

Amigos de San Cristóbal Community Foundation

Anual Report 2020



Fundación Comunitaria
amigos 16 años
de San Cristóbal A.C.

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Our organization has been in existence for 15 years now, thanks to the generosity of a group of Mexicans and immigrants who wanted to help ensure that people living in the most vulnerable situations in the region had better opportunities, and this continues to be what drives us today.

The year 2020 has engulfed us all in a great storm that has struck the entire world, and whose aftermath will most likely last for several more years. Amigos de San Cristóbal has a big job to do, and boldly steps into its place in the Highland of Chiapas as a community foundation.

This means much more than a title - it is a calling to philanthropy that infiltrates and permeates society, and feeds on it to contribute to improving the conditions for everyone.

We thank those who preceded us in this work, and we also remember those who we cannot thank in person anymore. They established the values and principles of this organization.

In the near future, we see ourselves being much more present in our region, making it more possible for the community to lead their own social projects working in the

areas of health, education and the environment directly with groups of people living in the most vulnerable conditions, and affecting society as a whole.

Although the reasons for helping others are not yet tangible for some, the crises that this year could leave in the world can only be solved by being involved in solutions and being aware of the needs of others, especially those with less privilege. This is what community philanthropy is all about, and we invite you to continue being part of this great project.



Jose Luis Mijangos
Chairman of the Board

ABOUT US

We are dedicated to channeling resources so that other organizations can execute their projects. We promote philanthropy as a tool to raise awareness and a tool to create awareness and train agents of change that positively impact the lives of girls, boys and families living in extreme vulnerability in the city of San Cristóbal de Las Casas and in the Highlands of Chiapas.

This year, the community foundation Amigos de San Cristóbal funded new projects and grew in many ways. On the one hand, our staff was strengthened and consolidated with the incorporation of six new people, so that there are now 11 of us altogether, and we also started our Community Philanthropy Program. Articulate synergies between donors, volunteers and the project participants themselves through the management and channeling of human and financial resources to civil organizations that have a potential impact in the state of Chiapas, in order to contribute to the improvement of quality of life and the promotion of the autonomy of the population in vulnerable situations.

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MISSION & VISION

Articulate synergies between donors, volunteers and the project participants themselves through the management and channeling of human and financial resources to civil organizations that have a potential impact in the state of Chiapas, in order to contribute to the improvement of quality of life and the promotion of the autonomy of the population in vulnerable situations.

To be a reference community foundation in Mexico and abroad that contributes to improving health conditions, education and comprehensive community development in Chiapas.

ACTIONS & ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2020, Amigos de San Cristóbal supported the following eight grantee civil society organizations that work the advocacy areas of education, the environment and health: Ángeles de Amor (Angels of Love), Capacitación Asesoría Medio Ambiente y Defensa del derecho de Salud - Mujeres y Maíz (CAMADDS: Environmental Advice and Defense of the Right to Health – Women and Maize), Jóvenes Articulando Territorios (JOVENARTE: Youth Articulating Territories), Hogar Comunitario Yach'il Antzetic (New Women Community Home), Mujeres Transformando Mundos (MUTRAM: Women Transforming Worlds), Solidaridad y Lucha por un Mundo Diferente (SOLMUNDI: Solidarity and Struggle for a Different World), Tierra Roja Cuxtitali (Red Earth Cuxtitali), and Unidad y Esfuerzo Compartido para el Desarrollo Sustentable (UNECODES: Unity and Shared Effort for Sustainable Development).







Luis and Ángel are two brothers of Tseltal origin, who migrated to the city two years ago. They are 9 and 10 years old. They have two older brothers and two younger sisters. They arrived at Tierra Roja a few weeks before the pandemic started. When the school closed, they were in a complex and very delicate integration process. Both of them work from early in the morning into the afternoon – in houses doing cleaning or in mechanics' or plumbers' workshops, where they receive very low wages and little food. That's how, they say, they support their mother.

“They have had little experience in formal school, since Ángel had problems with his classmates and the teacher, and they were both expelled. When we closed Tierra Roja in March, and during the following months until October, it was very difficult for us to communicate with them by phone. We have been constantly concerned about their health, and about their well-being in general.

