



Annual Report
2019-20



In the Business of Restoring Lives

Betel Seville

Advancing in Asia
Opening New Frontiers

Overcoming Boundaries
Women in Betel



Contents

4 About Us

- 6 Mission, Vision and Values
- 8 Our Team
- 9 International Internships

Advancing in Asia

Page 12



Betel Seville

Page 20



12 Betel Worldwide

- 12 Advancing in Asia
- 16 Who we Help
- 18 Overcoming Boundaries
- 20 Betel of Seville
- 23 Bulgaria: Before and After
- 24 Betel Youth
- 25 News
- 27 Changed lives

Serving those in Need

Page 30



28 How we Help

- 30 Serving those in Need
- 32 Resident Services
- 33 Dental Clinic
- 34 Training
- 37 Fiscal Information
- 38 FAQ
- 39 Contact

About Us

Letter from the Director

Dear Friends,

Once again it is our satisfaction and duty to present the Annual Report of Betel International, which we trust will offer a visual and verbal tour of Betel's program and activities around the world.

We are grateful to be able to inform you that during 2019 we have received more than 6,000 new individuals into our communities and residential programs that are now located in 22 nations. When you read and examine the following pages, we trust that the history of Betel—a history full of hope, liberation and marvelous changed lives, will convey a true sense of Betel's mission and service to society.

We must reiterate that our program only functions through the mutual efforts, sacrifice and service of Betel's team of diverse individuals living and serving in our communities, and with the support of our friends.

We are committed to faithfully maintain our Christian ideals and values, along with the highest levels of professional standards. Also, we strive to remain relevant and active in the continually changing socio-economic environment that surrounds Betel's communities in the diverse populations that we serve.

Also, with much gratitude and humility, we would like to inform you that Betel of Great Britain has recently been praised by the British Government in the Parliamentary Review with a full article describing Betel's program and the help we offer to individuals, families, and society.

In Spain we are humbled and grateful to note that for the first time a project of Betel, our 'Women's Residence in Torrelodones', has been officially subsidized by FERMAD (the Council of Political Sciences of the government of Madrid).

We trust you will enjoy the following pages and all the details and personal and special stories of Betel in the world.

Sincerely,

Elliott Tepper

Elliott Tepper

Strength, Sacrifice and Service

35 years dedicated to restoring broken lives



Our History

Vision, Mission and Values

Betel is a non-profit organization founded by WEC International to help individuals who suffer from addiction, social exclusion and homelessness. Betel is a holistic personal development program that has proven effective in transforming lives and liberating people from addiction.

Betel's story began 35 years ago, when a small group of missionaries witnessing the dramatic drug crisis in Spain in the late 1980's decided to help addicted youth who filled the streets of Madrid, and also their families. They opened their homes as a safe place for these young people to start their rehabilitation.

Today Betel is present in more than 100 cities in 22 countries. Our values are based on biblical Christianity, upon which all our work is sustained. In Spain, Betel was declared a Public Utility in the year 2000 and is registered in the National 'Registro de Asociaciones' of the Ministry of the Interior with the number 75567.



Ciudad Real, Spain
Couple on staff with
Betel Madrid at Betania
Annual Camp 2019



Neumünster, Germany
Betel men's house

Our values are based on biblical Christianity, upon which all our work is sustained

Vision

Our vision is not only to cure addiction, but also to train and empower individuals who are committed to the ethos of Betel, so that the personal and social benefits of our program might be extended beyond Betel to bring hope to the neediest people in the world.

Mission

Our mission is to restore lives that have been broken by drug abuse, alcoholism and social exclusion. We achieve this goal by affirming values, capabilities and building character in a caring Christian community. Our men's and women's residences are free of charge. They are supervised principally by graduates who have successfully overcome their addictions in Betel's program, with the assistance of our professional staff.

Values

- We defend basic human rights and the dignity of the individual.
- We consider the family to be the fundamental institution in society.
- We are committed to and embrace generous hospitality.
- We strive for transparency, effectiveness and efficiency in the utilization of our resources.

Our Team

Dedicated to Restoring Lives

The great team of people that forms the driving force of Betel is made up of workers, volunteers and professionals, many of whom have received the same help they now offer to others. Betel has a team of professionals located in Madrid, Malaga, Barcelona and Tarragona who offer support on a national and international level.

In Betel, many have received the help they now offer to others

Board of Directors

- President **Elliott Edward Tepper**
- Vice President **Lindsay John McKenzie**
- Secretary **Javier González Espejel**
- Treasurer **José Luis Verdú Esteve**
- Board Member **Juan Carlos Matesanz**
- Board Member **Eduardo Hdez.-Lissen**

Professionals	Nº
Program coordinators	20
Doctors	3
Dentists	8
Dental assistants	7
Nurses	1
Social workers	5
Psychologists	2
Family therapist	1
Attorneys	4
Economist	1
Architect	1
Computer technician	1
Graphic designer	1
Admin. assistants	11
Mechanics	3
Maintenance	2
Total	71

*2019 Madrid, Málaga, Barcelona y Tarragona



Madrid, Spain
Betel directors at the headquarters



Kolosok, Russia
Volunteers from Mexico and Spain serving in Betel Russia

International Volunteers

Life-Changing Internships

In Betel, we believe we can all be agents of change. For this reason we offer volunteers the adventure of restoring lives by joining the Betel community.

Life-changing internships is the theme of the international volunteer project run in coordination with Betel UK. This program offers short, medium and long term internships in the UK, Spain, Germany, Czech Republic and India among other nations. It offers a unique opportunity to live and work alongside Betel residents.

Interest in the international internship program increases each year. In 2019 the program received the highest number of applications since it started in 2010, with 206 applications from 6 continents and 37 nations.



International Volunteer Destinations (2019)

12	Spain
11	UK
4	Russia
3	Germany
2	India
32	Total

Madrid, Spain
Volunteers in Valdemingomez
(illegal drug market) giving out food



Serving in Betel

Volunteers Tell Their Stories



Hanna Ellis
United Kingdom, age 24
Intern 2.5 years
Betel UK

International's internship program. I thought an internship at Betel would be a beneficial way for me to gain experience working with vulnerable and broken people, but it has done so much more than that. I soon realized that I, too, was a broken person in need of transformation and Christ has begun a deeper work of healing in me, as well.

There is a realness and rawness about people in Betel that is hard to find elsewhere. It is wonderful walking alongside the residents who are overcoming addiction and being part of their lives, witnessing their wrecked lives being transformed into beautiful stories of hope. I have learned to build relationships and to serve, not on my terms but by following the example of Christ. Each day here looks different; however, I regularly work with a team of men and women in our Betel UK Rising Café, am involved in running our prison ministry outreach and deliver leaflets advertising our businesses.

I have now been part of Betel UK for two-and-a-half years and am a leader in one of our women's homes. Each day brings with it new challenges and blessings and it is such a joy to be a part of this family!



Jose Fernando
United States, age 24
Intern 3 months
Betel Madrid

This experience has impacted my life and I will always remember it. One of the things that impacted me about this program has been seeing the importance that people are given. Taking time to listen to them, to talk to them, to help them recover from their addictions and often from sickness as well.

