



ANNUAL **REPORT** 2023

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2023 marked an important milestone for Corazón Raíz. During this year, we formally began implementing our projects in Mexico while continuing to strengthen our ongoing initiatives in Uganda through three core areas of work: Educational Infrastructure, Training and Empowerment, and Institutional Sustainability.

Since our founding, we have embraced the mission of expanding educational opportunities in rural and Indigenous communities facing persistent educational barriers. Our collaborative approach has allowed us to build meaningful partnerships with municipal, community, and education leaders, ensuring that our work responds to local priorities and that communities actively participate in shaping solutions.

We are deeply grateful to our donors and corporate partners for their trust, as well as to everyone who has contributed their time, resources, and support to strengthen our reach and impact.

The first year of any organization brings significant challenges, but it also creates opportunities for learning and growth. We are proud of the progress we have made and the experience we have gained, strengthening our ability to address future challenges and develop new initiatives.

I believe that only through collective effort and empathy can we strengthen education—the foundation for building a more equitable and prosperous future where everyone, regardless of age or location, has the opportunity to pursue their aspirations.

Thank you for helping us create change from the roots!



FERNANDA DE LA CERDA

Executive Director

MISSION

To promote educational projects in indigenous and rural communities worldwide through collaboration strategies and programs that provide equitable, quality education to children, youth, and adults, aiming to support the comprehensive development of the community and reduce inequalities.

VISION

To be an organization that provides equitable educational solutions to children, youth, and adults living in vulnerable indigenous and rural communities, recognized for the quality of its services and the excellence of our human capital.

ROOTS

-  Solidarity
-  Justice
-  Trust
-  Respect
-  Empathy
-  Integrity
-  Transparency



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Nonprofit organizations play a fundamental role in creating actions that contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). At Corazón Raíz, we develop projects that prioritize actions contributing to the implementation of the SDGs in Mexico and Uganda, while considering the specific contexts of the communities and villages where we work.



As an organization, SDG 4—Quality Education—is at the center of our programs and projects. Because our initiatives serve children, youth, and adults, they also directly contribute to SDGs 1, 5, 8, and 10.

PROJECTS: MEXICO

At Corazón Raíz, we believe that quality education should be accessible to everyone. For this reason, we focus our efforts on the Sierra de Zongolica, a mountainous region in Veracruz, Mexico, where most of the population belongs to Indigenous Nahua communities that face significant social and economic barriers.

Through our work alongside communities, we identified three primary priorities:

- Educational infrastructure
- Teacher training
- Educational opportunities for adults



Located in the highlands of Veracruz within the Sierra Madre Oriental mountain range, the Sierra de Zongolica includes several municipalities where, on average, approximately 40% of the population lives in extreme poverty (Consejo Nacional de Evaluación de la Política de Desarrollo Social [CONEVAL], 2024).



EDUCATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

EDUCATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR NAHUA COMMUNITIES IN ZONGOLICA, VERACRUZ

IMPACT: Construction began on one of 4 schools included in this project, which focuses on building or rehabilitating educational spaces equipped with modular furniture, learning materials, and teacher training opportunities.

