

BUILDING COMMUNITIES

Community Development in Chile

Anglican Church-run initiatives, helping indigenous communities in the Andes mountains

In their own words

'It's been a joy to be part of a community that is working together, shoulder to shoulder, solving their problems with their own initiatives.'
Andrew Bowman,
USPG Mission Companion in Chile



Chile factfile

Capital: Santiago
Languages: Spanish (official), Mapudungun, German, English
Religion: Roman Catholic, Protestant, Jehovah's Witness, indigenous beliefs
Export: Grapes, apples, pears, onions, peaches, garlic, beans, beef, poultry, wool, fish, timber
Further reading:

USPG in Chile

USPG Mission Companion Andrew Bowman went to Concepción, Chile, in 1992 to help the Pehuenche build safe and comfortable housing in the Alto Biobío region.

About this Project...

▶ **Target: £13,340 / €17,790 | Project 308**

The Pehuenche communities of the Alto Biobío region of the Andes Mountains have been defending their ancestral land from corporate exploitation for many years. Life here is often difficult with extreme weather conditions and little access to healthcare and social welfare. USPG is supporting Gumercindo Quepil, a Pehuenche community leader in the Anglican Diocese of Chile and Felipe Saravia, a community worker and a colleague who is currently completing a degree in social studies. Gumercindo and Felipe are taking a shared leadership role

and through campaigns and community action they are reinforcing Pehuenche identity, helping them to work together for a better way of life. Gumercindo has worked with Pehuenche communities for a long time and has great church leadership skills and experience of building and logistics gained from a house-building project in the region. He has recently been involved in helping the church and community identify priorities for support and development. Felipe has also worked with the Pehuenche before and has a broad range of practical and pastoral skills.

▶ **Project supporters will receive three newsletters a year and other resources to help promote your Project.**

To fund this Project contact our Supporter Care team

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in England (234518) and in Ireland (CHY 7998)



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Your donations will help us to cover the full costs of the Project, including a direct grant to the partner church and the cost of monitoring the Project and sharing regular news. Any money received over the Project target will be allocated to where the need is greatest.