It impacted me to see how people arrived intoxicated, many times without knowing where they were. Then afterwards to see the transformation that began to happen in their lives. Many of them told me stories about how they ended up in the circumstances they were in, but in spite of all that I could see the grace of God in their lives.

I really enjoyed being able to live in the community with different people of different ages and cultures and see how God moved in our lives and allowed us to work and live together in peace.

I will always remember these people that impacted my life, their testimonies, praying with them and seeing how God transformed their hearts and minds.

In Betel you can see not only how God transforms the lives of other people, but in a way your own life is transformed as well: your heart and the way that you see people and how you see the grace and mercy of God in your own life.



Torrelodones, Spain
Beth (left) and Mar, the leader of the women's house in Betel Madrid

It's amazing to compare the girls I know to what they've told me of their lives before they came to Betel, and see how God has transformed them and given them hope

Beth Jacobs
United Kingdom, age 21
University Internship in Spanish language
Duration: 8 Months

University Internship

Living and Working in Betel of Spain

While I was deciding where to spend my year abroad, I had a close friend who was struggling with drug addiction and I really was struck by how terribly hopeless and cyclical it is. Knowing that Betel was dedicated to finding people stuck in that hopelessness made me fall in love with the organization before I even got here. I wanted to be part of that!

I signed up and flew out in August of 2019. I was so nervous, but the moment I saw the two women who had come to collect me and saw the kindness in their faces, I felt much more at ease. They were so welcoming and very understanding of the fact that my Spanish was not so good! Being in the house is a bit like being in a big family, and whilst not everyone gets along 100% of the time, when it comes down to it everyone is there for each other, to encourage and help one another. It's amazing to compare the girls I know to what they've told me of their lives before they came to Betel, and see how God has transformed them and given them hope.

Another thing I love about the girls is that they approach work with a really good attitude. They work hard cleaning the church, cooking for everyone, and working in our Charity Shop. It's really important to them that they do the job well. I

have enjoyed working with them, even when it's just cleaning toilets, because there's always a nice atmosphere while we work, and the girls have always been kind to me, especially when I didn't know anyone well. Even though I struggled to understand them at the start, they were really patient with me until I felt more comfortable and confident speaking Spanish. Despite loving it here, there have been some difficult times as well. Sometimes new girls have arrived who didn't treat us very well or who had issues beyond what we could deal with, which sometimes felt overwhelming. However, these times gave us the opportunity to come together as a team and support one another, learning how to confront difficult situations.

I think the other most difficult thing for me has been when girls leave, whether after one day or after many months.

In my first months here I spent a long time feeling guilty about my inability

to save girls or make them stay. But God has been showing me that he never expected me to be perfect. He saved me knowing that I would keep failing and messing up. The Bible says that his grace is sufficient for me, his power is made perfect in weakness, and although I can't save the girls, or stop them from leaving, I can trust in him to bring change.

Advancing in Asia Opening New Frontiers

In November 2019 Betel of India, known in Hindi as Asha Bhawan (The House of Hope) celebrated their 20th Anniversary. Asha Bhawan began in 1999 on the outskirts of Delhi with a team of five individuals: An Australian, two Spaniards, two Brazilians, one Englishman, and one Portuguese. They rented a single house with six rooms and began to receive people in need. Today, Asha Bhawan has communities in 19 cities of India with more than 500 individuals living in their homes. From India they have opened Mongolia as their second Asian nation where Asha Bhawan has established communities in four cities. In Nepal Asha Bhawan has opened communities in two cities. Today over 700 individuals reside in their communities in 25 cities in Asia.

Despite being located in nations with very high levels of poverty, Betel communities in Asia are, to a great measure, economically 'self-sufficient'. They do not depend on outside help to cover their basic operating expenses. They are able to generate sufficient funds from their own income-generating projects to cover their charitable activities. For example, they run second hand shops where they receive donated items that are resold to the public. They sell calendars and magazines, run coffee shops and a restaurant, engage in light construction, and run a pig farm. The future goal of the directors of Betel is to continue bringing hope to more and more needy individuals in the entire continent of Asia.



Gurgaon, India

During the celebration of Asha Bhawan's 20th Anniversary, Christian leaders in the Delhi area offered tribute to Keith and Lolita Bergmeier, the founders and directors of Betel of Asia. They presented them with a token of their esteem and gratitude. They recognized their 20 years of living and serving and loving the Indian nation. Truly the Bergmeiers have left an indelible mark in the hearts of those they came to serve. Keith and Lolita actively serve, visit and maintain intimate contact with all the Leaders of Betel of Asia.



New Betel Communities in Asia

Udaipur

Known as the 'City of Lakes', Udaipur is one of the most important cities in Rajasthan. In May of 2019 the first community was opened in Udaipur with a team that came from the Asha Bhawan communities in Jodhpur, Jaipur and Kota. From the very beginning all the places in the community were filled and they were able to cover their own operating expenses. The community can house 15 men.

Siliguri

In July of 2019 the community of Siliguri in the State of West Bengal was opened by a team that came from Betel communities in Ooty, Calcutta, Guwahati, and Dimapur. They began with an initial capacity of 20 men. This mountainous city is in a very strategic location in North East India and has easy access to Bhutan, Nepal, Sikkim, and Bangladesh.

Sattal, India
Leaders of Betel Asia at their annual meeting. The majority were addicts whose lives were changed in Betel's program. This group carries the responsibility for the day to day operation of Betel in Asia.

Cooperation Towards Development

The Youth of Betel India Enter University

During the last two decades, Betel of India's 'Asha Bhawan Children's Project' has served young people, providing a safe refuge, basic health care, and schooling for homeless children. Over the years many of these children have grown and advanced to begin university studies under the covering and guardianship of Asha Bhawan. In 2020 there are 19 young men and women over 18 years of age who live in Asha Bhawan and are continuing their studies in secondary and higher education.

The Young Men

Their names from left to right (see the photograph to the right). In the first row: Soson, Joseph, Mustafa, Worchan, Agi, and Ricky. In the back row is Gogou, Khasu, Santu, David, y Zhotan. Of these one is pursuing his Masters degree, three other are doing their undergraduate university studies, and the rest are in the process of completing the last years of 'High School'. David is completing his Master's Degree in Social Work and hopes to become a missionary. Mustu is in his third year of university studies in Accounting. Worchan is in his second year of studies in Zoology. Soson is in his last year of studies for a bachelor's degree as a Physical Education Teacher. Khasu is also in his last year of studies for a bachelor's degree in general education.

The Young Women

From left to right (see the photo below): Ashma, Anima, Muskan, Hoinu, Novi, Sheena, Ashun, Nengcha. Ashma is studying to become a Primary and Secondary School teacher. Anima is the leader of Asha Bhawan's Women's home in the city of Ooty. Muskan is finishing her Bachelor's degree and desires to continue pursuing a career in Tourism as a hotel director. Hoinu is finishing her Bachelor's degree and would like to study Business Administration. Novi is in her third year of university studies in Psychology. Sheena is in her first year of studies in Interior Design. Ashun is completing her studies for a masters in English Literature. Nengcha works in the office of Asha Bhawan and oversees Asha Bhawan's social program's 'Data Base'.



