

Annual Report 2009-2010

President: Rosy Pereyra M.D.

Mission of ILC-DR

To promote healthy productive ageing and at the same time help our society to address the issue of ageing in a more positive way, visualizing the older population as an asset rather than a burden, recognizing their contributions and incorporating them into the development plans of every nation.

Activities:

1. After our meeting in Paris and participation in the IAGG's World Congress in Paris, we came back to Santo Domingo to start preparing for the celebration of 2009's Day of Older Persons. Dr. Pereyra was appointed President of the Dominican Network for Dignity in Old Age which groups 17 institutions that work with and for the older adults in the Dominican Republic and so with the collaboration of that network we concentrated in two main activities

a) To celebrate a party for four hundred older adults from deprived areas of Santo Domingo and three other provinces. For that activity we received the collaboration of the office of the Vice President and a group of business.

b) To present to the Dominican Government, two demands that were identified as priorities by the majority of people participating in the first activity. They were: solidarity pension for people over 65 specially those living in deprived areas and

their incorporation into the National Health Insurance. For that we met with Dr. Raphael Albuquerque, Honorable Vice –President of our country to handle a document with the above mentioned demands.



(From left to right) Faustino De Aza, President of De Aza Foundation, Dra. Rosy Pereyra, President ILC-DR, Dr. Raphael Albuquerque, Honorable Vice- President, Amelia Cordero, member of the Board of Directors ILC-DR and Bolivar Terrero Member of the Dominican Network for Dignity in Old Age.

2. Meeting with the Director of the National Health Insurance Dr. Altagracia Guzman to discuss the incorporation of a larger number of older adults into the health insurance. Our Social Security System has three different regimes:

- Contributory regime that includes private and public full time employees

- Contributory/subsidized regime that includes all independent professionals, small business owners etc, and this regime is partially subsidized by the government.
- Non- contributory regime that includes more than 80% of our older population because, most of them till about 20 years ago lived in the country side and did not have formal employment therefore never contributed to any form of insurance. This regime is totally subsidized by the government.

3. Meeting with the President of the National Council of the Social Security to discuss the need for implementation of the non-contributory regime of the Social Security law so that people over 65 can have a pension.

4. Meeting with the Director of Unique Beneficiary System, Mrs. Mirian Rodríguez with the objective of coordinating the incorporation of a larger amount of older adults into their system. The Unique Beneficiary System has been designed to focus monetary aid to the poorest people in our country. According to the available data, older Dominicans fulfill all the requirements to be included in that system and should be given priority but at the moment this is not the case and only 8% of the beneficiaries of that program are people over 60. We presented a motion of identifying people in need and submitting it to them so that they can be taken into account.

Activities and Conferences in 2010

Apart from numerous TV and radio appearances, Dr. Rosy Pereyra was invited by different institutions to give conferences on different topics as it appears below

- January 15th ¿Is Alzheimer's disease inherited? Dominican Alzheimer's Society.

- February 26th. Falls in the older adult. Causes and Consequences. Dominican Association of Geriatric Residencies.
- March 26th. Recent Advances in Alzheimer's disease. Dominican society of Geriatrics and Gerontology.
- May 28th. Exercises and Nutritional Recommendations to Prevent Fragility in Old Age. Dominican Network for Dignity in Old Age.
- June 25th. How to improve the quality of life in an Alzheimer's patient. Dominican Alzheimer's Society.
- July 30th. How to Care for the Institutionalized Older Adult. Dominican Association of Geriatric Residencies.
- August 27th. Life Style Strategies to prevent common chronic diseases. Dominican Association for Dignity in Old Age.
- September 27th. Press conference in preparation for the International Day of Older Persons 2010. We had a very good coverage.

On September the 29th we attended Dr. Butler's Memorial service and ILC meeting in New York

Ongoing Project

"A comprehensive Profile of the Older Dominican"

Project in need of funding

Health Status of the Older Dominican

Partnerships

- Help Age International
- ADA
- UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund)
- INPEA

