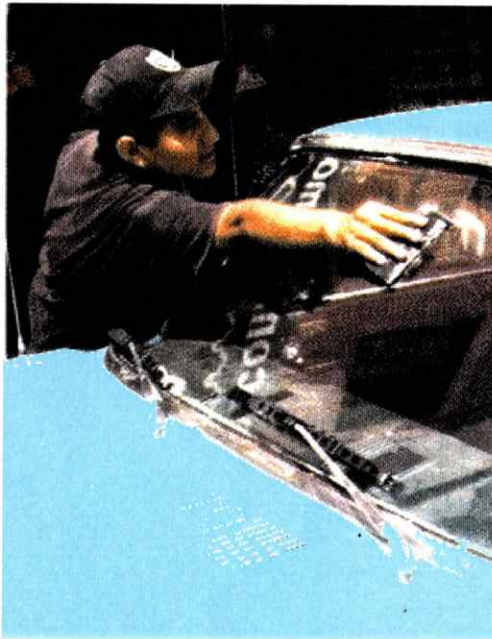


#### Population attended during the cycle:

Youngsters:	77
Population at High Risk:	82
Families:	85



## V. PROGRAM CANICA



**Population attended during the cycle:**

Youngsters:	116
Population at High Risk:	121
Families:	36

### SUB-PROGRAM OF SUPPORT TO WORKING CHILDREN

**1. Operation Friendship:** The first contact with the children is established in the street, in open spaces where affluence is high, at cross-points or in parks. This phase lasts from three to six months.

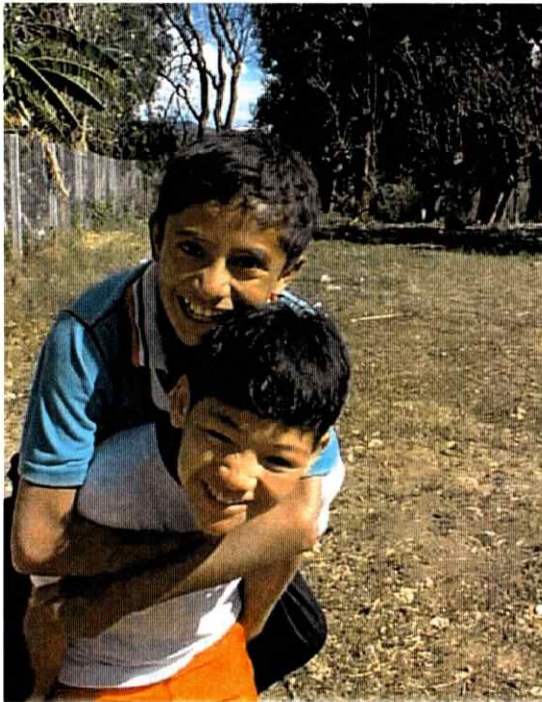
**2. Services and Familial Orientation:** The intensive phase of this sub-program, lasting for about a year throughout which several activities are included, such as complementary education, visits to schools and work places, counseling, sexual orientation, nutrition, small amount of financial help and introduction to available local services. It includes families, parents as well as siblings present in the house.

**3. Follow-up:** During this phase the work that has been done can be reinforced through help to the children to ensure that they will stay away from working in the street. Therefore, the follow-up can last up to two years or more. Visits are made to the families and the youngster, to his school and to his work place.



## V. PROGRAM CANICA

### SUB-PROGRAM OF SUPPORT FOR STREET CHILDREN



Population attended during the cycle:

Youngsters:	38
Population at High Risk:	2
Families:	5

**1. Operation Friendship:** First contact with the children who live in the street. This part of the sub-program lasts from three to six months, both in inside areas as governmental houses of assistance, or the Guiding Council of the government; as in outside areas as bus terminals and markets, as well as cross-points and parks. These children then move on to the intensive phase.

**2. CASA CANICA (CANICA House):** The children who have shown a sincere interest in leaving the street are accepted in the CANICA House, where up to 20 children can be cared for at the same time, whether or not they have a family. They receive intensive attention 24 hours a day, and they are allowed to stay up to 18 months.