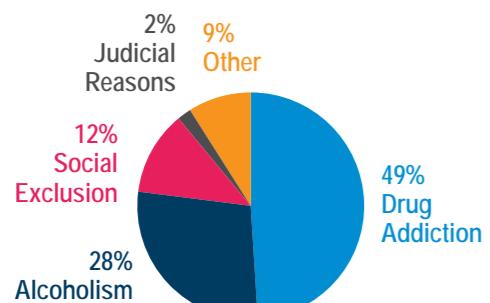
Conquering the Future

Who we Help

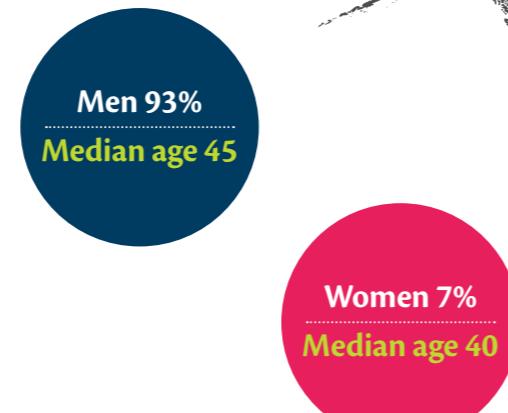
Profile of a Betel Resident

B etel receives all who come in search of help, who are willing and able to follow the program. A growing number of people have been coming to Betel for reasons related to loneliness or family conflict along with social exclusion or homelessness.

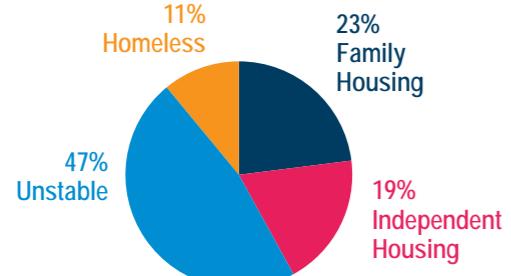
In 2019 we saw a larger majority of men as opposed to women (93% and 7% respectively). The main reason for entry in Betel continues to be substance addiction. The median age was 45 years old for men and 40 years old for women.



