

# novō

Transformational Communities



Annual Review 2016

## OUR VISION

Novō is a Christian charity dedicated to pursuing the vision of creating transformational communities in developing nations where hurting and broken people can find healing, wholeness and hope. We opened our first project in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, in December 2016, and this proposal outlines our continuing plans for the development of this pilot project.

Addiction is a global epidemic and the need for residential communities in the developing world, where healing and restoration can take place, is increasing year by year. Many majority world churches want to respond to the needs of the hurting and broken people and are looking for those with experience and expertise to support them to make their vision a reality. As such, once our pilot project demonstrates its effectiveness and sustainability, we see our role as equipping national leaders to launch and sustain Novō communities in their own contexts. We intend to do this using a community-franchising approach, with the goal of seeing Novō communities established elsewhere in Bolivia, Latin America, and across the developing world.

## OUR CONCEPT

Novō builds on the approach used by UK charity, Yeldall Manor, which has been providing residential drug and alcohol rehabilitation to men with addiction problems for 40 years. We are applying this in ways which fit the cultural, economic and social realities of Santa Cruz. We have set up an income-generating business at the core of the project which provides work and training for the residents and plays a key role in ensuring that the project is sustainable in the longer term.

Novō is marked by a number of qualities: it is founded on Christ; it is focused on the whole person; it partners widely with local churches; it is a community of love and discipline; it is characterised by grace and truth; it promotes freedom and responsibility.

At full capacity (February 2018) our first Novō community in Santa Cruz will offer a 9-month residential programme to 16 residents followed by a structured process of reintegration into the community and 'aftercare for life'. This will be a pilot project and we will monitor all aspects of the programme to ensure we are adapting the Yeldall approach appropriately to a new context and achieving maximum success. We will use both qualitative and quantitative methods to monitor residents during their time in the community and 3, 6, 12, and 24 months after programme completion.

## OUR TEAM

Living and working in Bolivia to support the local team and leading the work of Novō more broadly are the former Director of Yeldall Manor, a missionary with local project management experience, a missionary with international project development experience, and a former therapeutic team member at Yeldall Manor.

The local team is led by our Project Director, who has a Masters Degree in Agricultural Management and a wealth of experience working in residential and detached settings with those on the margins in Santa Cruz. Working with him is a team of four staff members, and three live-in volunteers.



## 2016 ACHIEVEMENTS

Since beginning to plan for the opening of the first community in December 2015, we have reached many key goals, which enabled us to open our pilot project to residents in December 2016. Our key achievements in the last year have been:

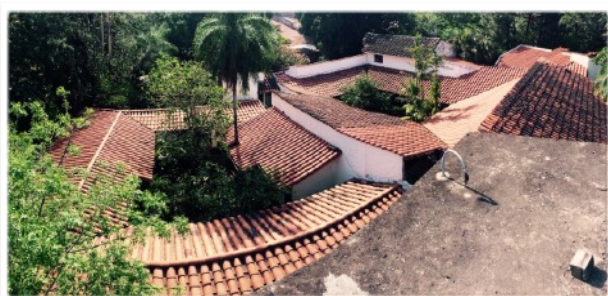
### Staff Training

José Ernesto, our Bolivian Project Coordinator, completed a 9-month intensive residential training placement at Yeldall Manor in the UK. In November we conducted initial staff training for the wider team which has been followed-up with on-the-job coaching for all staff and the development of an induction curriculum for staff and volunteers who subsequently join the team.



## Property

We have a secure and reasonable rental contract for Quinta Totaices, an ideal home for this work. Quinta Totaices is a sizeable property with mature gardens, office space, meeting rooms, lounges, an ample kitchen, and plenty of room for 16 residents and five live-in staff. It is located on the edge of the city meaning our staff can reach it on public transport, our residents can have visits from their families, our programme can be connected with a range of local churches, and our income-generating businesses can operate within the bustling economy of the city.



## Project Launch

Following a launch night in November 2015, attended by 150 local friends, supporters and church leaders, we welcomed our first Novō resident to Quinta Totaices, on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016.



## Residents

At the time of writing (30<sup>th</sup> March 2017) there are 7 men on the Novō programme. Our longest-standing residents have been with us for 16 and 9 weeks respectively. An additional 9 residents have entered the programme but have failed to settle for more than 4 weeks. As the community grows in number and maturity (with more 'senior residents' around as role models/mentors), and the staff team grows in experience, we expect to see an increasing number of residents committing to completing the 9-month programme.



### Programme Development

The structures, resources, and processes which make-up the Novō programme are running smoothly. These include: therapeutic groups, structured one-to-one support, the 7-phase stages, work/training, nutrition, sports, prayer, worship, and Bible study.

### Medical Care

Medical care relating to a range of conditions has been provided to our residents. These include: wound and fracture care, treatment for fungal infections and gastrointestinal problems, testing for blood-borne virus, and dentistry.

### Local Support

The local Christian community has supported the project with volunteering, gifts in kind, small financial gifts, and a welcome for our residents at Sunday services and special events (including a Christmas meal and a church camp over the Carnival weekend).



### Car Wash Business

Our mobile car wash business launched in February 2017, has been well-received by clients, and is growing. As well as providing work and training for the residents, the growth and success of this business (and its impact on the sustainability of the community) is crucial to our vision for replication.



