

**ELEVENTH PROJECT FAIR**

**NEIVA 2026**








**ROTARY CLUB: MEDELLÍN BOLIVARIANA**

**ROTARY DISTRICT: 4271**

**CITY: APARTADÓ, ANTIOQUIA**

**PROJECT NAME: PLAY TO HEAL - URABÁ**

**AREAS OF INTEREST: PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF DISEASES**

 <b>WATER</b>		 <b>PEACE, PREVENTION, AND RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTS</b>
 <b>BASIC EDUCATION &amp; LITERACY</b>	X	 <b>PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF DISEASES</b>
 <b>ENVIRONMENT</b>		 <b>MOTHER &amp; CHILD HEALTH</b>
 <b>COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>		

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

**1. General Objective (10 lines maximum)** To implement the PLAY TO HEAL model of the FAN Foundation (Child Care Foundation) in the Urabá region, covering 11 municipalities in the department of Antioquia, to provide specialized psychological care to children and adolescents and their families and/or support networks who have suffered violence and/or experienced a situation in which their rights have been violated. This includes individual care and family support based on a rights-based approach that integrates cognitive, affective, ethical, recreational, and participatory dimensions. It is also complemented by efforts to promote mental and emotional health and prevent violence against children and adolescents.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (15 lines maximum)** PLAY TO HEAL is a specialized psychotherapeutic model designed by the FAN Foundation, which has more than 15 years of experience in providing mental and emotional health care and restoring the rights of children and adolescents who are victims of various types of violence. The proposal calls for the construction and implementation of a Psychotherapeutic Center in Apartadó, Antioquia (Urabá subregion), featuring six rooms designed and intended for healing through play, equipped with recreational, sensory, and experiential tools that stimulate the languages of art, play, and the creation of safe spaces and bonds.

The model's main objective is to strengthen individual and family protective factors, reframe painful experiences, and develop coping skills, resilience, and a life plan. It includes individual care and family support based on a rights-based approach that integrates cognitive, affective, ethical, recreational, and participatory dimensions. It is also complemented by a process of promoting mental and emotional health, as well as preventing violence against children and adolescents.

Psychotherapeutic care is delivered in phases that include diagnosis, individual intervention, and family support, with impact measured using standardized mixed-methodology tools—both quantitative and qualitative.

Having a PLAY TO HEAL program in Urabá promotes emotional healing in highly violent areas where little attention is paid to the effects of violence, redefining the meaning of harm, strengthening protective environments and secure attachments, and helping children and adolescents develop life plans.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THE NEEDS YOU HAVE IDENTIFIED. HOW WILL THE PROJECT ADDRESS THESE NEEDS? WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THIS PROJECT? PROVIDE AN ESTIMATED NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES. (15 lines maximum)**

**NEEDS:** Urabá is a region characterized by a predominantly young population: 25.3% of its inhabitants are under 18 years of age, totaling 137,400. This implies a high concentration of children and adolescents, and therefore a greater need for services aimed at protection, psychosocial development, and comprehensive child care.

The adolescent fertility rate is 18.9%, with births to women under 19 years of age, reflecting gaps in access to sexual and reproductive health care, low educational attainment, and conditions of poverty.

According to Forensic Medicine and SIVIGILA (National Public Health Surveillance System), 1,491 cases of domestic violence were reported in the Urabá subregion. The majority of cases involve women and minors. The most frequently reported types of violence are physical, psychological, neglect, abandonment, and sexual violence within the family context.

**FORENSIC**, the National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences, reported an estimated 485 cases of sexual violence in the subregion, helping to reduce gaps in access to specialized psychosocial care.

Through a process of inquiry and interviews with residents in communities such as Carepa and Chigorodó, three key findings were identified. First, there is a genuine demand and perceived value: people want to continue and report positive changes in their daily lives. Second, structural barriers persist: transportation, heavy workloads, and weak institutional coordination that, if left unaddressed, undermine continuity. Third, there is an established asset in the region: community leaders capable of scaling up emotional care practices if supported and strengthened.