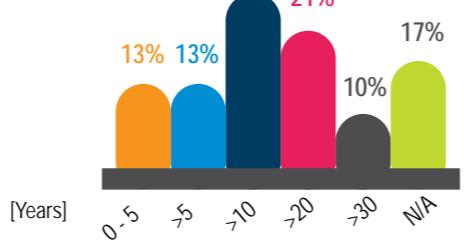
Reason for Admission



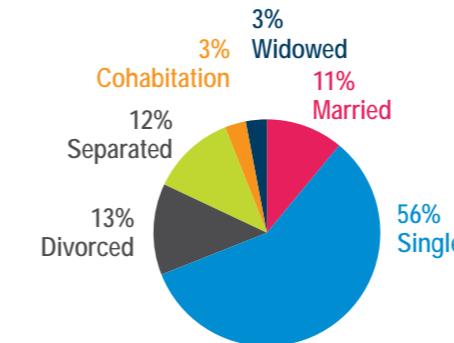
Substance Consumed



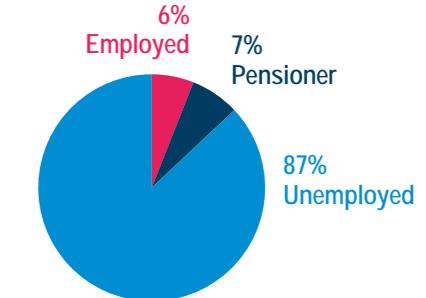
Living Situation



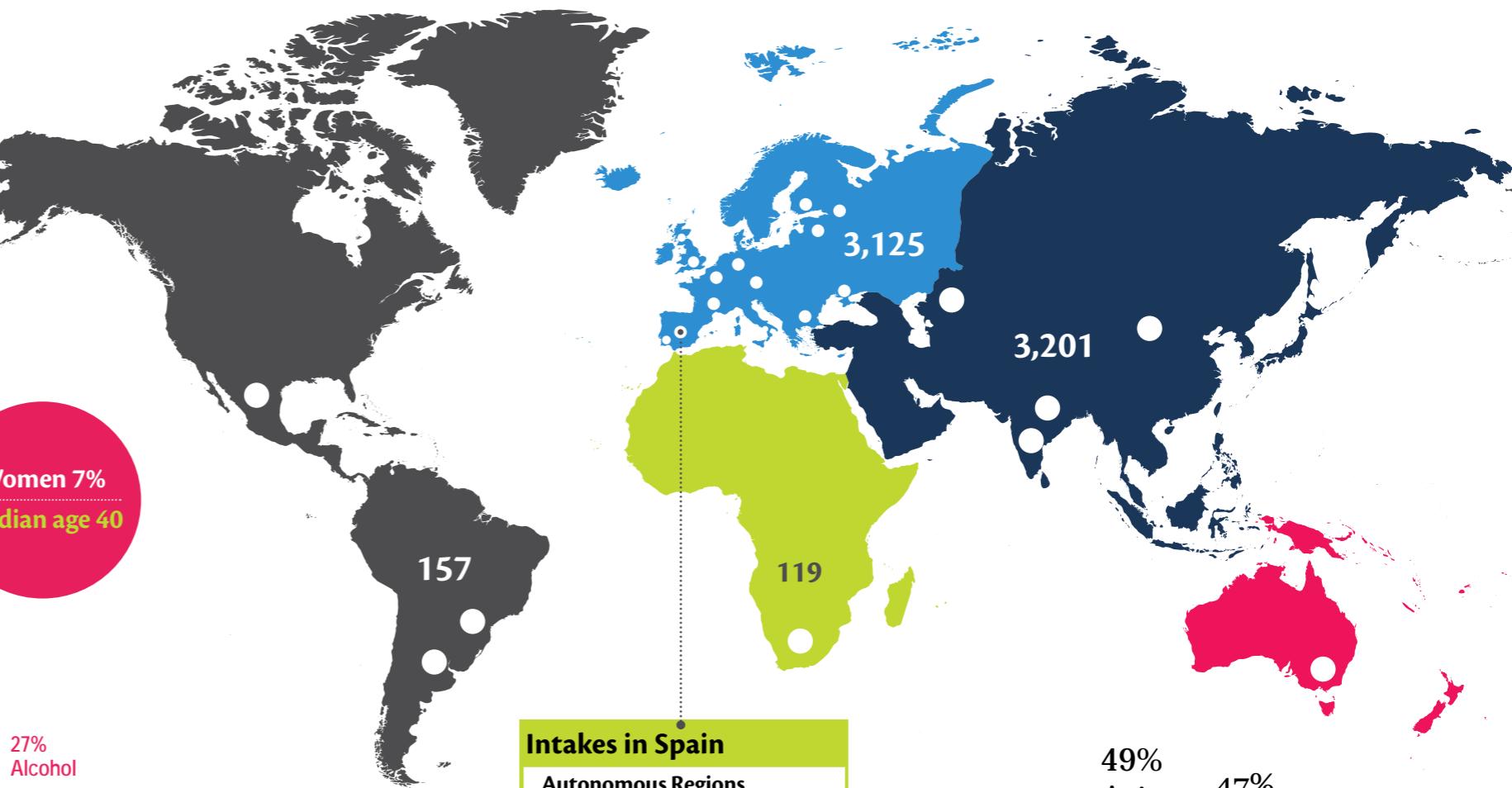
Period of Use



Marital Status



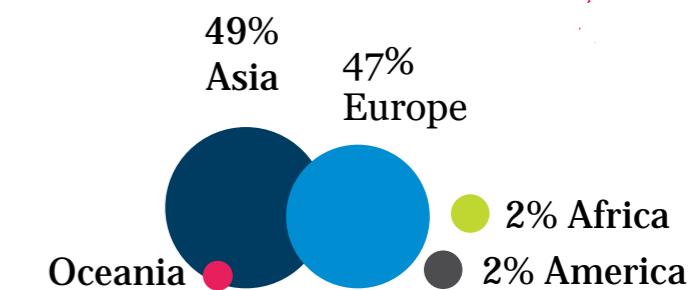
Employment Status



Intakes in Spain

Autonomous Regions	
Andalusia	985
Madrid	424
Castilla la Mancha	194
Valencia	145
Catalonia	114
Aragon	33
Balearic Islands	26
Galicia	15
Basque Country	12
Ceuta	10
Total	1,958

6,603 Intakes



Women Overcoming Boundaries

For many women, Betel's houses represent a place of refuge, hope, and an opportunity for change.

Currently, women with addiction problems face great difficulties in their recovery. They suffer greater social rejection than drug-dependent men, and even more so if they have children. They must face the feelings of such rejection, both inside and outside the family, as well as the difficulty of being separated from their children during treatment, and the feeling of abandonment that entails.

In Betel we attend to these and other specific needs, addressing the traumatic experiences many have suffered such as physical, psychological and sexual abuse. To this end we create an environment of empathy, respect and connection, a context of intervention in which they feel secure, physically and emotionally.

The general objectives of Betel's intervention are:

- To overcome addiction, poverty and trauma
- To guarantee women a secure and supportive space
- To empower them in the process of growth and emotional development
- To support the development of healthy parenting skills in bringing up their children



Madrid, Spain
Betel women at the Torrelodones property



Enhgerel Gerelmaa

Mongolia

I came to Betel about 2 years ago when I was 5 months pregnant. My life was not good before I came to Betel. My parents divorced when I was just 9 months old. At first I lived with my father, but sadly he passed away when I was 3 years old. Then I went to an orphanage.

During my time there my teachers and social workers searched for my mother. When they found mom, I began to communicate with her. When I turned 18 I spoke with my teachers and social workers and decided to live with my mother. But after only one year she asked me to leave her house. Then I lived with friends for a while, but I finally ended up living on the street.

Whilst homeless, I got pregnant several times and had abortions. Then I got pregnant again but I had no money to pay for an abortion.

One day I heard about Betel: I went there because I was 5 months pregnant and very tired. When I arrived at Betel they were very friendly and welcomed me.

I met Jesus here in Betel and found a new life. Now I am living in Betel's Community with my precious daughter, Nandin-uchiral. My heart is filled with joy and happiness. I have forgiven my parents and am forgetting my past life. I trust the Lord for my future.



Benita Rincón

Spain

My childhood was tragic, full of beatings and abuse. I was born and raised in Western Sahara, then in Ceuta and Andalusia.

My father attempted suicide. Later I was abandoned by my mother, and then I was raped. When I was 16 I became pregnant. I lived between beatings, bitter and with no will to live. When I was 19 years old, I met Christ, who saved me from this tragic situation and gave me hope.

I finally found a better life with my husband and two children. But then my husband abandoned me and later died of a heart attack due to drug abuse. I didn't know he was using drugs. I fell into a deep depression, the worst thing that had ever happened to me – it was so bad I wanted to die. Then some friends brought me to Betel Seville, where I found the help I needed.

God gave me another opportunity to rebuild my life in Betel. I want to make the most of it with the man He has put in my path. If it is the will of God, we will get married soon, to live and serve together in Betel. I give thanks to the Lord for all the days of my life.



Kelly Gibson

United Kingdom

Both of my parents were addicts so I had to grow up and fend for myself from a very early age. Life at home was chaotic, lonely and violent for me and my younger brother and we were placed into care due to neglect. While in care I was abused and ended up being placed back with my mother again. I was wild and out of control; even taking drugs with my parents just seemed normal.

At age 12, I had been to 11 different primary schools because of constantly moving from one place to another. At age 16 I was pregnant with my first child. This was the start of 18 years of relationships with different men, violence, and addiction to drugs and alcohol. Five children later I was a mess. I needed help but who was going to help someone like me? I was unloved, damaged goods.

I arrived at Betel without hope. I was just looking for a "quick fix" and then back to my old life, but everyone at Betel was so kind and loving towards me. It took some time to trust that it was genuine, but I didn't feel lost anymore. My encounter with Christ changed everything and I felt alive for the first time in my life! I was determined to stay clean and change my lifestyle. My three youngest children now live with me in Betel and I am engaged to marry a wonderful man I met here. My life now has purpose and meaning. Being part of Betel, I have found family, friendships and love. I can honestly say I've never felt so safe. I am living free from addiction and keep moving forward knowing nothing is impossible.

24 Women's Houses in 8 Countries



BETEL SEVILLE

IN THE BUSINESS OF
RESTORING BROKEN LIVES

After the Universal World Exposition, held in Seville in October 1992, Betel opened their fifth community. A team of 6 men from Betel Madrid arrived in Seville, led by Jose Luis Verdu. They rented an old house in Bellavista, on the outskirts of Seville. The first years were not easy. Nevertheless, Betel was able to fulfill its mission to help needy individuals.

After 28 years, Betel Seville's headquarters is still located in Bellavista, but now in 1,500 square meters of prime commercial space. The Betel community in Seville now comprises 4 homes for men and a home for women. They have also established two residential communities in Huelva and Cordoba. Their large church and auditorium for 300 people serves the public and all the Betel communities in the surrounding area.

What is most surprising in Betel Seville is the variety and success of their charitable activities

What is most surprising in Betel of Seville is the variety and success of their charitable activities. In their social center they have a cafe furnished with a variety of restored antiques, tastefully painted in pastel colors. It is joined to Betel's renown 'Gugu' Baby Shop that carries all manner of baby's furnishing, bedding, cribs, carriages and infantile accessories—all made by the women and men in the Betel community of Seville.

Betel's pastoral and social services offices are located in the second story of their headquarters along with the facilities of their commercial printing business.