The house program is based on both education and assistance, which means that on top of attending to the immediate necessities of nutrition, living space and health, educational activities are set up so as to strengthen the child's self-esteem, solve deep psychological problems, re-establish familial links when possible,... In short, giving the child new hopes for the future.

**3. Follow-up:** the youngsters have to choose, with the help of Canica, what their future will be like. Some decide to go back to their families, some to establish themselves on their own, provided that they are old enough, and others to enter another institution where they will be able to grow up according to their future plans. All receive support from CANICA for 2 to 3 years more; visits are made to their homes, schools and agreements with the families are established respectively to the care of the child.



## VI. MAIN RESULTS

In five years, CANICA has achieved several results:

- To be able to depend on an educational methodology which is both innovative and systematized. This methodology is in constant revision, so that the success we have achieved until now with the children can be improved all the time.
- 80% of the youngsters who participate in our Programs radically improve their future prospects in one year, through our personalized services and the individual attention that we provide to all children.
- Since 1994, CANICA, together with other non-governmental organizations
  - -JUCONI Fundación Junto con los Niños de Puebla (Foundation Together with the Children of Puebla) A.C.;
  - CIDES Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo Económico y Social (Center of Investigation and Development Economical and Social) I.A.P., and JUCONI Guayaquil, in Ecuador---
- work on the META 2000 Project, which fulfilled its first phase of systematization and theoretical construction during the years 94/97 and will be improved again during the second phase 97/2000. This Project will allow us to create a *Model of Attention to Children and Youngsters in Street Situation*.
- We acquired a legal permit from the Ministry of Economy which allows us to receive funds and send receipts tax deductible, which eases the search for new financial resources.
- We achieved the construction of Casa CANICA, which covers a third of our needs in infrastructure, promoting our actions by owning the buildings we work in.
- We have taught our Methodology to more than 80 people -educators, volunteers and students fulfilling their social services.
- We established contact and/or signed agreements of inter-institutional work with:
  - Organizations of the Civil Society, Universities and institutions of secondary or higher education and governmental organizations, increasing the network of relations and the mutual help.
- **In 4 years of existence, CANICA has attended more than 800 youngsters working and/or living in the streets and 45% of their families.**



## VII. A LOOK TOWARDS THE FUTURE

### Canica during the next three years

Only in this cycle 97/98, CANICA will care for more than 416 youngsters and 117 of their families through its three Sub-programs.

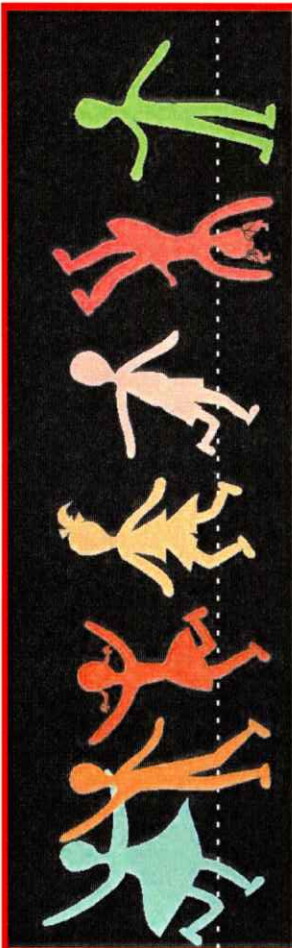
By the year 2000, CANICA has as its objective the capacity to care for an average of 400 children a year in the state of Oaxaca (180 children in street situation and 220 more at high risk) and will help more than 120 families through productive projects which improve not only the economy but to strengthen and invigorate the family as well.

CANICA is striving towards owning its own infrastructure and therefore is projecting the construction of a Day Center to provide support and care to children working in the street or children who are at risk of doing so. Canica also has the aim of owning its offices.

At the end of this century, CANICA will have developed an innovative methodology, carefully analyzed and tested which will be a Model of Attention to Street Children. This Model will include 4 components:

- 1. Educational Methodology
- 2. Training Program
- 3. Evaluation System
- 4. The Structure of the Organization and of its Directing System

As shown above our organization's objectives are: to strengthen its institutional activities so as to be able to have influence in political matters; to acquire the reputation which would guarantee its having a solid support from donors enabling CANICA to continue its effective work; and ultimately to become a leader in the Confederation of Projects of Attention to Children in Street Situation.

