

# CENTRAL MEXICO YOUTH FUND NEWSLETTER

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

Helping young Mexicans get a quality education and lead productive lives

## 2020: A Good Year to Give

We've all been through a lot this year with concerns over health, social justice and political uncertainties filling the daily headlines. For those of us who can share their resources with others, it is a reminder that we can act to make life better for those in need. Your gifts to the Central Mexico Youth Fund allow us to support our network of vetted partners, three of which are highlighted in this newsletter.



There are various ways to make a donation:

- Visit our website [centralmexicoyouthfund.org](http://centralmexicoyouthfund.org) and click "donate" to use PayPal or your credit card.
- Send funds with a checking account using Zelle to [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, contact us for details.

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

Central Mexico Youth Fund

## They are Counting on You

Our partner 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.

To help these kids learn the basics of math, CMYF is supporting an innovative project that employs Cuisenaire rods, which are learning aids for students that provide an interactive, hands-on way to understand mathematical concepts. We are providing funds for the materials as well as an instructor trained in their use. The kids begin with understanding the colors and values of the rods which then become a reference point for assigning each rod a variable letter value related to its size. These ideas help the children develop basic mathematical thinking skills.

We are able to help our partners offer educational opportunities like this thanks to your generous support!



# Good Health in a Familiar Language

WINTER 2020



Our newest partner, Yo'on Ixim ("heart of corn" in the Tsotsil Maya language), is located in Puebla and provides educational and training programs to 26 families who moved to that city from villages in southern Mexico. The adults and children lived in isolated communities and often have little fluency in Spanish and struggle to earn a living or succeed in public schools.

Due to the COVID-19 emergency, many of them have returned temporarily to their rural communities to isolate themselves from the spread of the virus and have no access to reliable information about the virus in their native language. Yo'on Ixim has developed a virtual health information campaign about COVID -19 in Tsotsil that provides accurate information about the disease and promotes strategies for preventing its spread and caring for the sick.

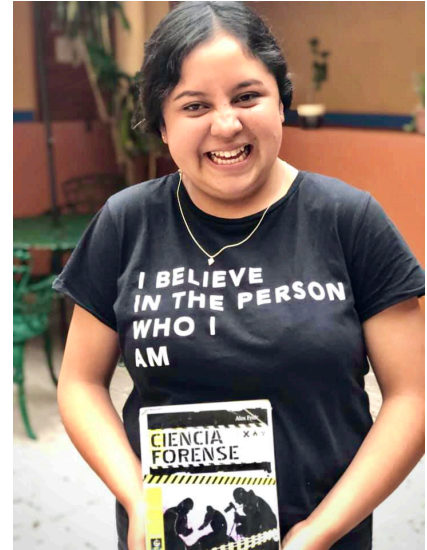
The principal support for this effort was provided by the U.S. Agency for International Development. We supplemented their funding with a contribution to pay the costs of primary school and adult education program developers as well as video production costs.



Central Mexico Youth Fund

## In Her Own Words

*Rosaura is a beneficiary of our partner El Puente de Esperanza. She is studying forensic science at the University of Querétaro. The following is an excerpt of a letter she recently sent to Central Mexico Youth Fund.*



It was about three years ago that my life completely changed. I arrived at El Puente afraid, but at the same time with a desire to improve myself. Today I am at the point of beginning my last semester as a university student. There are lots of feelings and thoughts because the next six months will set the tone for a new beginning, now as a professional.

A little more than three years ago (before I entered El Puente) I thought that I didn't deserve to study, that maybe what I ought to do is to return home (or that I should never have left). I felt unable to continue. Even though the classes fascinated me, there was something that I could not afford.....the money.

I tried hard to go forward but there were times when in truth I couldn't go on. On one Wednesday I called the Director of El Puente and she made an appointment. Later she confirmed that I could come to the house that very Saturday of that week. Whew, I felt so happy (and had recovered my hopes)! It is since then that, despite the adversities, my objectives have become tangible.

I've learned a lot of things. I have a job that allows me to grow as a professional. Last semester was rather difficult but I managed to cover the costs of my class materials and I don't owe anything. My grade average for that semester climbed a bit more.

Now I find myself preparing and thinking about plans for my future, the truth is that I still have a sense of unease, but also feel very happy. That's because I know that nothing has been in vain, that I have another family here with the kids of El Puente, that I've learned to love them whatever the circumstances. For example, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been helping each other, listening to each other and trying to lead as normal a life as possible.

I'm very grateful for your support of myself and my friends. Please know that what you contribute is truly a blessing.