



# NEWSLETTER

## of Amigos de San Cristóbal, A.C.

This newsletter covers the period from April to June and, with this new issue, we provide you with information on the most relevant activities that have been carried out in our foundation, as well as the latest news, especially related to the strengthening of groups and organizations program, as well as the Community Philanthropy Program.

We are always looking to add more people who seek to be agents of change in our society, and to contribute new and supportive ideas for the common good.

Of course, you are invited to collaborate.

*Guinevere Penelope*

Operational director of Amigos de San Cristóbal

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# SUSTAINABILITY

## SORIANA 2023 CUSTOMER CONTRIBUTION CAMPAIGN

During these months we continue to promote on social media our campaign in collaboration with the **Soriana Foundation** and the **Soriana Híper San Cristóbal** store, in force from March 1st to June 30th, where people can donate their cents or \$5 pesos extra when making their purchase.

We continue to train and **encourage store managers**, because they are our first link in the awareness chain; they are our best allies so that people, when they go to the cash register, donate their cents and can contribute something to support the projects with which we collaborate.

For this reason, on May 20th, we awarded prizes to the cashiers who made it possible for more customers to contribute to our campaign. Those who collected the most won first, second and third place prizes.

This action was carried out to encourage these Soriana workers, and to let them know that they can also contribute in an important way by inviting, increasing the impact, and making customers aware of the relevance of contributing to the work that Amigos de San Cristóbal does to **accompany and strengthen civil society organizations** that implement a wide variety of development projects in the field, favoring, above all, **women, girls and children in the Highlands of Chiapas**.

Here is the amount collected in these three months:

**April: \$6,081.70 pesos**

**May: \$6,305.59 pesos**

**June: \$6,832.98 pesos**

And the **total amount** raised in the whole campaign amounts to: **\$26,738.53 pesos**.



## AMIGO COMPANIES PROGRAM

In early June we interviewed Kim Fuensanta, from Kim Cocina Panasiática, and she talked to us about the benefits of participating in product campaigns with a cause, as an Amigo company, with us; how it is a win-win situation, and how we can all do our bit by doing daily acts of philanthropy -each and every one of us from our own trench- to contribute to the construction of a more caring society, where we support each other.

We are very grateful to Kim and her team for the donation of \$1,000 pesos for projects. In addition to Kim Cocina Panasiática, the other two companies that joined the program in the second quarter of the year were: Grupo Prosur, and Mapa Turístico San Cristóbal en tus Manos.



## OTHER COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS ALLIANCES



As part of our collaborative work with other community foundations in the country, our director, **Corinne**, participated, as part of the board, in the Ordinary **General Assembly of Comunalia**, the alliance of Mexican community foundations, where the 2022 activities report of this entity was presented.

Agustín Landa concluded his term as president and at the same meeting voted for the integration of a new board of directors formed by Carlos García, as president; Erika Seyffert, as treasurer; Alberto Cárdenas, as secretary; and Corinne Pierre-Louis, Erik Friend, Alejandra Rivera, David Pérez Rulfo and Luis Ruiz, as members.



# AMIGO ORGANIZATIONS AND COLLECTIVES

## SIGNING OF AGREEMENTS WITH COLLECTIVES

On April 27th, we signed collaboration agreements with collectives as part of our strengthening program, made possible this year with funding from the IAF (Inter-American Foundation). We were also joined on that day by members of the indigenous peoples' giving circle and participants in the Amigo Companies program.

The collectives with which we will collaborate this year, with a vision of core development, are six:

Centro Cultural y Agroecológico Semillero; Centro Cultural y Agroecológico Patrulla Roja; Huerto Kassil Vochonil; Comunidad escolar 31 de Marzo, Gimnasio Autónomo Popular "Barrio Bravo" and teKio, tejedora de redes.



## INDUCTION

On May 4th, we held the induction of the strengthening project for **Amigo organizations and collectives** that collaborate with Amigos de San Cristóbal, we were able to socialize all the activities related to this new program and identify the strengthening needs of each project.

