



OAS | **CICAD**



**INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE
CONTROL COMMISSION
CICAD**

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

**SEVENTY-FOURTH REGULAR SESSION
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Washington D.C.**

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**"BRIDGING A BRIGHTER TOMORROW:
YOUTH-LED DRUG USE PREVENTION EFFORTS
IN LATIN-AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN"**

"Bridging a Brighter Tomorrow: Youth-Led Drug Use Prevention Efforts in Latin-America and the Caribbean"



Drusilla Reinhard-Blinker

Who Am I ?

- Quality Assurance Manager at Loving Hands Foundation.
 - Peer Educator (10 years)
- Director SLH Youth Initiative
 - Youth Leader
- Mother of a two-year old son.
- Proud Surinamese Citizen.
- Alumni 1st Caribbean Youth Forum on Drug Use Prevention Amongst Youth.



"I stopped saying I'm going to change the world one day and started changing it one day at a time."

Personal quote of 2023

Substance Use Amongst Youth in Latin-America & The Caribbean

It is estimated that 37% to 68% of adolescents in Latin-America have used tobacco, 43% to 80% have used alcohol, and 4% to 23% have used marijuana.

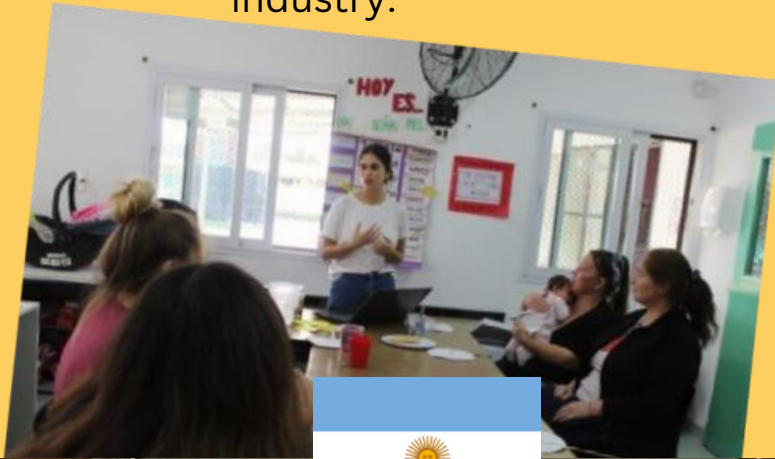
In the Caribbean, 8.4% of men and 3.2% of women between 15-19 years of age are involved in alcohol use; and 2.5% of men and 1.8% of women in the same age group are involved in illegal drug use



PREVENTION PROGRAMMES IN ARGENTINA

Organized by two youth-led NGOs:
Frente Joven and Observatorio de
la Dignidad

This event gathered experts,
activists and engaged youth to
discuss the current drug scenario in
Argentina and put forward concrete
actions to confront the drug
industry.



YMCA BARBADOS THE YOUNG LEADERS

PROGRAMME

A 12-WEEK PROGRAMME

COVERING

SEVERAL UNITS, INCLUDING:

LEADERSHIP & SOFT SKILLS

PUBLIC SPEAKING

COMMUNITY PROJECT

FINANCIAL ETIQUETTE

LITERACY PROJECT

CAREER PLANNING

PLANNING ADVOCACY





Freemind Congress

CONGRESS ON SUBSTANCE USE
PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND SOCIAL
REINTEGRATION



MEDIA COURSE BASED ON PREVENTION

SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION CLASSES
GIVEN BY GABRIELA MAIA TO 12 YOUNG
PEOPLE, AGED 13 TO 15, WHO LIVE IN
VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES (FAVELAS) AND
STRUGGLE WITH SUBSTANCE USE AND
MISUSE IN THE REGION.

THIS PROGRAM ALSO OFFERS DIFFERENT
COURSES WITH THE GOAL OF PROVIDING
THESE YOUNG PEOPLE THE OPPORTUNITY TO
HAVE A BETTER LIFE.



Engaging Youth in Prevention Curriculum National Training





The Guyana team came up with the initiative Zumba for adolescents, an after school program which targets the 10 Administrative regions across Guyana.



INVOLVES 15 ACTIVE YOUTHS. SESSIONS ON SUBSTANCE USE EDUCATION ARE INCLUDED, AS WELL AS SPORTS, SOCIAL GATHERINGS, PARENT MEETINGS, HOMEWORK CENTERS, AND FIELD TRIPS

