



Embassy of the United States of America

Public Affairs Section, La Paz, Bolivia

Avenida Arce 2780, La Paz, Bolivia

For more information please contact: Phone 216-8122, Fax 216-8622

Embassy website: <http://bolivia.usembassy.gov>

May 23, 2007

Beatriz Canedo, Father Obermaier, the Prefect of La Paz and U.S. Ambassador participate in HIV/AIDS prevention campaign

Bolivian fashion designer Beatriz Canedo Patiño, Cuerpo de Cristo Foundation, the Prefecture of La Paz, and the U.S. Government participated yesterday in a fundraising event to finance the construction of a healthcare center that will serve people living with HIV/AIDS.

The presentation of the Fall-Winter Collection of the BCP company sought to collect additional resources to be added to the almost \$60,000 that were already donated by the Prefecture of La Paz, the Cuerpo de Cristo Foundation and the United States Government.

The healthcare center, to be named House of Faith, will be built in the city of El Alto and will be administered by the Foundation directed by Catholic priest Sebastian Obermaier.

The United States Government has made a world-wide commitment to the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS. Only in 2006, the President Bush's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) contributed \$2.7 billion worldwide.

In Bolivia, 2,400 people live with HIV and half of them already developed AIDS. For this reason, the United States Government provides assistance estimated at approximately \$900,000 per year to strengthen HIV/AIDS monitoring, prevention, information, and detection.

This HIV/AIDS prevention project is part of an overall program of U.S. cooperation to Bolivia estimated at more than \$110 million per year. This cooperation is provided to create better living conditions for Bolivians, to develop economic opportunities and greater incomes, as well as to support social inclusion and citizen participation processes.