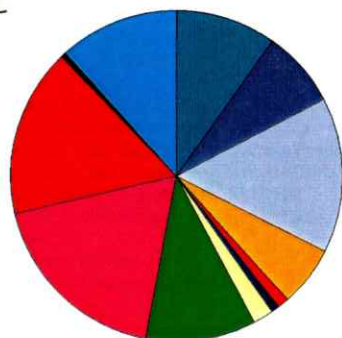




# VIII. FINANCIAL SITUATION

## INCOME 1997

	\$ Pesos
<b>1. - Donations for Operations</b>	
Fundación Bernard van Leer	233,189.24
Save the Children / Stichting Redt Kinderen	186,931.42
Novib	365,995.01
Kinderen in de Knell	144,153.24
Fundación Kellogg	412,758.40
Bankers Trust	26,233.00
Quiera, Fundación de la Asociación de Banqueros de México	16,249.98
Donations	49,783.82
<b>2. - Donations for Construction and/or Equipment</b>	
British Embassy	260,000.00
FAPRODE	443,920.99
Kellogg Fundation	400,000.00
<b>3. - Income and Donations for the Capital Found</b>	
Donations	11,352.00
Interests	284,773.12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2' 835,340.22</b>

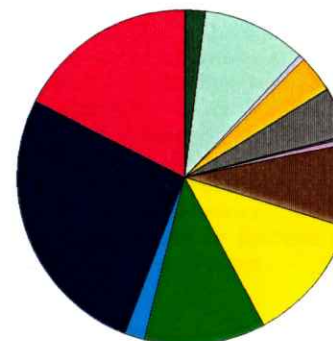


- Bernard van Leer
- Save the children
- Novib
- Kinderen in de Knell
- Fundación Kellog
- Bankers Trust
- Quiera
- Embajada Britanica
- Faprode
- Fundación Kellog (const)
- Diversos
- Intereses

## OUTGOINGS 1997

	\$ Pesos
<b>1. Operative Costs</b>	
Operation Friendship Streetliving Child	52,919.60
CANICA House	284,601.19
Follow-up Streetliving Child	15,161.00
Operation Friendship Streetworking Child	103,000.00
Selection and Familial Orientation	133,270.26
Operation Friendship Street Children of the Market	13,768.52
CANICA Centre	233,349.15
Follow-up Children of the Market *	289.00
Pedagogical Department	350,354.82
Direction/Administration**	328,223.15
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>1' 525,201.60</b>
<b>2. Investments</b>	
Furniture and Equipment	59,120.42
Construction	757,031.30
Capital Found	493,936.90
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2' 835,340.22</b>

\* Recently Open Area  
\*\* Extra Position as Co-Director



- Op. Amistad Niño de la Calle
- Casa Canica
- Seguimiento Niño de la Calle
- Op. Amistad Niño Trabajador
- Serv. Y Orientación Familiar
- Seguimiento Niño Trabajador
- Op. Amistad Niño del Mercado
- Centro Canica
- Seguimiento Niño del Mercado
- Departamento Pedagógico
- Dirección/Administración
- Mobiliario y Equipo
- Construcción
- Ingreso a Fondo de Capital



## IX. THANKS TO

If you would like to help the street children of Oaxaca, we would very much appreciate any donation to:

BANAMEX  
No. de cuenta: 178289-9  
No. de Sucursal 549  
(Antequera)

You can also ask for more information at:

CANICA, Centro de Apoyo al Niño de la Calle de Oaxaca, A.C.

Calle 21 de Marzo No 202  
Colonia Unión y Progreso  
Oaxaca, Oax. C.P. 68050  
Teléfono/fax (951) 5-96-67

E-mail: canica@laneta.apc.org

### NOTES PAGES 1 Y 2

- 1 Idem. Y El Financiero Cd. de México. Sept. 25 de 1995. Pág. 28. - Y CEPALC.
  - 2 DIF Estatal
  - 3 Consejo Estatal de Población. "Los Municipios con mayor Migración en Oaxaca, Julio 1993.
  - 4 Edouard, Fabrice. Estudio de Oportunidades para la Creación de una Fundación Oaxaqueña de Atención a Niños y Jóvenes. Oax. Agosto de 1995.
  - 5 Op. Cit. "La Política de Desarrollo Social en Estado de Oaxaca."
- Design: Ireri Castro  
Edition: Victor Manuel Castañón C.