“When we reopened the school, we did not know if they were going to return, since often economic and work needs are things that interrupt childhood educational processes. Today, their return and their active and joyful participation motivates us so much, and gives us a strong sign of their interest in being part of the little school, of the support of their family in recognizing this space as a necessary one for them, and to continue together on this path of collective construction.”

TIERRA ROJA CUXTITALI



“Thanks to the training, we know how to sow, kill pests, and ensure a good crop. We already planted in the cornfields, but not all the types of vegetables that we now have. This project benefits us so much, and even more so our children, who have more food, vitamins and strength.” (María Rodríguez)

JOVENARTE



“Toñito is 15 years old and unfortunately, he is losing his hearing. He goes to high school, and at the time of his admission as a participant at our center, he commented on his interest in continuing his studies but that it was difficult for him to understand his teachers. As time went by, his ability to hear has deteriorated. We began to teach him Mexican sign language, to learn to read lips, and he underwent personal growth through sessions with the institution’s psychologist, reading and writing lessons, and school counseling to explain and help him with his questions so he could do his homework. Toñito is now sure of himself, and his grades have improved. Toñito helps his mother and his family economically, through a part-time job in an electronics technical center. He continues to want to go to school in the afternoons, and in the morning, he attends our institution two or three times a week.”

ÁNGELES DE AMOR



“Thanks Amigos, for the seeds and vaccines that you give us. Our chickens have been very useful to us, and if they die, it is because an animal killed them, but no longer because of disease. The seeds are also very useful to us since we have planted in our yard and we can have vegetables at all times. In the micro tunnel, we can plant many things, but sometimes there is no water”. (Carmela Gómez Sántiz, La Libertad, municipality of Huixtán)



“I am here at the Community Home as my wife’s companion. Here I learned how babies are born, how they grow and how they develop in the womb, until they are born. There are workshops that give us support and help us to be better parents and couples. I have learned a lot. It has changed my life.”

HOGAR COMUNITARIO YACH’IL ANTZETIC



“I would like us to be an example for others in this community, to see that with effort and dedication we can eat and take care of Mother Earth at the same time. It is not only about producing food, it is also necessary to see that we are not destroying nature. Let’s hope that, instead of looking down on us, they will come to learn together with us – the idea is to support us to be well.”

CAMADDS - MUJERES Y MAÍZ



Autora Est.

Este dibujo originalmente venía dentro de una papiroflexia de un ave que decía: "El mundo de esta ave está en su interior"

For a long time, we have not had real food. Tell them thank you very much." (Incarcerated woman, when we brought her a basket from the nearby healthy food market through the project "Amigos for San Cris - Solidarity Baskets for Our Community," organized by Amigos de San Cristóbal and distributed by MUTRAM.)

MUTRAM



I have learned how important it is to work as a team because of the new things that each of us contributes as participants. With all the knowledge that SOLMUNDI has given us, I want to apply the biofertilizers I learned about in my own field.”

SOLMUNDI

COVID-19 FUND

One of the main objectives of our foundation is to promote a sense of shared community responsibility to find solutions to local social issues. As in other emergency situations, Amigos de San Cristóbal signed partnership agreements with different non-profit organizations in order to support and help the community in these trying times we are experiencing due to the global Covid-19 pandemic.

We are pleased to present the six local initiatives that we promoted to combat the current health crisis:



Partnership agreement with Cántaro Azul Foundation, 10 hand washing stations were implemented in educational centers in San Cristóbal de Las Casas and surrounding municipalities. We seek to promote better healthy habits in the youth of Los Altos de Chiapas and thus reduce the contagion of Covid-19.



Partnership agreement with the Mexican Red Cross, medical supplies were purchased to attend to the Covid-19 health emergency in Chiapas. We were pleased to join forces with the Mexican Red Cross IAP San Cristóbal Delegation and support health needs in the region.



Partnership agreement with the Community Garden organized by Plan Bioma, located in the Tlaxcala neighborhood in San Cristóbal de Las Casas, where recycling activities are carried out and they also have a nursery where bartering is done to obtain plants. The donation made by Amigos de San Cristóbal was used for three main activities related to the improvement of infrastructure and the reactivation of agroecological-educational activities.

