

Based in Argentina, Doncel has been committed to the **reform of alternative care throughout Latin America** since 2005. Placing a strong emphasis on the involvement of children, adolescents, and young individuals, our organization strives to **ensure their fundamental right to experience a family life**.

## Doncel pursues its objectives through three fundamental areas:



Empowering adolescents and young people through the application of supportive methods among peers.<sup>(1)</sup>



Advocacy efforts aimed at effecting positive change.



Enhancing the capacity and effectiveness of teams working in this field.

By focusing on these areas, Doncel has successfully cultivated a movement of young **activists** dedicated to enhancing the quality of alternative care.<sup>(2)</sup>
Get to know the "**Guía Egreso**" by clicking <u>here.</u>

One significant milestone achieved by Doncel has been the **establishment and regulation of Law 27.364**, known as the Program for the Support of the Transition to Adulthood for Adolescents and Young People without Parental Care. This **pioneering program**, **unique in the Latin American and Caribbean region**, **provides economic and technical assistance for the transition to adulthood** for individuals aged up to 25. Currently, the program **encompasses over 3000 adolescents and young people**, across Argentina.



## At present, Doncel is engaged in several important projects, including:



The development of transition housing.



Designing a youth activism school for Latin America and the Caribbean.



Monitoring the implementation of the Transition Law.



Coordinating a diploma program on alternative care for professionals within the system.

Institutionalization within our region constitutes one of the most severe violations of the rights of children, adolescents, and young adults who require special care measures. It is estimated that over 180,000 (Lumos 2021) individuals find themselves in this situation, with nearly 10,000 (Senaf 2022) residing in Argentina alone. The majority of them originate from underprivileged backgrounds.

Extensive evidence highlights the detrimental effects of institutionalization on the personal development of children and adolescents. Prolonged stress, significant learning difficulties, and challenges in establishing secure emotional connections are among the negative consequences. Furthermore, extended periods away from a family environment deprive young people of the opportunity to voice their opinions on matters that concern them and, even more distressingly, evaluate the quality of care they receive.

Our vision entails a region where all children and adolescents can flourish within safe family and community settings. We strive to create an environment where their voices are heard, and their rights are protected.



Doncel has established the Latin American Network of Care Leavers, an initiative that perpetuates the participation and advocacy movement initiated by young individuals to promote the reform of alternative care. This network boasts 11 member countries.

Get to know the projects of the Latin American Network here.