That day we were very grateful to the participants for their interest and commitment.



## CROWDFUNDING WORKSHOP

On June 6th, Katya Becerra, Fundraising Coordinator of our foundation, gave the workshop "The ABC of Crowdfunding for Amigos de San Cristóbal", with the intention of strengthening capacities among the staff working in civil society organizations, with the participation of 14 people in person and 12 through Zoom; most of them belonging to the organizations and collectives with which we usually work, other people interested in the subject, and 4 members of the giving circles.



## FOLLOW-UP VISITS TO ORGANIZATIONS SANANDO HERIDAS, A.C.

In May we visited the facilities of one of the organizations with which we collaborated this year, **Sanando Heridas, A.C.**, for a monitoring and accompaniment visit. They explained to us their work and the diagnosis carried out in some schools in the Highlands of Chiapas in relation to the theme of their project: **"Girls and adolescents empowered in the exercise of the right to their reproductive and sexual health"**, where they explained how girls, in the schools of some communities of Chenalhó, Chalchihuitán and Teopisca, are discriminated against, or miss school, for not having enough information on the subject of menstruation. We had the opportunity to get to know the field work on June 12th, when we arrived at the community of Bachén, municipality of Chenalhó.

Girls in fourth, fifth and sixth grade participated in a workshop on menstruation. The boys, for their part, also worked on the subject. The workshop was given in Tsotsil and we were able to see, in the field, the professionalism and closeness with which this organization works with this specific segment of the population. They shared with us the progress they had made in the children's population with this type of workshop, as well as the collaborative relationship that exists with teachers who, in a certain way, have facilitated the introduction of sexual and reproductive health issues with girls and boys in these community contexts.





## GIMNASIO AUTÓNOMO POPULAR “BARRIO BRAVO” (GAP)

On Thursday, May 11th, staff from Amigos de San Cristóbal's operational team, members of the original people's giving circles and collaborators from the Amigo companies program visited the project of the **Gimnasio Autónomo Popular "Barrio Bravo"**, one of the groups that participate in our project to strengthen local core collectives. They explained to us the community work they develop in Cuxtitali, and how they have been collaborating for some time with the neighborhood authorities and families, to position themselves as a space that seeks an **approach to sport**, but from an intergenerational vision, free of dominant forms, inclusive, open to all, without promoting competitiveness, and with a vision that educates in equality between girls and boys.

The inauguration of the new gymnasium was held that same week, with the collaboration of families, neighbors, neighbors of the neighborhood and allied organizations.



## CONIDER, A.C.

On Friday, May 19th, the **Communications area** and the **Projects and Strengthening area** visited the town of San Juan Cancuc where an activity was carried out with one of the women's groups that accompanies the organization Conider, A.C. (Cooperación y Organización Integral para el Desarrollo Rural, A.C.).

Women and children came from the surrounding communities to participate in a **deworming campaign**. The training on health, nutrition and prevention of gastrointestinal diseases took place in Tseltal, and we were able to see how the women show a relationship of trust with the nurses of the organization, since Conider is one of the few groups that offer talks in their mother tongue and some medicines in the area, something very necessary when hospitals and primary health care centers are overcrowded or in remote and inaccessible areas.



## UNECODES, A.C.

At the end of June, several members of the Amigos de San Cristóbal operational team visited the project that the organization **UNECODES A.C.** has in Bochilté, in the municipality of Huixtán. There was an exchange of experiences between the participants of the two communities. **Terry**, a participant of the **giving circle La Semilla**, was also present during the visit. In addition, a workshop on canning took place that day, with a teacher who came from La Albarrada-SEIGEN; we saw the advances in the work with vegetables in greenhouses, as well as the benefits of the biodigester that they have in that community.

One of the participants talked to us about the importance of exchanging different knowledge, activities, experiences in the garden and ways of doing things among themselves. In addition to taking the recipe with the elaborations, the workshop participants shared, until the end, the marmalade and pickled chili peppers they learned to make that day.



