

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2021



"2020 was challenging for all of us, the pandemic shook our lives and many inequalities were notably exposed. Our life dynamic was completely transformed. Physically we were distanced, but socially we were closer than ever. At Amigos de San Cristóbal A.C we feel hopeful to continue with our dream of having a positive impact on the lives of children, youth and families from rural and urban scenes in San Cristóbal de Las Casas and the Chiapas Highlands. We celebrate sixteen years in which we have raised **\$20,550,194** pesos, strengthened **142 projects**, supported **42 organizations** and

reached **92,204 people.**"

CORINNE PIERRE-LOUIS
Chief Operating Officer

Operations Office



JESSICA SÁNCHEZ PIENE
Head of Communications

MARTHA GALERA MORALES
Head of the Active
Communities Fund



Special greetings

We want to thank Jiména González Cardenas for her collaboration with Amigos de San Cristóbal A.C. Thank you for pouring your heart into every project and area of the foundation that you participated in! We acknowledge all of your contributions and wish this new path is filled with many lessons and great people. Farewell!

"Gratitude is the heart's memory." Lao Tse

The Operations Team

The Amigos de San Cristóbal A.C. operations team continues to grow. In May, Jessica Sánchez Piene joined as Head of Communications. In June, Martha Galera Morales, completed the team as Head of the Active Communities Fund. Welcome to our new members!



Participation in the Social Investment webinar organized by Comunalia

On May 25th, as part of the Social Investment webinar organized by Comunalia (Alliance for the Community Foundations of Mexico), Sara Lomelin, executive director of Philanthropy Together presented the concept of giving circles, and Corinne Pierre-Louis, COO of Amigos de San Cristóbal, shared the foundation's experience of embracing this type of social investment in our community.



General Assembly of Associates

On May 27th, Amigos de San Cristóbal A.C. celebrated its General Assembly of Associates where it presented and approved the 2020 Financial statements, 2020 Revenues and Expenditures and the 2021 Budget, among other topics.

Management



Accounting

On February, COVID-19 took the life of our accountant Jesús Rosendo Pérez Hernández. He worked at our foundation for eight years and our accounting and management area grew through his teachings. Losing our collaborator and friend meant a complicated time for our foundation. We are grateful for having the fortune of knowing him, and will continue to affectionately remember and honor his memory. Now we have accountant Edgar Ramón Rodríguez Morales, who joins our foundation with professionalism and patience to continue this area's work. We are thankful for this new addition to the team!



Elaborating Reports

We have worked on delivering financial reports to our agencies, such as the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF) and the Inter American Foundation (IAF).



Transparency

in the past few months we prepared a transparency report of our donation recipients, were we announce the projects we are involved with:

- Mexican Association for Rural and Urban Transformation (Asociación Mexicana de Transformación Rural y Urbana A.C.)
- Training, Consultancy, Environment and Right to Healthcare (Capacitación, Asesoría, Medio Ambiente y Defensa del Derecho a la Salud A.C.)
- Cooperation and Organization for rural development (Cooperación y organización para el desarrollo rural A.C.)
- Yach'il Antzetic Community Home (Hogar Comunitario Yach'il Antzetic A.C.)
- Women Transforming Worlds (Mujeres Transformando Mundos A.C.)
- Solidarity and Fight for a Different World (Solidaridad y Lucha por un Mundo Diferente)
- Unity and Shared Effort for Sustainable Development (Unidad y Esfuerzo Compartido para el Desarrollo Sustentable A.C.)
- Tierra Roja Cuxtitalli Community Center (Tierra Roja Cuxtitalli Centro Comunitario A.C.)

Adding to our commitment to improving our management processes, we have started an accounting catalog as a tailor-made management tool for our foundation.

Community Philanthropy



Community Philanthropy Program

Since 2020, Amigos de San Cristóbal A.C. (ASC) has been implementing its Community Philanthropy Program, whose objective is to promote community philanthropy as a tool to build awareness and agents of change to positively impact in the lives of children and families who are affected by social injustice in the Chiapas Highlands, both in rural and urban spaces.

