

# CENTRAL MEXICO YOUTH FUND

WINTER 2022

Website: [centralmexicoyouthfund.org](http://centralmexicoyouthfund.org)

## Your Gifts Make a Difference!

Your donations to the Central Mexico Youth Fund allow us to support our network of vetted partners, three of which are highlighted in this newsletter. They work every day to provide educational opportunities and ongoing assistance for the young people and families in their care.

There are several ways to donate:

- Go to [centralmexicoyouthfund.org](http://centralmexicoyouthfund.org) and click "donate" to use PayPal or your credit card. If you wish to direct your donation to a specific partner, a drop-down menu allows you to indicate your choice.
- Send funds using Zelle from your online checking directly to our account at [centralmexicoyouthfund@gmail.com](mailto:centralmexicoyouthfund@gmail.com).
- Mail a check to Central Mexico Youth Fund, 3062 Summit Sky Blvd, Eugene, OR 97405.
- If you wish to make a contribution from a retirement account as part of a required minimum distribution or make a gift of appreciated stock, please contact us for details.



We are recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, so a donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. GuideStar has awarded us a silver seal of approval in acknowledgement of our transparency.

## Wedding Bells for El Puente Alumni!

Our partner El Puente de Esperanza has had many successes over the years in helping its beneficiaries achieve their academic goals and launching successful careers. Now it can add matchmaker to its list of accomplishments! In mid-October, two former El Puente students who first met 15 years ago during their residence at that organization were married in Querétaro.

Moni and Martín are shown in the photo with El Puente's Board President Betsy Charlot. Moni attended the Autonomous University of Querétaro and then went on to study dentistry. She is currently practicing as a dentist in that city. Martín attended university at the Querétaro campus of the Tec de Monterrey, one of Mexico's most prestigious schools, where he studied engineering. He now works for the Querétaro branch of a German multinational automotive company where he designs electronic systems for vehicles.



*Felicidades* to the newlyweds! Their success is a result of both their own efforts and the help offered through the years by El Puente. The continued generosity of our donors will make it possible for this organization to create more happy endings for young women and men in Mexico.

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## Learning Math and Science

Niños y Niñas offers a preschool program, assistance with homework and a nutritious meal to more than 80 children and adolescents who come from indigenous families that have moved to Querétaro from their home communities throughout Mexico.

These kids often lack the prerequisites for the educational programs at local schools and need extra instruction to keep up with their classmates. We are funding the salary of a math and science teacher at this organization to support this effort.



The instructor uses age-appropriate pedagogical techniques to promote the development of problem-solving skills and encourages the use of dialogue and reflection to find solutions. Just as important, she recognizes the social challenges the kids face and fosters an environment where they can express their concerns about their experiences at school.

We appreciate the generosity of our donors that give us the resources to provide this kind of assistance to our partners in Mexico.

## Preserving Traditions

Yo'on Ixim ("heart of corn" in the Mayan Tsostil language) is located in Puebla and serves the families and children of internal migrants who have moved to that city from their home villages of Chiapas in southern Mexico. They have relocated from some of the poorest places in the country that lack basic services to find better opportunities in a large city. The organization offers programs that focus on education, health, employment and affordable housing.

Weaving and embroidery are traditional skills for indigenous peoples. A recent workshop sponsored by Yo'on Ixim and partially funded with your donations allowed women to enhance their talents and improve the quality of their textiles. The revenue derived from the sale of these products are an important supplement to family income.



In the words of one artisan, "the fabrics and embroidery that characterize the indigenous textiles of Chiapas represent a rich, complex and beautiful language that has allowed our peoples to preserve a significant part of their knowledge. The skilled hands of the weavers not only reproduce beautiful design, but they also speak and sing through symbols full of meaning."

Thanks for making it possible for us to support this valuable activity.