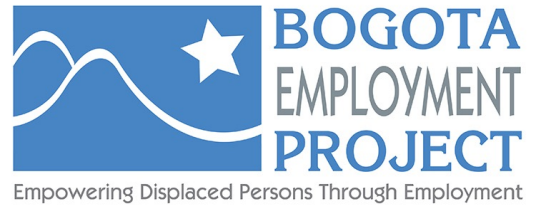


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**2016 ANNUAL REPORT**



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Bogota Employment Project (BEP) successfully completed another year of assisting displaced women in Bogota. We provided over 30 months of transportation to 10 women who were able to maintain employment because of the transportation assistance received by BEP and our donors. On our last trip to Bogota, we met with five of the participants and a story that stuck in our minds was how one of the women said she had to skip meals in order to make sure she had enough to first feed her kids and then second for transportation. With the assistance of the Bogota Employment Project, she was able to afford to eat three meals per day. Stories like these make the work that we do tangible and give us a good measure of the impact we are making.

**The Colombian peace process** is in full swing and the FARC are in the process of turning in their weapons and finally bringing an end to the conflict. Nonetheless, there are still criminal gangs, paramilitaries and narco-trafficking rings that are preying on civilians with extortion, land grabbing, threats, robbery and sexual violence. The situation in Colombia is slowly improving, but it will take some years to bring a lasting peace and stability to rural parts of the country where the government's presence is minimal

Colombia is also seeing a large influx of refugees from Venezuela given the unrest and food insecurity in the country. Our referring partner CEPCA told us that they have seen a significant (50%) increase in the number of persons arriving from Venezuela every week with no money and clothing. The situation in Venezuela shows no signs of improving in the near future as the government continues to consolidate power and violently crack down on civil society.

Thanks to the work of our Coordinator, Ana Maria Villa, Navas, we continue to maintain a partnership with the Migration Attention Center who regularly screens and refers participants to us. We have also added another Coordinator Paola Palacios who will begin assisting Ana in Bogota. THANK YOU for your support and we look forward to continuing our work in 2017 and beyond.

Sincerely,  
Robinson Cook

## STAFF



### **Ana Maria Villa Navas**

continues to be the coordinator in Bogota. Ana meets with and recruits participants, conducts outreach to local organizations and maintains relationships

with our partners in Colombia. The project could not survive without the successful efforts of Ana. THANK YOU to Ana for her hard work and dedication to the Bogota Employment Project.



### **Paola Palacios** joined the

Bogota Employment project in July. Paola is a student at the National University in Bogota Colombia where she is studying International Relations. Welcome Paola.

## PARTNERS

### **Centro de Atencion al Migrante (CAMIG) Migration Attention Center**

CAMIG provides case management and basic needs assistance to internally displaced persons in Bogota. They are affiliated with the Archdiocese of Bogota, Colombia.

### **Centro Pastoral y de Capacitacion (CEPCA) The Pastoral Training Center**

The Pastoral Training Center provides trainings such as textiles, baking and small business entrepreneurship classes to displaced women.

### **Camapana Colombiana Contra Minas Anti-Personal - Colombian Campaign Against Landmines (CCAL)**

CCAL raises awareness and helps victims and their families rebuild their lives after being injured by a land mine. Many of the victims of landmines have also suffered some form of displacement.

### **The National Victim's Board**

An Afro-Colombian led organization that is focused on assisting displaced Afro-Colombian who reside in Bogota with securing basic needs such as housing, employment and nutrition.

## MONICA'S STORY OF DISPLACEMENT



*“Before I had to skip at least one meal a day to make sure I had enough money to get back and forth to work”*

Monica is a 40-year-old mother of five from the Western Choco region of Colombia. The state of Choco has the highest concentration of Afro-Colombians and is also one of the poorest regions in the country, often lacking in infrastructure, public services (no drinking water, security, non-paved roads and poorly funded schools). The lack of attention by the state allows non-state actors such as the FARC and Paramilitary groups to be very active in the region with illegal activities such as extortion, drug cultivation and illegal mining.