Partnership agreement with the Cov-19 Women's Network, with this initiative 2,500 face masks were made and distributed at strategic points in the city. The masks were made by women who were left without work due to the pandemic, so the initiative also promoted local economic re-activation. Each mask contained instructions in Spanish, Tsotsil or Tseltal on the correct use of masks in order to make more people aware. The design of the mask-use guide was carried out in collaboration with the Covid-19 San Cristóbal Network.



Partnership agreement with the Covid-19 San Cristóbal Network, supported by renting a virtual switchboard that has a support line, to guide the people of San Cristóbal de Las Casas in the symptoms, transmission and appropriate actions to prevent Covid-19, and at the same time provided support to carry out an advertising campaign online and through the distribution of printed materials on the streets, putting up informative posters in public spaces and other establishments with a large influx of people, in order to disseminate information and make people in San Cristóbal aware of the correct use of masks and hygienic measures to prevent Covid-19.



Preparation and delivery of 41 baskets filled with organic produce, grains, seeds and protective hygiene equipment to the neediest families in San Cristóbal de Las Casas and the surrounding municipalities in the face of Covid-19. With this initiative, “Friends for San Cris – Solidarity Baskets for Our Community,” we supported people in precarious economic situations, as well as local agro-ecological producers.



Installation of a hand washing station at March 31 Primary School, thanks to the collaboration between the community foundation Amigos de San Cristóbal A.C. and Fundación Cántaro Azul, A.C



Delivery of 2,500 face masks to the Merposur and Mercaltos markets, in the city of San Cristóbal de Las Casas. This was possible thanks to the collaboration between the Fundación Comunitaria Amigos de San Cristóbal A.C. and the Cov-19 Women's Network.







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REGRESO SEGURO

Retomar de forma segura nuestras actividades es una responsabilidad compartida. Para disminuir el riesgo de contagio, considera:

Al hacer compras:

- Usa cubrebocas y manten tu distancia
- Ve a lugares abiertos o ventilados, e ínterin personas poco concurridos
- Organiza tu compra para evitar el tiempo de espera

En el trabajo:

- Mantén los espacios ventilados
- Usa cubrebocas y manten la distancia
- No permanecer mucho tiempo en reuniones con muchos personas

En el transporte público

- Usa correctamente el cubrebocas en todo momento
- Abre las ventanas
- Trata de ocupar lo menos posible

En actividades recreativas

- Incluye actividades al aire libre
- Organiza los eventos con pocas personas

**Cuidándote, cuidas a tu familia
y a tu comunidad**





Infographics made in collaboration with the Covid-19 San Cristóbal Network in order to distribute information and sensitize the San Cristobal population to the correct use of facial masks.

Over the course of this year, we launched our Community Philanthropy Program, the first of its kind in our region, and the first program run by the foundation.



Its objective is to promote philanthropy as a tool to create awareness and train change agents that positively impact the lives of families living in extreme vulnerability in the Highlands of Chiapas, both in rural and urban spaces.

To that end, we're fostering a strategy to form giving circles - groups of people who are motivated by their shared values to build a network, which pools their diverse philanthropic resources: their time, talent, treasure and testimony. Among them, these resources and their scope are multiplied, and given back to the foundation's grantee projects, in order to invest strategically in community-led development in the Highlands of Chiapas.

In total, we are starting six giving circles:

- Four are made up of people who live in San Cristóbal de Las Casas – one with Mexicans (Local giving circle), another with people from around the world (Neighbors for Integral Change giving circle), as well as Tsel'tal people (Sekj'ubal Kuxlejal giving circle) and Tsotsil people (Tsotsil giving circle).
- The fifth one is made up of people from different states around Mexico (National giving circle).
- Lastly, there's the giving circle made up of people who live abroad outside of Mexico (International giving circle).

In addition, three research papers were carried out on the issue areas of education, the environment and health in San Cristóbal de Las Casas and the Highlands of Chiapas, for both the community at large and donors to have a better understanding of these topics. Moreover, another research paper investigated the trends, best practices and philanthropic barriers in the Chiapas community to understand the potential of local philanthropy as a vehicle for community change. We will soon release the findings of these research papers.