## Fundraising

In November, SilentImages, a US non-profit, produced at cost a short film which tells José Ernesto's story and, in so doing, powerfully communicates the Novō vision to empower God's people to respond to His call on their lives. We will be using this English/Spanish film during the year ahead as we fundraise in the UK, Canada and here in Bolivia. You can view this film here: [José Ernesto's Story](#)



## ULISES' STORY

Ulises, 35, was the second resident to arrive on the Novō programme in mid-December 2016, and he is still with us today. This makes him our longest standing resident, and he is rapidly becoming an important role model for newer residents on the programme.



Ulises is an alcoholic who has lived on the streets for 15 years. He was in a poor physical state when he arrived, with various joints out of place from where he'd been run into by a bus some months previously and left on the side of the road. He has been receiving medical help for his shoulder and arm, which are now healing well.



Emotionally, after the novelty of being in a comfortable home and being immensely grateful for this, he begun the process of healing. One particular 'breakthrough' came as he demonstrated a level of vulnerability and sadness during a therapy group, which touched a sensitive issue around his abusive step-father from his childhood. In the days after the group session we saw glimpses of Ulises's anger and a withdrawal from full engagement with the programme, but it was good that he felt safe enough to remove his polite and happy 'mask' and become more real.

Ulises has a genuine openness to the Christian faith and a keenness to get stuck into his Bible and draw closer to God. One major hurdle, and a required programme 'objective', was to prepare and present his autobiography, which he did successfully in front of his peers and two staff members. This was a great achievement and demonstrated a good level of engagement with the programme requirements and an openness to share about his life with others.

It is incredible to see how Ulises's confidence has improved while he has been on the programme. At the start, he was shy and fairly quiet in his manner. In a recent church service he attended where he didn't know anyone, he was the first to volunteer to stand up at the front and give a notice, introducing himself, saying where he was from, and promoting Novō's car-washing business to try and acquire some new clients!



## 2017 PRIORITIES

During 2017 we are focussed on five key priorities:

1. Growing the Novō business, local giving and fee income so that we can achieve our goal of the project being 75% locally-funded by the end of 2018.
2. Ongoing staff training, including an intensive training week in September focused on basic listening/counselling skills and understanding addiction and recovery.
3. Monitoring effectiveness and outcomes to produce data and insights which can be used to improve the Novō programme.
4. Continuing to develop our international support base so that Novō can pursue its vision of equipping local leaders to launch and sustain Novō communities elsewhere. We are beginning to explore partnership possibilities in the Bolivian cities/towns of Tarija, Pailon and Riberalta, as well as inside the Palamasola prison in Santa Cruz.
5. Upgrading our pick-up truck to a minibus to enable us to transport a growing community cost-effectively (NB: costs not included in the operational budget below).

## CONCLUSION

Looking back, we give thanks to God for all that has been accomplished during 2016 and for the generous support of individuals, churches, and grant-making Trusts which has made it possible. Today in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, men like Ulises are enjoying freedom from addiction and new life in Christ as a result of the goodness of God and His people.

Looking forward into 2017, we expect to see our first Novō community grow steadily, with the project full by the end of the year, and to moving closer to our targets for financial sustainability. We anticipate with great excitement our first resident graduations and supporting these men in establishing themselves, drug and alcohol free, in the community!

## BUDGET 2017-2018 (£ GBP)

INCOME	2017	2018
Income Generation	7,200.00	34,950.00
Local Fundraising	3,150.00	7,650.00
International Fundraising	67,500.00	40,500.00
Resident Fees	3,675.00	8,737.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>81,525.00</b>	<b>91,837.50</b>

EXPENDITURE	2017	2018
Salaries	31,500.00	31,500.00
Payroll Expenses	1,800.00	1,800.00
Utilities	3,510.00	3,870.00
Intern Expenses	900.00	900.00
Food & Household Supplies	17,887.5	25,537.5
Healthcare	3,112.50	3,150.00
Property Maintenance	1,800.00	2,250.00
Vehicle Running Costs	1,800.00	1,800.00
Marketing & Fundraising	225.00	225.00
Accounting & Legal	450.00	450.00
Equipment & IT	1,125	1,350
Insurance	675.00	675.00
Taxes	675.00	675.00
Resident Expenses	765.00	1,552.50
Recreation	1,125.00	1,237.50
Training	900.00	900.00
Misc	900.00	900.00
Rent	11,700.00	11,700.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>80,850.00</b>	<b>90,472.50</b>

# SUPPORTING NOVŌ

Novō Communities is a registered charity in the UK (1164421).

You can set-up a regular gift, or make a one-off donation, online using our Stewardship Give.Net account here: [www.give.net/novocommunities](http://www.give.net/novocommunities). If you don't already have one, you will need to quickly set-up a Give.Net account before you can make your donation.

You can also give directly via bank transfer. For more details, please contact Andy Partington at [andy@novocommunities.org](mailto:andy@novocommunities.org).

Please make cheques payable to 'Novō Communities' and send them directly to:

Mr Ian Hudell  
Treasurer  
Novō Communities  
11 Emmets Nest  
Binfield  
Berkshire  
RG42 4HH