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Construction
underway



Moulding Lives
El Alfarero
Student Centre



Moulding
Lives in
Santa Cruz

Dear << LETTERSALUTATION >>

It always makes me cringe when I hear people with grey hair like me say things like, 'The problem with young people today is that they lead crazy lives; they drink too much, are addicted to drugs, are violent, have unwanted pregnancies leading to abortion. . . all to the extent that lives are destroyed or they end up on the scrap heap.'

But the tragedy is that this is what the young people in Santa Cruz, Bolivia are saying about themselves. I am writing to invite you to help make a difference to these young people's lives. That's the vision for *El Alfarero* (The Potter) student centre in Santa Cruz. Let me tell you more.

In 2001 the first *El Alfarero* Café was started in Sucre, Bolivia. Here are a few examples from among the many of lives transformed through its ministry.

Juan José and Dora >



had their lives changed at *El Alfarero* in Sucre. Juan José says, 'Before I went to *El Alfarero*, my life was very different. My life was a life of fighting and bad experiences. No one had a positive influence on me. When I was at the point of losing my family because of my drinking, I decided to go to the *El Alfarero*. There I learnt the most important thing for my life is to learn to love God, that He loves me and He is pleased with me.'

Dora says, 'Before we were always fighting. Christians have taught us how to relate to each other. God is here with us.'

Denny and Tita have changed too >

Tita says, 'You could say that my life turned around 180 degrees'. Denny — My life has really changed in a wonderful way. I came to know Christ, through the work of *El Alfarero*. In reality, coming to *El Alfarero* has meant a transformation in my life. I feel change and peace in my heart. When we first came to the *El Alfarero*, we were angry, but thanks to God's work in us and all the help we have received here, our marriage has changed for the better.

There are many more whose lives have been changed by God through the ministry at *El Alfarero*, Sucre, which is now self supporting. Now that vision is being transported to Santa Cruz.



continued over...

Go, relax, talk and meet with Jesus





Reaching out to students

SIM missionaries Graham and Debbie Frith have a vision. They want to help University students cope with the different pressures that they experience, but more than anything, they want them to realise their need to know God. The students need somewhere to go, relax, talk and meet with Jesus.

Their vision is *El Alfarero* Café, a Christian Centre for students in Santa Cruz, where there are 80,000 studying within a square mile of its door. Every day, more than five hundred students are expected to come to the café for nutritious, affordable food and

poorer students will eat for free! Alongside this, the students will find friendship, discipleship groups, counselling, training courses and evangelistic events — all this under one roof! A volunteer system will keep the café functioning, and will mean that students can serve their friends and colleagues.

The centre will be the first public building of its kind in Bolivia. It is a three-floor eco-building and a good example of renewable energy and green technologies. Student ministries will share facilities: *Cruzada Estudiantil* (Campus Crusade for Christ in

Bolivia), *Comunidad Cristiana Universitaria* (UCCF in Bolivia), *El Alfarero* Café and Counselling Centre, along with a pregnancy crisis centre, a childcare centre, a refuge for young women at risk, a library and conference facilities.

The centre will also be home to an apprentice programme '*El Aprendiz*'. This is one year's intensive hands-on training course for those involved in student ministry in Latin America. The training will cover every area of ministry, providing a training base that will prepare and send its graduates all across Latin America.

This is now more than just a dream; it's a reality. The land is purchased, the building plans approved and the construction of *El Alfarero* Student Centre, Santa Cruz is underway.

Please would you join us in helping to raise funds to furnish and transform an empty room into a welcoming environment for the students where they can come to meet God?

Sincerely in Christ,

Keith Walker
Director, SIM-UK

Please pray for the ongoing construction of the centre

- » For safety on site and for relationships with all those involved, that Christ will be seen even through the construction work
- » That many students will come to know Christ through the witness of *El Alfarero*
- » For the staff and volunteers as they walk alongside and disciple new believers
- » Effective partnerships with other ministries within the building



Thank you!

Yes, I would like to support *El Alfarero*

I have enclosed a cheque, payable to SIM-UK, for:

£ _____ (amount)

Please debit my: **Please use a debit card if possible. Credit cards incur a 2.65% charge to SIM.**

Mastercard Visa
 Electron Maestro

Extra digits as needed for Switch/Maestro: _____

Last three digits of the security code on the back of your card: _____

Start Date: ____/____/____ Expiry Date: ____/____/____

Total to be charged: £ _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

You can also give online at: www.sim.co.uk/donate

Please keep me informed about *El Alfarero*

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Please tick all that apply:

- I would like to Gift Aid this donation
- I would like to Gift Aid all future donations until further notice

To qualify for Gift Aid, you must pay an amount of UK Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the appropriate tax year. Tax year is 6 April one year to 5 April the next.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Your contact details

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Tel: _____

E-mail: _____

Thank you!

When completed please return this form in the envelope supplied, or post to:
FREEPOST CN1923, SIM-UK, STOWMARKET IP14 5ZW
(A postage stamp on the envelope will keep our costs down)

Please send me a receipt for this gift

If you no longer wish to receive information from SIM-UK, please tick the box and initial it, then send this form back to us.