CROWDFUNDING



GlobalGiving is a crowdfunding platform that gives non-profit organizations anywhere in the world the opportunity to raise money to improve their communities. That is why this year we participated in their Accelerator program, with the project “Improve quality of health and education in Mexico.” The main goal was to raise more than \$5,000 from 40 different donors.

The main goal was to raise more than \$5,000 USD from 40 different donors.

Thanks to the contributions we received, in March 2020 we achieved our goal and now belong to one of the largest communities of philanthropy



The health crisis caused by Covid-19 caused many families to have lost or significantly reduced their sources of income, making it difficult for them to meet basic food needs. With everyone's help, we were able to provide 280 solidarity baskets with healthy food and sanitary supplies to many families.

Through the HIPGive crowdfunding platform, we reached the goal of raising \$1,500 USD. Without everyone's contribution, it would not have been possible. We witnessed the enormous solidarity that exists and that has no limits.

HIPGIVE



280

SOLIDARITY BASKETS

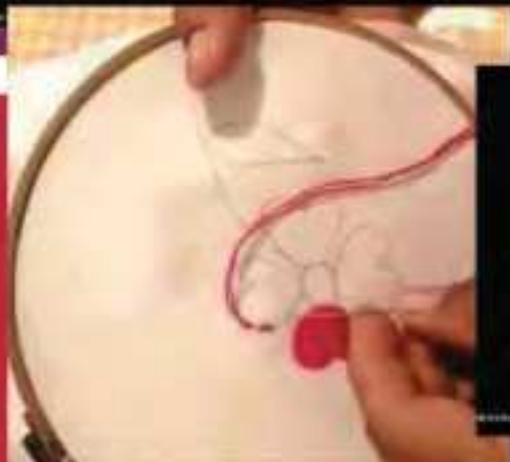
EVENTS

This year we had to work under difficult circumstances. The lockdown due to the pandemic did not allow us, as on other occasions, to have in-person fundraising events. That is why two virtual events were held, through which we sought the participation of many people and different sectors, and through whose sponsorship and donation of time and talent made these two events possible.

The virtual Kilometers for a Cause 5K/10K Race was the first event we held from 23 – 25 October, 2020. We invited people to run at home or in an open space, while always respecting social distancing policies, and to promote physical activity. Many people from around the country participated and sent us their times and photos.

**Thanks to all, we were
able to raised \$2,741.39
Mexican pesos**





The Virtual Workshop Fair – Learning and Sharing for a Cause, was held over two Saturdays, November 28 and December 5, 2020.

This year, Amigos de San Cristóbal joined the largest global movement for generosity #GivingTuesday, which is the day when everyone around the world comes together to make a contribution to a cause, movement, project, or foundation. We were inspired by this concept to organize our Virtual Workshop Fair – Learning and Sharing for a Cause, during which, over 2 days, 14 people donated their time and talent to help raise funds for our eight grantee organizations that we support this year.

The workshop fair was the effort of many people and thanks to the generosity of all those we managed to collect:

\$6051.00 mx

This year we were able to cement our affiliation to the Mexican Center for Philanthropy (CEMEFI) and the Alliance of Community Foundations in Mexico (COMUNALIA), which has provided us with opportunities to create partnerships, strengthen our institutions, access potential financing and support for our region's people, as well as the chance to make our work more visible.

In October 2019, Amigos de San Cristóbal renewed its membership with CEMEFI, the Mexican Center for Philanthropy, a civil association that has 1,584 member institutions and individuals (of which 1,350 are foundations and organizations, 142 companies, 50 people, 12 government entities, and 30 specialized consultants). It is considered an important and reliable source of information regarding the civil society sector and social responsibility in Mexico.

Due to the contingency, many families have lost their income and urgently needed support. Through Cemefi and FondoDespensasMx, we channeled monetary contributions to 40 families from Chiapas so that they could buy food in stores established for two months.