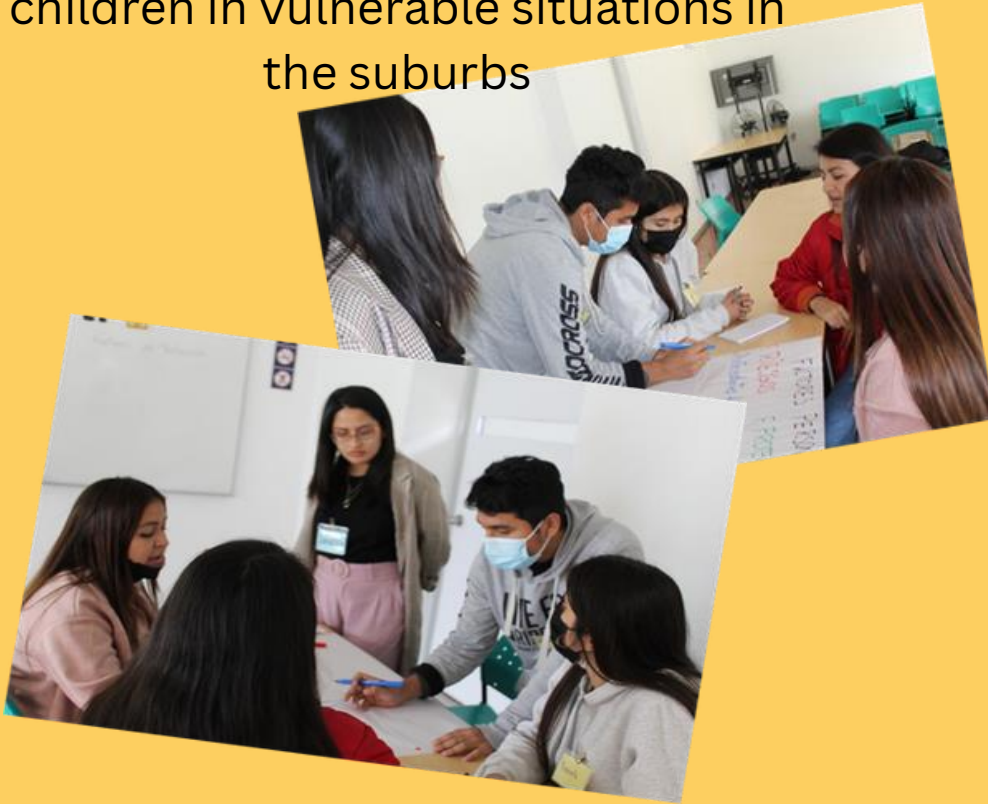


ENHANCING SKILLS FOR YOUTH VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS PROJECT (PERU)



4 organizations

Of these organizations, one successfully completed the entire course and carried out the implementation of its project with children in vulnerable situations in the suburbs



WE CREATE!

A training in which young people are equipped with various life skills in combination with sewing lessons. This promotes entrepreneurships and helps these youth in making healthy life choices.



SLH YOUTH INITIATIVE SADD PILOT PROJECT SURINAME

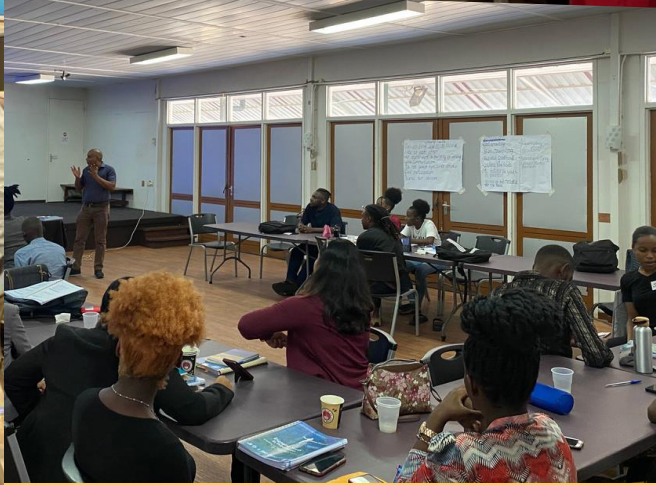


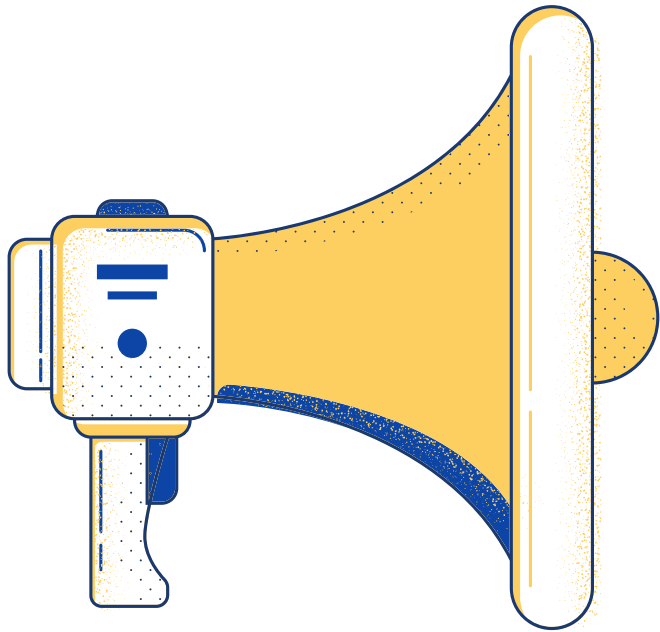
"I AM SPECIAL" PROGRAMME
A COMBINATION OF
COUNSELING & HEALTH AND
LIFE SKILLS LESSONS.
3 SCHOOLS IN 2023
APPROXIMATELY 150 STUDENTS
REACHED





Engaging Youth in Prevention Curriculum National Training





Youth all over the Caribbean and Latin-American countries have benefited greatly from the different training programs and youth forums.

A chance to be part of something bigger is often the boost young people need to fuel a vehicle of change.



THANK YOU!



drusjeenrona@gmail.com



+ 597 8695320