The directors of Betel Seville

Hilario and Tere Garcia arrived in Seville in 2003 after serving in Betel of Barcelona. Their vision and drive complemented, enriched and enlarged Betel of Seville's initial community. Hilario and Tere, themselves, were delivered and restored from addiction. When asked, "What motivated you to persevere and press forward in your service and ministry in Betel?" Their passionate answer is, "We want to see people delivered from the problems of addiction—the same problems that we ourselves have overcome."



(1) Women from Betel Seville serving in the cafe
(2) Group photo of the community after a Sunday meeting (3) Teresa and Carmen in the baby store *Gugu Betel* (4) Cribs and hand made merchandise from *Gugu Betel* (5) Residents at the men's house in Alcala on the outskirts of Seville (6) Serving chocolate crepes at the Betel cafe (7) Furniture restoration (8) Victor, Miguel, Hilario and Pablo in front of Betel's Antique Shop in the Triana district



STORIES OF HOPE

In the city center, Betel has a special antique store that attracts tourists and even some famous people, with unique vintage furniture that has been restored by Betel residents. One of these residents, who has a special talent for turning old articles into works of art, is Paulus Mageil de Bruine, known as Paul.

Paul tells his story

When I was 23 years old, I worked as a carpenter on boats in Holland. I earned a good salary. We planned a family vacation and I provided the money for it through my work. My family left two weeks before I was to finish work. Our plans were for me to join them the third week. Tragically, those plans were never fulfilled. They suffered a terrible traffic accident with a bus. I lost five members of my family: My father, my mother, my sister, my wife, and my daughter of 18 months.

Before the accident, I had never drunk alcohol, nor coffee, not even coca cola. But after the accident I began to drink

whiskey, vodka, and whatever I could find to drink. I wanted to erase my memories, but the memories remained with me. Every day I saw my wife and my child in my dreams.

I lost my job and my house and I began to live on the street. I begged for money in the streets or robbed mobile phones. That is how I lived for 18 years of my life, until I could not take it anymore.

One night I heard someone say to me, "Come with us. We are going to Betel", and I said to them: "I do not want to go. I want to die". But somehow I finally arrived at the Betel shop in Seville where Hilario, the director was. I weighed 43 kilos (92 pounds). My liver was damaged and very inflamed. Hilario took me in and treated me like his son. I am very grateful for everything that he did for me and for all the people in Betel. Betel is a family. Now I am restoring antique furniture and for me it is an honor. In the future I would like to help Betel in another country like Argentina or Mongolia.



Above: Paulus Mageil de Bruine (Paul) in Betel's Antique store in the Triana district

Left: Street outreach in Seville



**Before the accident,
I had never drunk
alcohol, nor coffee, not
even coca cola**

Betel Bulgaria

Before and After

Betel's community in Bulgaria has built their headquarters by restoring an old military base in Chelopechere (Sofia). The base was donated to Betel by the Bulgarian government in the year 2015. Betel arrived in Bulgaria in 2004 where they have been working with individuals who suffer from addiction and homelessness.



Before

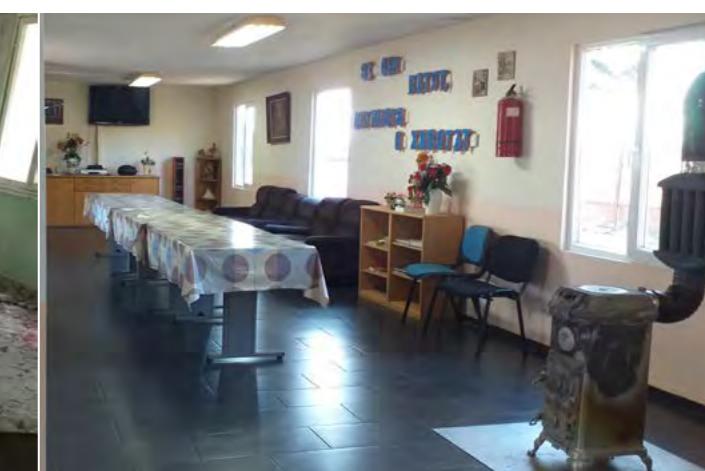
After



Before



After





Betel Youth

Growing up with values

Each year Betel develops a program with educational and recreational activities designed for the development of children, teens and young adults. In many of Betel's locations worldwide, our teams organize youth programs with weekly activities.

In Betel of Spain, 236 children from nine urban areas participated in Betel's youth program during 2019, with workshops, ethics education, athletic events, camps, outings, video forums and talent shows to name a few.

Ciudad Real
(Above) Children's 2019 Summer Camp 'Growing up Free' at the Betania Retreat Center

(Right) 2019 Youth camp for teens and young adults at the Betania Retreat Center



Locations

- Alicante
- Algeciras
- Barcelona
- Ciudad Real
- Madrid
- Malaga
- Mallorca
- Seville
- Valencia

Activities

- Workshops
- Ethics Education
- Camps
- Outings
- Video Forums
- Talent Shows
- Athletics

Participants: 236

News

■ Spain

Betel Donates a Portrait to the Constitutional Court

On the 25th of October 2019 a delegation, led by Betel's president Elliott Tepper, visited the Constitutional Court of Spain in Madrid with the objective of signing an agreement to donate an original portrait by the renown painter Don Antonio Lopez Gutierrez, of the first President of Spain's Supreme Court, Don Francisco Tomas y Valiente (1986–1992). (Don Francisco was assassinated by ETA in 1992). Don Daniel de Ocana Lacal, the Director of the Court's Archives and representing the General Secretary of the Supreme Court, signed the donation agreement and recognized Betel's important social work in Spain.



■ United Kingdom

Betel UK recognized in 'The Parliamentary Review'

In 2019 Betel UK appeared in the annual publication of the Parliamentary Review with a preface written by Theresa May. The emphasis of that edition of the Review was focused on programs of 'rehabilitation' in the United Kingdom. Kent and Mary Alice Martin, the directors of Betel UK were interviewed for that article.

A recent governmental study has calculated that Betel UK has saved British society and the British government 130 million Pounds since 1996 due to the reduction of medical and social costs, and in the reduction of crime and penitentiary expenses.

Kent Martin emphasized that Betel's residential program of 12 to 18 months is different than most other programs of short duration. He emphasized the importance of living in community. "In our experience healing begins when a person learns the art of forming healthy relationships."

A governmental study has calculated that Betel UK has saved British society and the British government 130 million pounds

■ Spain

'Operation Niño de Navidad' used Betel's headquarters as their base of operations

Samaritan's Purse, the NGO founded by Billy and Franklin Graham, has chosen Betel Madrid's International Headquarters as their base of operations in Spain for the collection and sending of Christmas gifts. These have been donated by Churches, denominations, and individuals in Spain to be sent to children in Western Sahara, Algeria, Togo, and many other places of need.

They used Betel's installations as a logistic center for packaging and shipping. Betel also provided volunteers and gift donations. This immense effort involving so many individuals has translated into joy and celebration for tens of thousands of children year after year.