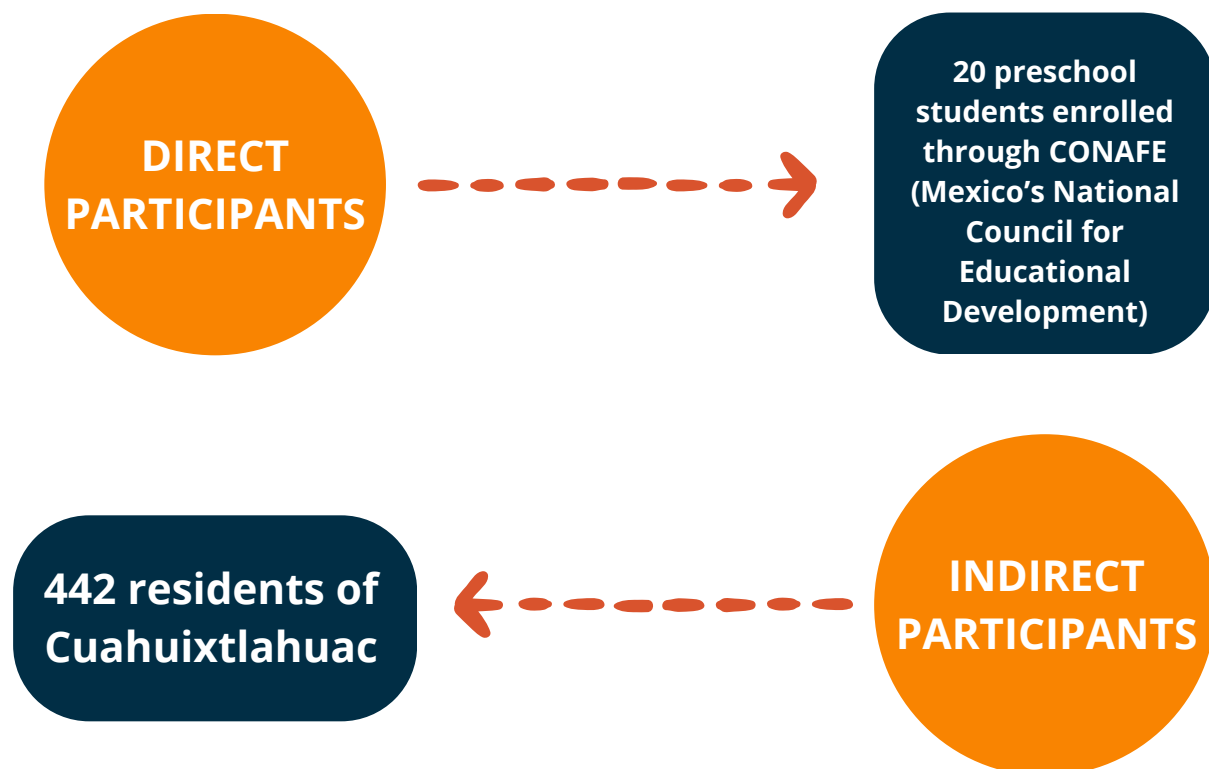
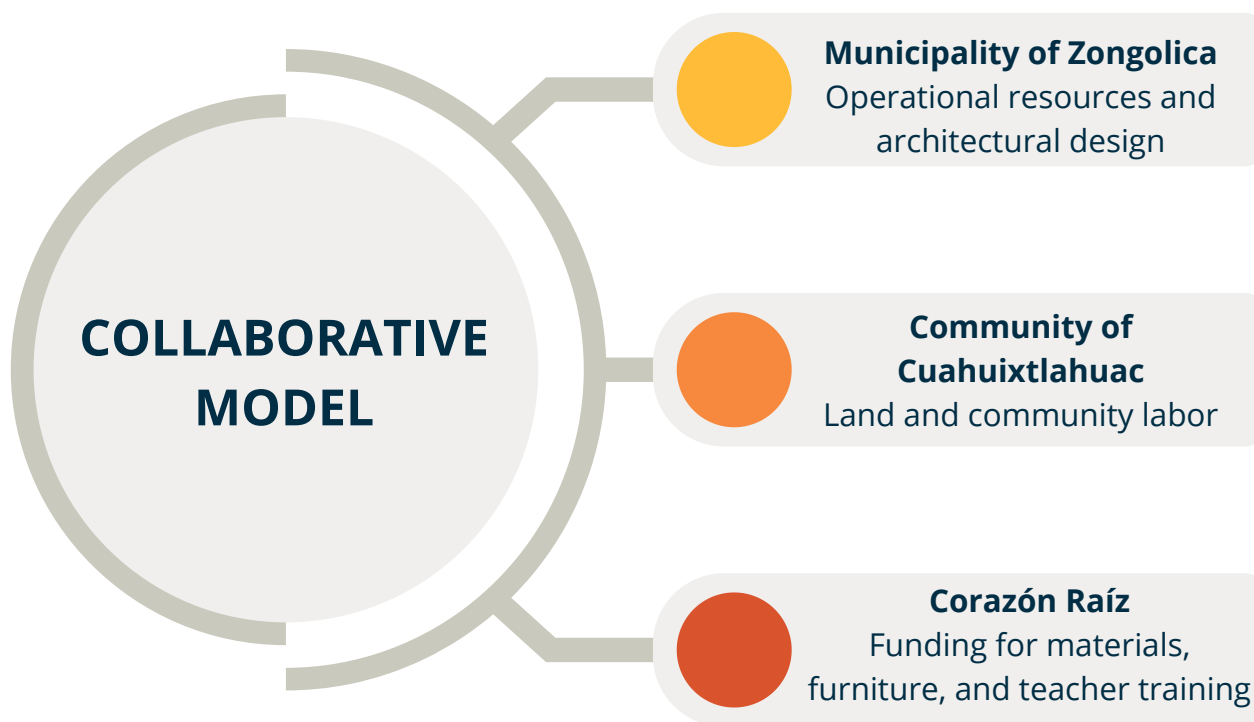
COMUNITIES REACHED: Cuahuixtlahuac, Citlalapa, Tlacuilotecatl el Grande, and Azcuahutlamanca.