To achieve this objective, we're advancing different strategies over the program's

three years. One such strategy is the creation of six Giving Circles, which unite forces among people to work against inequalities and injustices here in the Chiapas Highlands, and to actively change the systems that produce and maintain these issues.



Amigos de San Cristóbal A.C.'s Giving Circles

A Giving Circle (GC) is a group of people who are motivated by their shared values to come together and build a network that pools time, talent, treasure, and testimony. Among them, they multiply these resources and their impact by giving them to Amigos de San Cristóbal A.C. As a community foundation, ASC strategically invests these resources in the Chiapas Highlands community through its local grantees.

We're working to build six Giving Circles. Four are here in the Chiapas Highlands: one is made up of people from around the world who live in San Cristóbal de Las Casas (Neighbors for Integral Change), one is with Tseltal people (Sekj'ubal Kuxlejal), one is made up of Tsotsil people, and one is with local people from the San Cristóbal area. The fifth GC is at the national level made up of people from states all around Mexico (Compas de la Montaña), and the last one is

at the international level, with people who live in different parts of the world with strong connections to the Chiapas Highlands (Roots for Change).

[Read more here](#)

Active Communities Fund



The Alliance of Community Foundations (Comunalia), to which Amigos de San Cristóbal A.C belongs, developed a fund to improve the capacity of community foundations to support grassroots initiatives in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, emphasizing the community

development component and the role of the community in decision making project execution.

In order to achieve this fund, Amigos de San Cristóbal joins in efforts with allies such as The Alliance of Community Foundations (Comunalia), Inter American Foundation (IAF), and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

On Friday June 18th, 2021, we signed the Active Communities Fund's collaboration agreement with the organizations we will be working with in this second phase. For being a part of this project, we would like to congratulate:

- Concentrarte A.C, with their project "Fertile soil: Women Sowers of Miguel Hidalgo for food sovereignty." (Tierra fértil: Mujeres Sembradoras de Miguel Hidalgo por la soberanía alimentaria)
- IXIM A.C, with their project "Healthy Tzeltal Home." (Hogar Tseltal Saludable)
- SIPRES A.C, with their project "Community Response for Water Conservation." (Respuesta Comunitaria para la Conservación del Agua)

Fundraising



The Friend Companies Program (Programa Empresas Amigas) begins

The Friend Companies Program is an effort by our foundation to create and strengthen a network of social investment companies in San Cristóbal de Las Casas and the Chiapas Highlands, that wish to contribute to our communities, as well as to provide various benefits and added value to their company. We held three informative sessions to present our program, on June 15th at Villas Casa Morada Hotel, on June 16th at Bo Hotel with Impulso Group (Grupo Impulsar), and lastly on June 22nd via Zoom.

We are happy to inform you that eight companies are already part of the program:

- Hotel Bo
- Century 21 Real,
- Hotel Bo,
- De Los Altos Ferreteria y Materiales
- Quinto Sol Joyería, Casa & Boutique
- Cacao Nativa
- La Garrapata Veterinarias

- Abarrotes y Dulces El Tigre
- Grupo Pro Sur



We are part of The Global Fund for Community Foundations (GFCF) (El Fondo Global para las Fundaciones Comunitarias)

The Global Fund for Community Foundations (GFCF) is an organization focused on the growth of community philanthropy on a global scale, as a cornerstone of people led development. Their support and funding will strengthen our foundation and our Community Foundation Program throughout the year.



Networks and alliances

We renewed our commitment to networks and alliances that allow for the expansion of our ever-growing foundation CEMEFI, REDECIM y Comunalia. It is our pleasure to continue to work with people so committed to our values.

July BONUS DAY

Wednesday, July 14, 2021

Starting at 9:00 a.m. ET
CDMX Time 8:00 am

\$100 - \$499

*donations will be
matched*

15%



\$500 - \$749

*donations will be
matched*

30%



\$750 - \$1,000

*donations will be
matched*

50%



amigos



GlobalGiving

On July 17th, 2021, you may choose to join Amigos de San Cristóbal's projects. Global Giving will give away a total of 400K USD in individual donations of 100 USD. Remember that, with your support, we can make a difference.

Expect more news on how to participate and support us to increase our impact!