Monica was a small farmer (growing rice, corn, plantains and cocoa) and a community leader when she befriended an army officer. The local FARC heard that she was talking to the army officer and began accusing her of being a spy. One Saturday afternoon they came to her house and told her that she had 24 hours to leave or they would come back to kill her sons. They also instructed her to leave everything in the house. Monica and her five children fled that evening by bus directly to Bogota where she now lives.

Once in Bogota, Monica worked odd jobs while receiving vocational training from a non-profit to become a hair stylist. She now works two days a week cleaning homes and the other four days as a hair stylist. Her commute takes her approximately two hours each way, but she is thankful for the opportunity to begin providing for her younger children again. Now that she has a consistent work schedule and reliable income she hopes to save enough money to start her own hair salon so her kids can go to college and she can finish her high-school degree.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Robinson Cook, Chair**

*Affiliation: Livelihood Specialist*  
robinson.cook@bogotaemployment.com

**Paula Fynboh, Vice Chair**

*Affiliation: Social Movement Expert*  
paula.fynboh@gmail.com

**Alternier Cook, Secretary**

*Affiliation: Retired Social Worker*  
Alternierbcook@yahoo.com

**Heather Holm, Board Member**

*Affiliation: Holm Design and Consulting LLC*  
holm.heath@gmail.com

**Monica Kvamme, Board Member**

*Affiliation: Market Researcher and Analyst*  
monica.kvamme@gmail.com

**Eileen Barber, Board Member**

*Affiliation: Communications Director, DAI*  
eileen.barber@gmail.com

**Paula Corredor, Board Member**

*Affiliation: Independent Contractor, Bogota*  
p\_corre@gmail.com

## 2016 CONTRIBUTORS

AMOUNT	NAME	AMOUNT	NAME
25	Eric Bartz	70	Angela Gallegos
35	Bobbie Young	70	Angie Vo
35	Carol Taylor	70	James Haggar
35	Cathy Grisham	100	Katherine Plona
35	Christa Stine	100	Mike Fynboh
35	Eric Bartz	100	Steven Viola
35	Francisco Bastos	105	Heather Holm
35	Karin Jacobson Design LLC	105	Thaddeus Wong
35	Meggan Ellingboe	110	Scott Smith
35	William McKinstry	140	Paula Fynboh
50	Andrew Bechhoefer	205	Gerald Lucas
50	Christina Anderson	220	Jordan Lynne Peterson
50	Julie Strother	250	Monica Kvamme
50	Scott Hielen	300	Alternier Cook
50	Sherrlyne Teslow	500	Robinson Cook
50	Steven Duryee		

Total Contributions \$3085

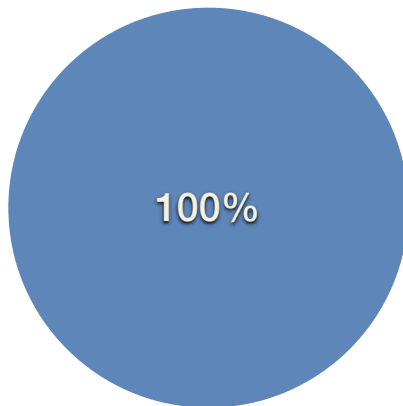


## 2017 ORGANIZATION BUDGET

### REVENUE

● Individual Donations

\$5600



**Total Revenue \$5600**

### EXPENSES

#### EXPENSES

Salaries	\$1000
Client Transportation	\$2000
Staff Travel	\$1150
Space Rental	\$600
Banking Fees	\$150
Office Supplies	\$100
Marketing	\$200
Website	\$500

**Total Expenses \$5600**

## THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

10

participants received transportation assistance

12

hours/week of recovered family time (time spent with children, going to medical appointments or tending to community issues).

38

average age of participants

180

monthly wage (\$) This is \$65 below the government mandated minimum monthly wage of \$245

30

months of transportation assistance

2

number of hours it takes to commute to work one way

## CAUSES OF DISPLACEMENT

THREATS

EXTORTION

ILLEGAL TAKING OF LAND

FORCED RECRUITMENT