Celebrating four decades working together for justice, dignity and health

EPES was created in 1982 to promote health with dignity for the poor through empowerment, mobilization and collective action. EPES began as a program of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile. Now a ministry supported by ELCA Global Mission, it maintains close ties nationally and internationally with the Lutheran Church.



Building community capacity in health

- Launched our community health promoter training program throughout Santiago and Concepción
- Developed and distributed health fliers, board games, and posters
- Conducted hundreds of workshops for community and church groups
- Stood with Chileans in the fight to defend human rights and a return to democracy





1990s Responding to the growing HIV/AIDS pandemic









- Found and led several Action Networks for HIV/AIDS
- Organized the first National Ecumenical Gathering around HIV/AIDS
- Published and distributed a packet of nine educational games
- Led successful environmental health campaigns, The Bio Bio River Says NO to Rats and Save the Wetlands
- Launched our book, **Health Promoters and Journeys of Participation**

Building services for women victims of violence

- Developed the first quantitative-qualitative research to determine the incidence of conjugal sexual violence in San Ramón
- Managed and implemented the first services to care for women victims of violence in San Ramón with the community network
- Trained staff and health promoters for the Lutheran Church in Resistencia, Argentina
- Built retreat center in Concepción and inaugurated powerful mural by Chilean and Minnesotan artists
- Started Action for Health in the Americas (AHA), our US counterpart
- Produced Spanish edition of Contact, a World Council of Churches' health magazine, and distributed it in Latin America



Escuela Internacional

Ghana

Uganda

Tanzania

Canada

United States

temala Honduras El Salvador Nicaragua

Ecuador

Colombia

Venezuela

Brazil

Bolivia

Uruguay



Action for Health in the Americas

Expanding our impact nationally and internationally

- Launched our International Training Program for Popular Education in Health and Community and Participatory Strategies for Health, to date has had 205 participants from 25 countries and 18 Lutheran churches in the Americas and Africa
- Developed long-term emergency response model for earthquakes and other natural disasters
- Adapted Comfort for Kids materials and program from Mercy Corps for hundreds of children
- Supported training and start of Hope Foundation for African Women with Grace Mose and her
- Changed national laws around tobacco use in public spaces through advocacy initiative **Smoke-Free Chile**
- Provided training and support for community-based responses to massive fires in Valparaiso and Hurricane María in Puerto Rico
- Led two national programs for the Ministry of Health Community Health Agents and Rural Health Paramedics. Developed the programs, wrote the health manuals that are used throughout Chile, and trained the first groups of community health agents and rural paramedics



Thriving through the pandemic

- Adapted training programs for online workshops during the pandemic
- Supported emergency relief efforts for hundreds of families during the first year of the pandemic
- Began family community gardening projects with community health promoters in Santiago and Concepción
- Developed and led two grassroots **Women's Leadership Programs** online for 40 women from 12 countries

Thank you to all the friends, congregations, artists and allies who have accompanied and supported us during these four decades. We couldn't have done it without you!



Celebrating EPES' 40 Years and Looking Towards the Future!

Please join us as we celebrate 40 years of making a difference in people's lives and take time to look together towards the future. Through dictatorships, earthquakes, devastating fires and pandemics, EPES has remained steadfast in our commitment to stand with the poor and marginalized to build healthier communities. And you have been with us. We wouldn't be where we are today without your ongoing support and investment in our work.

Today, we are responding to the immigration crisis through emergency support for migrant families and individuals in northern Chile. We are channeling humanitarian aid for travel, Covid tests and health care for women, along with providing information on the health rights for immigrant populations. Our community gardening projects begun during the pandemic are thriving and providing a space for health promoters to grow fresh, healthy food and a space to gather to organize for change. Our International School continues to provide engaging and unique training for community and church leaders throughout the world. And, we have so much more to do!

Will you help us move into the future? A generous EPES supporter has offered to match all donations made to our 40th anniversary fund up to US\$25,000. Our goal is to raise US\$50,000. Your continued support will be so appreciated!

Donate Today to EPES 40th Anniversary Fund

Donate online at www.actionforhealth.org

Mail your contribution to:

Action for Health in the Americas c/o Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 4 Northcrest Drive Clifton Park, NY 12065-2744 USA

Make checks payable to "Action for Health in the Americas" (AHA), EPES' non-profit partner in North America.



SAVE THE DATE EPES 40th Anniversary Celebration in Chile November 19-26, 2022

Please join us as we celebrate EPES' 40 years of working for health, justice and dignity! Your support has made our work possible. Meet the EPES staff and health promoters, reflect on our 40 years, learn about Chile, and celebrate!

For more information go to: www.epes.cl



for justice, dignity and health Celebrating four decades working

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Celebration in Chile EPES 40th Anniversary

You are invited to help us celebrate!

Clifton Park, NY 12065-2744 4 Northcrest Drive