For more information visit <https://despensamx.cemefi.org/>

Equally important was the integration of Amigos de San Cristóbal into the International Cooperation Network (REDECIM), which is made up of non-governmental organizations, belonging to Civil Society, independent, non partisan and non-profit, whose mission is to contribute to the transformation of Mexican society through the creation of a space for inter-institutional exchange and dialogue, that takes into account all the actors and agents linked to the international cooperation process



ALLIES



W.K.
KELLOGG
FOUNDATION



Fondación Daniele
Agostino Derossi



REDECIM
RED DE COOPERACIÓN INTERNACIONAL PERUANA

HIPGIVE



Comunalia



GlobalGiving



Maya
Educational
Foundation

SPONSORS



Cacao Nativa.



DENTAL PLUS
Calidad Total

FRIENDLY BUSINESSES



TRANSPARENCY



GASTOS ADMINISTRATIVOS (Alquiler oficina, servicios públicos, útiles e insumos de oficina, comisiones bancarias, paquete de Folios Digitales para facturación electrónica)	\$90,126.59
GASTOS DE COMUNICACIÓN (Medios audiovisuales, diseño, producción de videos, publicidad en medios digitales y convencionales, impresión, materiales promocionales para campañas, plataforma Zoom)	\$32,246.46
EQUIPO DE INFORMÁTICA/ MUEBLES DE OFICINA	\$104,642.01
RECURSOS HUMANOS - SALARIOS (Directora operativa, coordinadora de Administración, auxiliar de Administración, coordinadora de Comunicación, auxiliar de Comunicación, coordinadora de Procuración de Fondos, coordinadora de Programa de Filantropía Comunitaria de comunidades de expatriados y coordinadora de Programa de Filantropía Comunitaria de comunidades tsotsiles y tseltales)	\$1,426,269.23
RECURSOS HUMANOS - SERVICIOS CONTRATADOS (Coordinadora de Programa de Filantropía Comunitaria de comunidades nacionales y locales, contador, personal de limpieza, analista de datos, fotógrafa, investigadora del diagnóstico de Educación, investigadora del diagnóstico de Medio Ambiente, investigadora del diagnóstico de Salud, investigadora del diagnóstico de Narrativa Filantrópica, corrector de estilo de publicación, traductores de inglés, tsotsil y tseltal de publicación y folletos, diseñador de publicación y folletos, ilustradores, técnico en sistema de gestión de bases de datos (CRM), técnico en sistemas informáticos y computacionales)	\$585,467.44
MATERIALES Y SUMINISTROS (Productos de limpieza, alimentos, botiquín, gastos de mantenimiento, recambios, reparaciones, envío por paquetería nacionales e internacionales, gastos misceláneos, papelería, tóner/tinta, materiales didácticos)	\$40,676.69

GASTOS DE OPERACIÓN (PARA EVENTOS, REUNIONES, ALIANZAS ESTRATÉGICAS) (Membresías para formar parte de fundaciones comunitarias, alimentos para reuniones y renta de espacio para eventos)	\$37,200.00
CAPACITACIONES DEL EQUIPO (Cursos, talleres, diplomados para miembros del equipo operativo)	\$17,698.73
VIAJES (Transporte, alimentación, hospedaje)	\$5,072.48
ONG Y PROYECTOS COLABORADORES (Tierra Roja Cuxtitali, Unecodes, Hogar Comunitario Yach'il Antzetic, Mutram, Solmundi, Ángeles de Amor, Camadds, Colibres, Jovenarte y Reconstrucción de monumentos históricos)	\$1,853,792.5
FONDO COVID-19	\$422,718.23
CAMPAÑA DE CANASTAS SOLIDARIAS	\$69,196.92
CAMPAÑA (junto con Cruz Roja) DE APOYO A DAMNIFICADOS POR INUNDACIONES	\$8,177.32



Are you a friend of Amigos de San Cristóbal?

You can acquire your membership to continue supporting local organizations through

Paypal <http://t.ly/qupi> or

By transfer to:

BBVA Mexico

Account 0151830546 or

with BBVA Mexico Interbank Clabe

012130001518305468

Request your deductible tax receipt by mail.(only Mexico) administracion@amigosdesc.org



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