## YACH'IL ANTZETIC COMMUNITY HOME, A.C.

At the end of June we accompanied **Hogar Comunitario** in an activity, as part of the follow-up visits to projects. On this occasion they gave a workshop in **La Albarrada-SEIGEN** on "**Identification and prevention of violence**", aimed at staff of this institution, in order to improve working relationships between colleagues, identify behaviors that may hinder the work, and learn to create, among all staff, spaces free of violence.

This is one of the organizations that has been working with us for the most years; we are pleased to see that it continues to raise **awareness of gender** issues, which is so necessary in different areas of society.





# COMMUNITY PHILANTHROPY PROGRAM

## GIVING CIRCLE MEETINGS

We would also like to share with you that on June 23rd, **Veronica Luna** started working as the new coordinator of the **Community Philanthropy Program**.

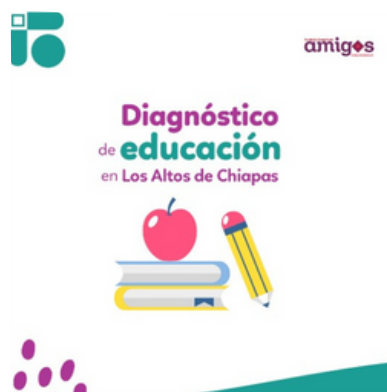
At the end of June, the **giving circle La Semilla** -integrated by Brígida, Paula, Terri, Natalia, Stacy, Ginette and Mariana-, held several meetings where its participants were very motivated to continue working on community philanthropy issues and encouraged to make donations that have to do with their 4 Ts (time, talent, testimony and treasure), thus actively participating, as **agents of change**, in obtaining and channeling resources for Amigo organizations that work with populations in vulnerable situations in the Highlands of Chiapas. In subsequent meetings, new participants joined.

In addition, on the 30th of that same month, the **giving circle Sejk'ubal Kuxlejal**, made up of people from indigenous communities, sent a message through social media, to make an open invitation to the general public to join this type of collaborative initiatives among donors. This attracted more people willing to collaborate as agents of change and who have already started planning different fundraising events.



## CONTENTS

During these three months, we have continued to share content on our social media on the **topics of education, health, environment and community philanthropy**, as well as specific questions about issues that affect us as a community foundation.





# FUNDERS

## ARTICLE PUBLISHED BY GLOBAL FUND FOR COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS (GFCF)

In May, Global Fund for Community Foundations (GFCF), a funder supporting the work of our foundation, published an article about Amigos de San Cristóbal's work with organizations and donors in the Highlands of Chiapas, and how we understand the concept of community philanthropy. In this link you can read it in its entirety:

**“Cómo cambia nuestra relación dentro y con la comunidad”**

La fundación Amigos de San Cristóbal redefine su papel en Los Altos de Chiapas.



## DO YOU ALREADY HAVE YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN AMIGOS DE SAN CRISTÓBAL?

**Join the Partner Friends Program!  
Become a Friend Partner or Family Friend**

With your donation you contribute to financing education, environment and health projects that improve the living conditions of children, women and families in San Cristóbal de Las Casas and the Highlands of Chiapas. With your contribution, Amigos de San Cristóbal A.C. can continue with the work it is doing in our region.

### Partner Friend

Be a person committed to the Chiapas Highlands. Join us in accompanying the work we do in the region and contribute once or monthly with your donation:

A contribution each month of:

\$50 \$100 \$200

One time contribution:

\$300 \$400 \$500



### Family Friend

Join your whole family and perform a collective act of generosity. According to their possibilities, they can donate with the amount that all of them can contribute:

One contribution each month of:

\$100 \$200 \$300

One time contribution:

\$800 \$900 \$1,000

**DONATE HERE: <https://amigosdesc.org/dona-ahora/>**

# 2022-2023 FRIENDLY COMPANIES

Be part of Friendly Companies and contribute to the transformation of the highlands of Chiapas. Learn more about the program here: <https://amigosdesc.org/empresas-amigas/>

Together we make the difference!



Cafeología.



CASA Lily



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