### CANICA's FRIENDS

We would like to thank in a very special way our many donors during this year 1997.

### HEARTFUL THANKS!

. Save the Children . Novib . Fundación Bernard Van Leer . Kinder in de Knell . Fundación Kellogg . Banker's Trust . Gobierno Británico . Quiera, Fundación de la Asociación de Banqueros de México, A.C. . Secretaría de Salud . Faprode . Graciela García Arévalo . Rafael Pérez Gavilán Escalante . Enrique Arnaud Viñas . Canadian International College . Refaccionaria El Carruaje Ma. Marcela Pascual Altamirano . Silvia Velazquez . Balneario Atonaltzin . Lubricación Solís . Odilón Caballero . Vidriera la Gran Vía Sr. Castro . Chocolate La Soledad . Bodegón La Manzanita . Plásticos y Productos Gesa . Materias Primas El Angel . Romeo López Amador . Panificadora La Bambi . Fábrica de Hielo El Llano . Agua Purificada Santo Domingo . Pastelería Carmelita . Purificadora Donaji . Pastelería La Hogaza . Puesto No. 44 Mercado de Abasto . Puesto No. 46 Mercado de Abasto . Pastelería Reforma . Octaviano Martínez Cortes . Elizabeth Bautista Pérez . Balneario Villa de Adán . Maquiladora de Refrescos y Aguas Embotelladas Alejandro Parea . Autobuses Estrella Roja del Sureste . Graciela Velázquez Rosas . Norma I. Barreiro García . Jaime Rodríguez . Bimbo de Puebla . Pastelería Coco Coco . Compañía Embotelladora Costera . Margarita Dalton Palomo . Rostipollo, S.A. de C.V. . Pastelería El Trebol . Circo Grony . Alberto Robles Pérez . Gerardo Vela Cinema Géminos . Jumbo Deportes . Super Ahorro de Oaxaca Carlos Manzano . Pastelería Irenxu . Guillermo Jiménez . Empacadora de Carnes Sandi de Oaxaca . Cremería La Familiar . Manuel Velazco Hernández Balneario la Sirenita . Héctor Sánchez López . Gabriel Armengol S. Balneario Las Brisas . Sergio Isidro Cruz . Amigos de las Américas . Biblioteca Pública Cd. de Oaxaca . Benjamín Rojas Bolaños . José Luis Sánchez . Quesería Los Reyes . Zoila Sugenia Pascua . Jaciel Medina Revilla . Pastelería Rome . Gala Video . Humberto Millán González . José Luis López Pérez . Jaime Mara . Saul Vicente Vasquez . Mario Quiroga . Adrián Zárate Martínez . Arturo Méndez G. Ireri Castro . Molinos La Gloria . Panadería Hermanas Jiménez . Panadería y Chocolatería La Guadalupana . Octavio Figueroa Mancebo . Emilio García . Raúl Armando Ramírez . Isidro Sánchez Rivas . César Arias Rosales . Panadería Elvirita . El Importador . Molino Zaachila . Molino San Felipe de Jesús . Molino Guelaguetza . Circo Atayde . Dévora Velazquez . Tartamiel S.A. de C.V. Dulcería Panalito . Alfonso Hernández Sánchez . José de la Cajiga . Víveres de Oaxaca, S.A. . Alberto Rodríguez . Familia La Madrid Chavez . Dulcería La Abejita . Sandra Edith Martínez Pérez . Dulcería La Piñata . Dulcería La Poblana . Carnes Frías Aguilar . Abarrotés Super 5 . Dulcería La Casa de Dulce . Mueblifiesta . Abarrotés Ramírez . Graciela Sáncex . Germán Gómez . Soledad Ramírez . Georgita Ruíz . Catalina Ramírez Báez . Esther Bautista Calleja . Sindicato de Trabajadores de Teléfonos de México . Teresa Machado Gutiérrez . Zoila Pascua .