ACTIVITIES COMPLETED:

- Conducted diagnostic visits and participatory design processes with the communities involved.
- Developed an architectural project in collaboration with the Zongolica municipal public works team for the preschool in Cuahuixtlahuac.
- Identified suppliers of environmentally friendly bricks.
- Signed a collaboration agreement with municipal and community leaders in Cuahuixtlahuac.
- Began construction of a classroom with sanitary facilities.
- Completed construction and held the inauguration ceremony on **March 23, 2024.**



EDUCATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE



EDUCATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

UNIVERSIDAD IBEROAMERICANA – MEXICO CITY VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

IMPACT: The project rehabilitated and improved the facilities of the Casa de la Mujer Indígena y Afrodescendiente de Zongolica (CAMIA), repairing damage caused by flooding in the municipal center following the overflow of a river.

PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Casa de la Mujer Indígena y Afrodescendiente ICHIKAHUALISTLI SIHUAME LA FORTALEZA DE LAS MUJERES A.C.

The organization provides support to women affected by violence and offers psychological and legal accompaniment.



ACTIVITIES COMPLETED:

- Established collaboration with Tequio Ibero students for the development and coordination of volunteer activities.
- Repaired and painted the ground floor of CAMIA.
- Created 2 murals to improve the reception area and back patio.
- Project completion date: **December 11, 2023.**

**DIRECT
PARTICIPANTS**

**11 women who are
members of CAMIA**

**INDIRECT
PARTICIPANTS**

**456 women supported
by CAMIA**



PROJECTS: **UGANDA**

As part of our mission, we believe it is important to collaborate with communities in other countries that face significant educational barriers. Uganda is among the countries with the highest levels of poverty worldwide, and we believe that community extends beyond borders and that education is a pathway toward reducing inequality at every level.

We currently work alongside two local organizations:

- Gayela Children Foundation, located in the village of Bujagali in Jinja.
- Deslibe Charity Organization, located in the village of Kimanto in Luuka.



In Uganda, approximately 44% of the total population is under the age of 15, (United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, 2024) contributing to high rates of school dropout and exposure to challenges during childhood. Among the main barriers faced by children are malnutrition, abuse, and educational disadvantage.





DESLIBE CHARITY ORGANIZATION

IMPACT: Through our Institutional Sustainability and Educational Infrastructure Programs, we have contributed to the development and continued operation of Deslibe Charity Organization, a community school that provides free education to 170 children from preschool through Primary 3 in the village of Kimanto, Luuka District, Uganda.

ACTIVITIES COMPLETED:

- Provided funding for the construction of the organization's first permanent classroom built with brick and concrete (started in 2023 and pending completion).
- Provided funding for the construction of a temporary classroom for Primary 3 students and benches for new students during the 2024 school year.
- Provided guidance and support in preparing operational documentation, including school, financial, and legal records.
- Funded teacher salaries during the 2022, 2023, and 2024 academic years.
- Supported two USAID EGRA and EGMA assessments to measure students' learning levels (July and December).
- Connected and coordinated two volunteer groups to support construction and improvements to educational spaces (July and December).



DIRECT PARTICIPANTS

**170
preschool
and Primary
3 students**



GAYELA CHILDREN FOUNDATION

IMPACT: Through our Institutional Sustainability and Training and Empowerment Programs, we have contributed to the continued development and operation of Gayela Children Foundation, which provides housing, food, healthcare, and education to more than 25 children in the village of Bujagali, Uganda.

