



Hotel Presidente Receives a Corporate Social Responsibility Award

Novel and successful projects in the area of climate change, environmental conservation, and social solidarity led the Costa Rican Chamber of Commerce to grant its Corporate Social Responsibility award to Hotel Presidente.

This award acknowledged the consistent effort to adopt CSR as a model for the Hotel's economic development in harmony with its surroundings and the environment, adopting specific projects allowing it to have a bearing on San José's development and environmental conservation. In addition to its direct contribution, Hotel Presidente stands out for involving other small and medium-sized firms in changing toward and adopting a new corporate culture.

Katherine Carter, spokesperson for this completely Costa Rican enterprise, pointed out that, "Hotel Presidente's 130 collaborators are very honored to receive this award for Corporate Social Responsibility, because this shows that CSR is not a topic exclusive to large companies, with the ability to invest significant economic resources. Today, everyone, whether an individual or firm, faces the challenge of visualizing and diagnosing the needs of their milieu, and in some way improving and supporting solutions for these needs, ceasing to wait with their arms folded for someone else to solve them".

Exemplary Projects

In environmental conservation, Hotel Presidente's commitment is reflected in the conceptualization and development of the "Q-dra" project, which has already brought together 35 firms in San José and is mobilizing community block-leaders throughout San José to improve internal and external solid waste management and contribute to the city's cleanliness and embellishment. Furthermore, the Presidente was the first of the capital's hotels to be certified as carbon neutral, a pioneering action falling within the national strategy for climate change.

At the social level, several years ago Hotel Presidente created an alliance with Paniamor, to strengthen this NGO's activities against commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents. This has given rise to the Program for Supportive Tourism, in which another seven tourism firms participate following the Presidente's example.

The hotel company is also carrying out actions in support of the *Asociación por la Sonrisa de los Niños* (ASONI, Association for Children's Smiles), a volunteer organization caring for boys and girls at social risk from the communities of Cristo Rey and Sagrada Familia, giving them the opportunity to experience holistic development, through psychological, educational and religious support. At the same time, the process distances them from social problems such as drug addiction, prostitution and delinquency, which in turn aids in reducing school dropouts in high-risk zones of the capital.

With more than 40 years of experience, and characterized by offering a high level of service and hospitality to travelers of all nationalities during their stay in-country, Hotel Presidente has earned 4 stars from the Costa Rican National Tourism Board, as well as receiving a Sustainable Tourism Certificate from this Board, represented by 3 leaves, showing its efforts in this field.



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