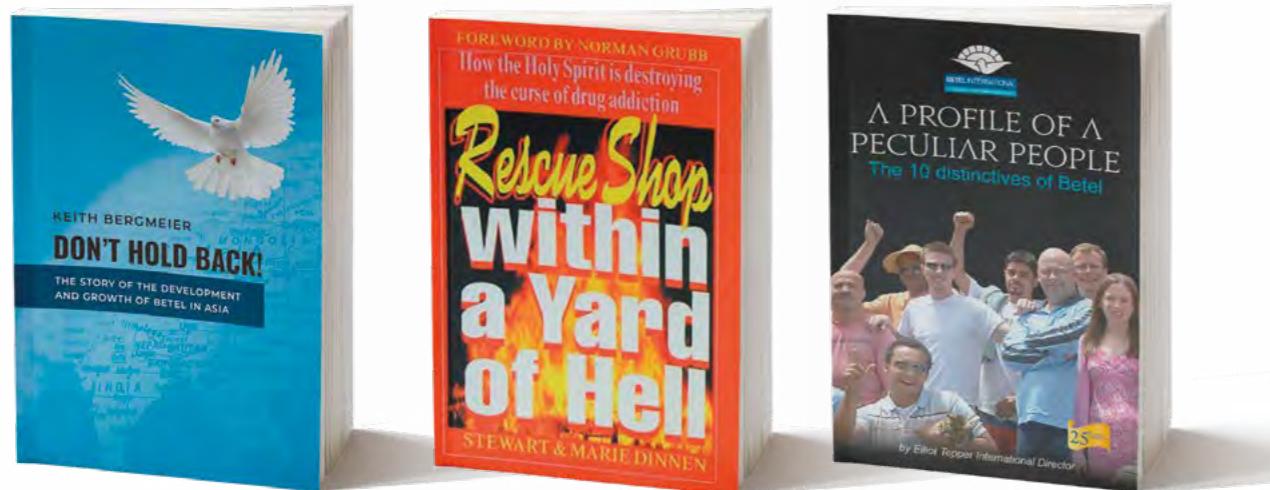
Madrid, Spain

Betel visits the 'Tribunal Constitucional' to donate a painting by the well-known artist Antonio López Gutiérrez

Madrid, Spain

Operation Christmas Child volunteers prepare gift boxes for children in countries such as Western Sahara, Algeria and Togo

Would you like to know us better? Books that tell our story



Don't Hold Back

Keith Bergmeier

Don't Hold Back tells the story of the development and growth of Betel in Asia, known in India as Asha Bhawan (House of Hope). The book is a compilation of incredible life stories about ex-drug addicts who found hope, a new future and healing from addiction.

Rescue Shop Within a Yard of Hell

Stewart & Marie Dinnen

With the rescue of a single addict in San Blas (Madrid), a movement is born. The book narrates the birth of Betel in 1985 and chronicles its rapid expansion into other countries. The title is inspired by a quote from C.T. Studd: "Some want to live within the sound of church or chapel bell; I want to run a rescue shop, within a yard of hell."

A Profile of a Peculiar People

Elliott Tepper

The ten distinctives of Betel. Betel has been forged by desperate people helping desperate people. Its leaders, born and trained in Betel, have dedicated their lives to the service of people suffering from addiction and social exclusion. Betel is a people with a great calling.

Other Titles

Sacking the Frontiers of Hell
Stewart y Marie Dinnen
The Cost of the Kingdom
Elliott Tepper
We Dance Because we Cannot Fly
Guy Chevreau



Narnia Book Store

+34 91 525 22 22

Also available on Amazon and other internet distributors

Yuriy and Gladys

Transformed Lives

Yuriy tells his story:

I'm 35 and I come from the Ukraine. When I was 17 my parents divorced. That caused me to rebel, to reject others and to be cold towards them. I began to drink, and smoke tobacco and cannabis. When I was 18 I came to Spain where I got involved with the Russian mafia which was doing hold-ups, break-ins, stealing cars and extortions. I reached a point where I wanted to start a family and leave the old life behind. I got involved with a girl and we had a son, but the relationship didn't work out. She wanted a life of luxury and I wasn't able to provide it, because I didn't want to go back to my old ways.

Finally, she kicked me out of our home.

Disillusioned, I went to a bar where I met a girl who offered me cocaine. I began to take drugs uncontrollably for four months. I wanted to kill myself. I had lost everything! However, God put a desire in my heart to change. I went to Valdemingomez (the illegal drug market) where I met volunteers who were helping addicts. They recommended Betel and I went there to get help. They took me to one of their rehabilitation centers where Oscar and Nines were the directors.

Since then God has worked in my life. Today I can say that without the Lord I am nothing. I met my wife, Gladys, when she came to volunteer in Betel. When I completed my rehabilitation we got married and now we serve as deacons in the Betel Madrid

church. We have a restoration business and today I can say that I have a family. God has restored my life completely and now I can help others.

God has restored my life completely and now I can help others

Gladys tells her story:

For 'love of my neighbor' I decided to enter the Betel Madrid women's house as a volunteer. It was a unique experience. I learned many positive things from the women, and I grew personally. It was a pleasure to serve God.

During this time of service, I met my husband. We have been happily married for two years and we owe everything to the Lord.

We have discovered the secret recipe: put God first in all things, be faithful and serve with love and humility.



How We Help

A Process of Restoration

Betel's method is founded on personal potential as an agent for changing one's self and others. It is a peer motivated process; desperate people helping desperate people, creating a synergy that makes the impossible possible, in short, the restoration of broken lives.

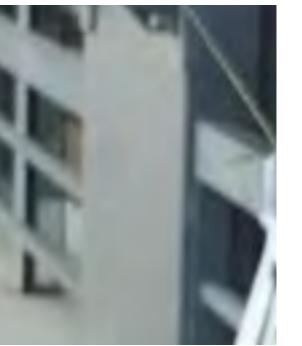
In each Betel home, the more advanced residents develop a relationship with the newcomers, helping them adapt to their day to day activities, guiding them in their process of restoration. This also helps the more experienced men and women as they take on increased responsibility and care for others.

- We provide shelter, clothing, food, and a healthy environment where high risk individuals who face social exclusion may live in our communities.
- Betel communities are drug, alcohol and tobacco free.
- Our communities provide an environment where individuals can practice self discipline, build constructive habits and develop character.
- Professional attention is available for medical, dental, social and judicial matters, provided by doctors, dentists, social workers and legal advisors.

Desperate people helping desperate people...makes the impossible possible, in short, the restoration of broken lives



How we help



Serving those in Need From the streets to the prisons

On the Street

Betel's street outreach team goes to urban areas where addicted and homeless people gather, distributing food and leaflets about Betel, including information about how and where to enter the program.

The street team offers immediate assistance to individuals who may have difficulty accessing public and private resources, showing them a way out of their situation. We offer hope in the midst of despair, an opportunity to get their lives back on track.

We offer hope in the
midst of despair and an
opportunity to get their
lives back on track



In Hospitals and Rest Homes

A team of volunteer chaplains from Betel visit patients in local hospitals on a regular basis, where they offer company and comfort to those in need and those who request assistance. The volunteers receive training and credentials from the Madrid Evangelical Council (CEM).