ACTIVITIES COMPLETED:

- Provided guidance to improve the organization's website and social media presence.
- Provided guidance and support in preparing operational documentation, including records, financial documents, and legal materials.
- Supported the operation of the Sponsorship Program.
- Supported the operation of volunteer platforms.
- Connected and coordinated two volunteer groups during July and December.
- Supported EGRA and EGMA assessments conducted by USAID to measure children's learning levels.



DIRECT PARTICIPANTS

25 girls and boys,
along with 7
members of the
Gayela Children
Foundation team

FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY



FUNDACION CORAZON RAIZ A.C.

Estado de Resultados Integral al 31 de Diciembre de 2023

	AGOSTO
Ingresos	
+ VENTAS	\$46,042
- DEVOLUCIONES Y REBAJAS SOBRE VENTAS	\$0
= TOTAL INGRESOS	\$46,042
Egresos	
<i>Gasto de Ventas</i>	
- GASTOS DE VENTAS	\$3,387
= Total Gasto de Ventas	\$3,387
UTILIDAD BRUTA	\$42,655
<i>GASTOS DE OPERACION</i>	
- GASTOS DE OPERACION	\$295,499
- OTROS GASTOS	\$99
= Total Gastos	\$295,598
<i>Gastos Financieros</i>	
- GASTOS FINANCIEROS	\$0
= Total productos financieros	\$0
- ISR	\$0
- PTU	\$0
= Gastos antes de Impuestos	\$0
= Utilidad (o Pérdida)	(\$252,943)

Estado Financiero elaborado con la información proporcionada por FUNDACION CORAZON RAIZ A.C.

FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY



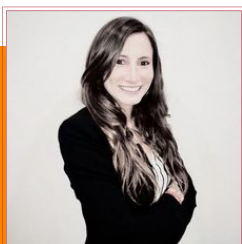
FUNDACION CORAZON RAIZ A.C.
Estado de Posición Financiera - Balance General al 31 de Diciembre de 2023

ACTIVO		PASIVO	
ACTIVO		PASIVO	
ACTIVO CIRCULANTE		PASIVO CIRCULANTE	
BANCOS	218,720	IMPUESTOS POR PAGAR	\$56
IMPUESTOS A FAVOR	22,644	ACREEDORES DIVERSOS	\$300,000
Total activo circulante	\$241,363	Total pasivo circulante	\$300,056
ACTIVO FIJO		PASIVO A LARGO PLAZO	
ACTIVO FIJO	\$0	PASIVOS A LARGO PLAZO	\$0
DEPRECIACION	\$0	Total pasivo a largo plazo	\$0
Total activo fijo	\$0	Total pasivo	\$300,056
ACTIVOS DIFERIDO		CAPITAL	
GASTOS Y CARGOS DIFERIDOS	\$0	CAPITAL SOCIAL	\$17,000
Total diferido	\$0	APORTACION PARA FUTURO AUMENTO DE CAP.	177,250
		RESULTADO DE EJERCICIOS ANTERIORES	\$0
		UTILIDAD O PERDIDA DEL EJERCICIO	(252,943)
		SUMA DEL CAPITAL	(\$58,693)
SUMA DEL ACTIVO	\$241,363	SUMA DEL PASIVO Y CAPITAL	\$241,363

Estado Financiero elaborado con la información proporcionada por FUNDACION CORAZON RAIZ A.C.

OUR TEAM

Our team is made up of multidisciplinary Mexican professionals who develop valuable initiatives that contribute to sustainable community development.



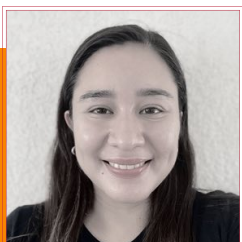
María Fernanda de la Cerda
Executive Director



Ana Cristina de la Cerda
Associate



Abigail Canseco
Fundraising Coordinator



Nathalia Hernandez
Project Coordinator



Joaquín Esquivel
Legal Representative



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www.corazonraiz.org



contacto@corazonraiz.org



[fcorazonraiz](https://www.instagram.com/fcorazonraiz)



Fundación Corazón Raíz



Fundación Corazón Raíz