It is a region marked by armed conflict, drug trafficking, forced displacement, and a migration crisis. These factors have eroded the social fabric and created unsafe environments for children and adolescents. This has resulted in the violation of the rights of children and adolescents, directly impacting their ability to fully enjoy their mental and emotional well-being. Despite a high prevalence of these violations, the availability of care is limited, revealing a critical gap in access to mental and emotional health services. Furthermore, the administrative processes for restoring rights at the ICBF (Colombian Institute of Family Welfare) are significantly underutilized, reflecting a failure to restore rights and prevent further violations.

**ADDRESSING NEEDS:** These needs are addressed through the construction, opening, and operation of a specialized psychotherapy center, featuring six rooms designed and equipped for individual and family psychotherapy care, based on a model that incorporates art, play, and the creation of safe spaces and bonds.

**BENEFICIARIES OF THIS PROJECT:** The planned care for 768 children and adolescents through the “Play to Heal” model in Urabá, Antioquia, represents an urgent and strategic response to the magnitude of the emotional and psychological impacts faced by this population. This intervention would cover 51.5% of the 1,491 reported cases of domestic violence and would exceed by more than 170% the 485 estimated cases of sexual violence reported by FORENSIS in the subregion, helping to reduce gaps in access to specialized psychosocial care.

**NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES:** 768 children and adolescents, which is our potential care capacity at the center with 6 rooms. Number of families: Approximately 615, representing a life-changing outcome for 1,843 people.

**SUSTAINABILITY: (EXPLAIN HOW THE PROJECT WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE ONCE THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT YOU RECEIVE FOR THIS PROJECT ENDS)**

The project includes a sustainability strategy based on training local professionals in the “Play to

Heal” methodology developed by FAN to strengthen local expertise in psychotherapeutic

care for vulnerable populations, promoting territorial and community ownership of the model. It will also be coordinated with partner institutions that already have a history of working with the FAN Foundation, such as the ICBF (Colombian Institute of Family Welfare) and COMFAMA (Family Compensation Fund of Antioquia), as well as education secretariats. These institutions receive reports of rights violations and are responsible for the care of children and adolescents (NACs) and the allocation of resources. These entities recognize the urgent need for mental and emotional health care but lack the necessary infrastructure to provide it. This enables direct referral of cases for care and the establishment of inter-institutional pathways for the protection and restoration of rights. Inter-institutional care pathways will be established through case referrals for care and the integration of the PLAY TO HEAL center into local pathways for mental health protection and the restoration of rights. Positioning the center as a safe space to provide tools for building relationships, redefining the harm caused by violence, improving the mental and emotional health of the affected community, and restoring the social fabric will strengthen community ownership, ensuring the project's long-term viability with additional financial partners.

**IS THE COMMUNITY INVOLVED? DESCRIBE THE LOCAL COMMUNITY'S ROLE IN PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND CONTINUITY.**

The local community will play an active role, as raising awareness of the program during its implementation requires community organizations to be aware of and support it through outreach and dissemination efforts. Those who are already familiar with the FAN Foundation's experience in mental and emotional health care—thanks to a previous project in collaboration with the Antioquia Governor's Office—and who played a key role in identifying these needs and the urgency of this intervention, are part of leadership networks that will be essential to establishing the PLAY TO HEAL center. Furthermore, training local staff—who will be responsible for providing care—will ensure the model's long-term sustainability.

CONCEPT	AMOUNT IN PESOS	VALUE IN DOLLARS
Project Cost	342,367,200	85,592
Local Club	4,410,000	1,103
Colombian partners		
International Club(s)	25,200,000	6,300
Colombian District	37,254,000	9,314
International District(s)	136,500,000	34,125
Rotary Foundation	139,003,200	34,751

Thanks to your support, our club will help the community by addressing its most pressing needs. We appreciate your insight into this project. For more information, please contact:

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