Betel also has a team of volunteers who regularly visit local rest homes. Their work consists of spending time with the elderly residents, comforting, encouraging and alleviating the loneliness of those who need it.

Madrid Chaplain team at the hospital *Doce de Octubre*



Ocaña, Toledo
Youth group from Betel with Pastor Eduardo Armesto (second from left) visit the Ocaña II Prison with theatre and music performances

A Kilo of Love

Betel helps to alleviate the needs of people with scarce resources, through the distribution of food. The food comes from the *Spanish Agrarian Guarantee Fund (FEKA)*. Food production surplus is acquired by the state for distribution to charitable entities, such as Betel, which in turn distributes the food to families most in need of support.

Betel has signed a collaboration agreement with the Food Bank (of Madrid). In 2019, Betel gave 27,436 Kg of food in Madrid to a total of 294 people. These individuals must comply with legal requirements, including a social assessment. Giving out the food parcels is done in a controlled manner, in order to ensure an equitable distribution. In addition, a representative of each family has an interview with our social worker who gives guidance and information about social resources and how to access them.

**In 2019, Betel Madrid
gave a total of 27.436
Kg of food to a total of
294 people**

In Prisons

Betel ministers in correctional facilities. Our team of volunteers holds weekly meetings, bringing hope and encouragement through activities such as music, personal testimonies, video forums and conferences. In 2019, as a result of these visits, several prisoners nearing the end of their sentences have been able to spend weekends at Betel when they haven't had family to go to.

The correctional facilities that Betel visits are:

- **Herrera de la Mancha in Ciudad Real**
- **Ocaña II in Toledo**
- **Cuenca**
- **Seville I and Seville II**
- **Botafuegos in Algeciras**
- **Ceuta**
- **Malaga, Alhaurín de la Torre**
- **Archidona, Malaga**
- **Madrid V, Soto del Real**

Madrid Betel team gives out food at the Madrid headquarters



Resident Services

Health, judicial and family assistance

Betel offers comprehensive attention to Betel residents, addressing health, labor, judicial and family issues from a professional perspective. As a center for attention to drug addicts, we work in collaboration with different agencies, both public and private, city councils, hospital and prison social workers, and other social services.

In order to meet the growing needs of other groups beyond our residential program, Betel has an Information and Guidance Service for people who need support.

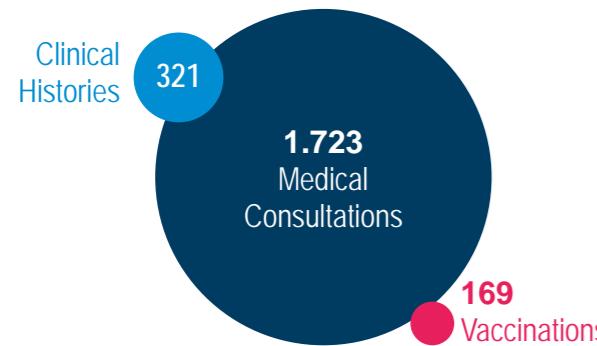
Health

Public health care focuses on two fundamental objectives: the promotion of health and the prevention of disease. Betel offers this care with specific objectives of disease prevention and early detection of various diseases.

To achieve these objectives, Betel has a public health team composed of doctors, nurses, psychologists, social workers and social educators. The team works from a motivational approach, to help the person in their process of personal change.

In 2019 in Betel of Spain has carried out 2,213 medical consultations (Madrid 752, Malaga 708, Barcelona 753).

Medical Attention



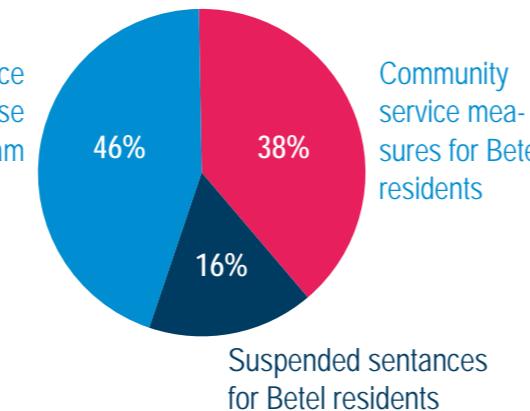
Betel offers a range of assistance to the resident including medical, social and judicial attention

Legal Assistance

A high percentage of Betel intakes have pending legal matters with the justice system. In response to this need, Betel offers legal and criminal counseling services. Some residents are even given the possibility of completing sentences within Betel or having their sentences suspended, for drug related offenses. These measures help in the process of rehabilitation and recovery. In 2019 Betel of Spain carried out 71 interventions on behalf of residents (see graph below).

Betel has also signed a collaboration agreement with the Ministry of the Interior so that people not in the Betel program can serve sentences doing Community Service in Betel, offering 18 service positions in Spain, helping a total of 61 people.

Legal Assistance



Dental Clinic

Affordable care

Our dental healthcare project has a social focus aimed towards the general population of Madrid but more specifically towards low income groups. The clinic offers dental services at affordable prices, and are leaders in the social sector of dental healthcare in Madrid.

Betel carries out these activities in our two dental clinics in Madrid and Torrejon de Ardoz. In 2019, Betel's dental clinic treated a total of 3,345 patients with a total of 10,520 consultations. In addition, 673 patients were sent to Betel by the Public Health Service of Madrid, Caritas and the Red Cross. Of these patients, 146 received economic assistance from public and private entities.

Betel also provided full or partial economic coverage for the dental healthcare of 66 residents in Betel's residential program.

The project is promoted through the website www.clinicabetel.org.

Betel provided full or partial economic coverage for the dental healthcare of 66 residents of the residential program

Consultations | 10.520

Madrid
Betel's Dental Clinic
in Carabanchel Alto



Madrid
Monitors Training Course graduation (2019) at the Betel headquarters



Training

Monitor Training

Each year since 1998 we have run a Basic Training Course for Monitors, where our monitors, people with various levels of responsibility in our homes, learn from our team of professionals (doctors, psychologists, social workers, etc.). The objective is to equip the monitors with skills to better look after others and themselves, and to better understand the Betel program from a bio-psychosocial and occupational perspective.

This approach provides practical tools to enable monitors to give more effective help to people admitted to our peer-driven program. The essence of the program is that people with common problems are empowered to help each other maintain abstinence as they progress in overcoming addiction. Student monitors are motivated to become agents of social transformation in their environment.

Betel Madrid held its XXI Monitors Basic Training Course in Fall of 2019. Twenty three students completed the course.

