



PARTNERS *of the* AMERICAS

Indiana, USA/Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2007



## Indiana Partners of the Americas

### Indiana Partners Annual report 2007- Leslie Barratt.

As I always do before making my Annual report, I looked back at last year's report. At that time, Jane Gehlhausen was about to fly off to the International POA Convention and then on to RS for a Partnership visit. Although this visit occurred in 2006, I want to note it here since it had not yet taken place when we met last November.

Another event that had not yet taken place was the untimely death of our Board member and former Youth Ambassador, Alyssa Couch, which occurred about a week after our Annual Meeting. Alyssa was a remarkable person, who possessed amazing energy and compassion. Her positive outlook influenced all of us on the Board, and we are grateful to her mother, Angela, who is now serving in Alyssa's position on our Board.

2007 has brought us further challenges as well as highlights. In early January, our 2007 northbound Youth Ambassadors arrived for their 8-week stay. These students were Fernando Meno Barreto Dias from Alegrete, Vincentte Jalowitzki de Quadros from Porto Alegre, Laura Araujo Zaslavski from Porto Alegre, Arthur Caye from Porto Alegre, Marina de Oliveira Finger from Porto Alegre, Sarita Prem Zeferino Reed from Porto Alegre.

In February, we held what has now become our annual Feijoada right here in this room. It was packed with people enjoying this Brazilian national dish. The Youth Ambassadors, who at this point were at the end of their visit, provided entertainment and dancing lessons. Also in attendance was our 2007 Teacher-in-Residence, Mauricio Seibel Luce, who looked at Task Based learning in his 3-week visit. One of his hosts was his former colleague, Neilsen Pereira, who was the 2006 Teacher-in-Residence and has now become an Indiana Partners member as he completes his graduate work at Purdue.

This spring brought many summer plans. The northbound Youth Agricultural Exchange brought four students and one teacher to Indiana. Participants were João Gabriel Camargo, Alexandre Melo Brandolt, Matheus Peres Sanchotene, Lorenzo Garrido Teixeira Martini Segabinazo and a teacher.

Unfortunately, my Partnership trip was aborted after I could not gain entrance into Brazil through a faulty visa. The southbound Youth Ambassador Program and Youth Agricultural Exchange program were also canceled. Although these sound like negative developments, they have all resulted in positive action. The Illinois Partnership met with the Brazilian Consulate on visa issues, and we are waiting for the Consulate to get back to us on the new regulations. Our RS Partners have

revised the Youth Ambassador Program into a program that focusses on volunteerism and leadership. The students arriving this January will be the first group of this new concept. Their Indiana experience will be only the start of their involvement with Partners. Finally, Partners members are meeting later this month with representatives from the FFA, the Farm Bureau, and others to begin to frame the future direction of programs involving agriculture.

In August, our RS Partnership was awarded the Laschober Fund and the Homer and Maurine Venter Fund for the projects entitled Trabalho Educativo and Projeto Esperança - Inamex. We are very proud of their work.

Our most recent visitors came to Indiana in October. These were nursing students Juliana Frederico Tonding, Mariana Parode Bandeira, Ana Maria Prado Castello Branco, Ana Terra Gonçalves Pereira, and their teacher, Ana Elizabeth Prado Lima Figueiredo. These nurses were hosted in Terre Haute and Anderson from October 18 to the beginning of November. They made visits to clinics, hospitals, schools, etc. in Anderson, Indianapolis, Muncie, and Terre Haute.

One of our own, Jerry Karwowski, has just left to attend the Partners Leadership training and POA Convention in Ouro Preto and to then go on to RS to look at financial institutions and business practices. Jhani Laupus leaves today on her own trip to the Leadership training and International Convention.

Still to come is a Partnership visit by Elaine Schenkel, who will be here this coming week, starting November 15 until 24 with visits to Indianapolis, Lafayette, and Muncie. Elaine is an English teacher.

Also next week is our participation at the International Festival at the State Fairgrounds. Our booth this year has been designed by Jim Nulty and Hugh. Please sign up to volunteer your time or at least stop by. I have tickets here for \$4. At the door they will be \$9.

As our year and my tenure as President come to a close, I feel we have strengthened some areas, such as nursing exchanges and our participation in leadership training workshops, we have initiated some new endeavors, such as the annual Feijoada and more youth programming (Youth Agricultural Exchange, for example). Challenges still exist; they always will. We cannot measure ourselves in the number of travel grants or number of travelers. Instead, we should applaud ourselves and our RS Companheiros for the quality of our continued relationship and commitment to that relationship. Plans for four visitors next spring are already under way. Let us work together to facilitate the programs of those people who travel and to make the quality of their experiences as life changing as they have always been.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Summary - as of 31 December 2007			
Fund	Balance at end of 2006	ACTIVITY in 2007	BALANCE
GENERAL ACCOUNT (incl interest on savings, CD's)	\$10,609.15		\$10,440.28
<b>INCOME</b>			
Membership Income for 2007		\$3,330.00	
Individual Contribution		\$240.00	
Interest on CD's since May 06		\$580.87	
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Expenses for Feijoada		(\$1,643.49)	
Income for Feijoada		\$809.00	
Transfer to Youth Ambassador Scholarship Fund			
Other (newsletter, stamps, dues, Intl. booth, etc.)		(\$3,719.93)	
<b>OTHER ACCOUNTS</b>			
Artist in Residence Grant	\$400.00		\$400.00
Partners Reach Out Grant	\$2,571.50	(\$419.72)	\$2,151.78
Rural youth exchange fund	\$442.39		\$442.39
Youth Ambassadors operating budget	\$872.44		\$872.44
Income for year			
Expenses for year			
Health Fund	\$637.23		\$637.23
Youth Ambassadors Scholarship Fund	\$1,154.25	\$175.00	\$1,329.25
Transfer from General Account			
Total of all accounts			\$16,273.37
<b>BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES</b>			
	BALANCE		BALANCE
Totals: Check Book	\$980.54		\$980.95
Savings Account	\$2,157.00	(\$995.61)	\$1,162.13
The CD's recombined: CD54349824 12 month at 5% APR, started 5/4/06	\$10,000.00	\$499.34	\$10,499.34
CD53416783 30 day at 3% APR, started 5/4/06	\$3,546.42	\$81.53	\$3,627.95
Totals	\$16,683.96	(\$414.74)	\$16,270.37

## INDIANA PARTNERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2007

### Officers

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