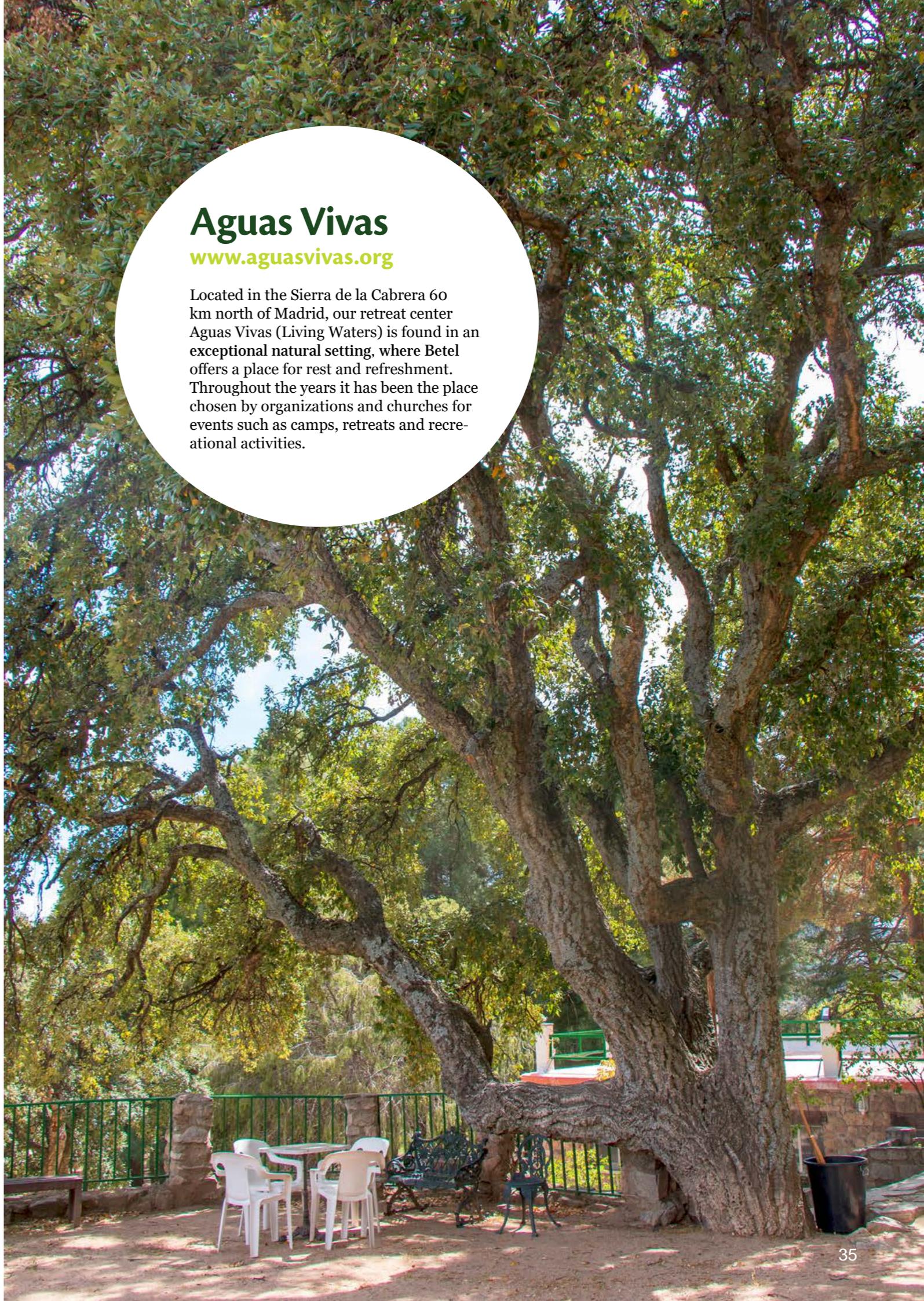
Other Training Activities

- **Judy Patterson, from the Betel Madrid administration team**, taught admissions procedures and registration, as part of the XXI Monitors Training Course 2019.
- **Damaris Pino Fernandez, Social Educator at Betel Malaga**, attended 60 hours of Basic Occupational Risk Prevention, taught by 'Desarrollos Savila S.L.', from October to November 2019.
- **Francisco Gomez, psychologist and coordinator of the Betel Madrid socio-health technical team**, attended the Annual workshop of FERMAD (The Madrid Platform of entities that assist addicted persons and their families).
- **Dr. Jose Enrique Sanchez, doctor of the Betel Madrid technical team**, taught Betel monitors "The Essentials of Food Handling", lasting 20 hours from January to February 2020.
- **Sandra Grimaldo, psychologist at Betel Barcelona**, attended a Diploma Course in Psychological Wellbeing taught by the 'Fundación Proyecto Esdras' (Ezra Foundation Project) from September 2018 to February 2019 (200 hours).

Aguas Vivas

www.aguasvivas.org

Located in the Sierra de la Cabrera 60 km north of Madrid, our retreat center Aguas Vivas (Living Waters) is found in an exceptional natural setting, where Betel offers a place for rest and refreshment. Throughout the years it has been the place chosen by organizations and churches for events such as camps, retreats and recreational activities.





Aerial view of Betania



Main entrance



Outdoor auditorium



Family units



Swimming pool



Betania

www.retirosbetania-betel.org

Betania is an ideal place to host conferences, retreats, and camps in a relaxed, picturesque, rustic environment. Located on the outskirts of Ciudad Real, the property offers housing for 28 families as well as 300 individual beds. It also has a camping ground for 1.500 people with bathrooms and showers, an outdoor auditorium for 3,000 people and an indoor auditorium for 300. There are swimming pools, recreational areas including a soccer field, basketball court, volleyball court and playground. The kitchen serves regional dishes and the dining hall seats 350 people.

FAQ

What is Betel?

Betel is a not-profit organization, whose purpose is receiving and caring for people with problems of addiction, social exclusion or homelessness. Our centers for men and women are free-of-charge, have no waiting lists, and are run by people that have experienced freedom from addiction themselves. Our end goal is to help people not only escape addiction, but become productive, trustworthy men and women of character when they leave our community.

How is it supported financially?

The program is completely free of charge for all users. It supports itself through funds generated by occupational activities undertaken by the program's users. These serve a therapeutic and pre-employment purpose. Betel also receives donations and subsidies from both public and private sources.

How to enter?

You can enter through the office closest to you, calling the number for admissions or visit our international website for contact details: www.betel.org



Sao Paolo, Brazil
(Left) Directors of Betel Portugal and Brazil at the property in Embu-Guaçu

Pretoria, South Africa (Below)
New chicken coop, built by residents during the Covid-19 lockdown

Get Involved

How you can help

■ Donate Furniture

To fund our charity, Betel receives donations of second-hand furniture, appliances, clothing and other household items. Call us to request a pickup.

■ Use Our Services

We do painting, masonry and contract cleaning of apartments and premises at affordable prices. Call us and ask for an estimate.

■ Contribute financially

Each donation helps Betel fulfill its mission to rehabilitate and restore broken lives. Donors enjoy important tax benefits. Donations may be made via our website or bank transfer: ES25 2038 1744 1560 0033 2059

Volunteer

Volunteers are key to Betel's success. Betel's expansion and vision is kept alive by them. Call us for more information or visit:

www.betelinterns.org



Sao Paolo, Brazil
(Left) Directors of Betel Portugal and Brazil at the property in Embu-Guaçu

Pretoria, South Africa (Below)
New chicken coop, built by residents during the Covid-19 lockdown

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Motherwell, Scotland
Betel men's community in the
'Old Mill Motherwell' property



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