



Newsletter

20 *Años*

CONSTRUYENDO
COMUNIDAD



Amigos de
San Cristóbal

Fundación Comunitaria

JUNE 2025





Dear friends.

It's time to share with you the activities carried out over the past three months.

At Amigos de San Cristóbal, **we continue to accompany community-led processes in the Highlands of Chiapas.** Our colleague Paty, from the Strengthening and Projects team, is currently in the field conducting mid-year monitoring visits. These visits allow us to witness the progress of each project, strengthen relationships, and learn alongside those leading these efforts from within their communities.

This is also a time to look back and recognize all that we have built together. As part of our **20th Anniversary**, we are gathering photographs and testimonies that reflect the path we've walked since our founding. We look forward to sharing this journey with you in our upcoming celebration — a tribute to the **collaboration and solidarity** that have sustained us over these two decades.

Thank you for being part of this story!

With gratitude and commitment,

Board of Directors and Operating Team
Amigos de San Cristóbal, A.C.

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Funder visit



VISIT FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DANIELE AGOSTINO DEROSI FOUNDATION

In April, we had the pleasure of welcoming **Armando Alfonzo** from the Agostino Derossi Foundation, a long-standing funding partner with whom we've built a fruitful relationship over the years. Together, we visited the work of several organizations supported this year, who had the chance to showcase a bit of their efforts.

❖ **Formación y capacitación, A.C. (FOCA)**

Through a presentation, the team shared the work they do with apprentice midwives, a project aimed at preserving the tradition of midwifery among younger generations in local communities by combining ancestral and modern techniques. They also discussed their political advocacy efforts, which aim to promote legislative changes in support of their cause.

❖ **Hogar Comunitario, Yach'il Antzetic, A.C.**

They explained their work on violence prevention and unwanted pregnancy in schools with adolescents, as well as the methodology used in their workshops with women. Some of the women on the team also shared how their journey with the organization — first as participants and later as trainers or coordinators in various areas — has transformed their lives.



❖ Melel Xojobal, A.C.

Armando participated in a lively workshop session at the Merposur market, in the southern part of the city, where girls and boys learned how to conduct and record interviews at various vendor stalls. Friends and family members served as guinea pigs, answering surveys carried out by these young working children.



❖ Tierra Roja Cuxtitali, A.C.

On another day, we visited this space dedicated to children and youth, and witnessed the beautiful work being carried out. The team shared the project's progress across its various areas: education, emotional support, and work in the greenhouse. Meanwhile, the children enjoyed making piñatas to celebrate Children's Day later that week. The day ended with a special treat: after the activities, everyone shared some delicious pizzas, generously provided by Madonna Mía, one of our partner companies.



❖ Jóvenes Articulado Territorios, A.C. (JOVENARTE)

The following day, Amy and Norma from the Maya Educational Foundation (MEF), a funding agency based in the U.S., joined the visits. Visiting this organization was a valuable opportunity to witness firsthand the progress in the garden and the impact that the educational workshops are having on young people from a COBACH school in Huixtán.



❖ Agua y Vida: mujeres, derechos y ambiente

We had the opportunity to speak with the entire team. During the visit, they explained the awareness-raising process they are carrying out with women in San Cristóbal, focused on water care and community water management. They also shared the progress of their campaign, which aims to highlight the challenges related to water access and showcase the actions that women themselves are leading to address this issue.



❖ Semillero 259 y Patrulla Roja

Continuing with visits to allied organizations, we shared a moment of dialogue and fellowship with these two groups. The children involved with these collectives took part in a fun activity to celebrate—in advance— Children’s Day.



Without a doubt, stories like these are what give meaning to our work. The support from these funders means so much to us, and this visit filled us with motivation to continue pursuing our mission.

Thank you for being part of this journey!

Your commitment and generosity are essential to making our mission possible.

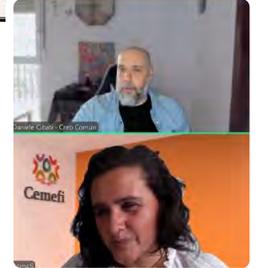
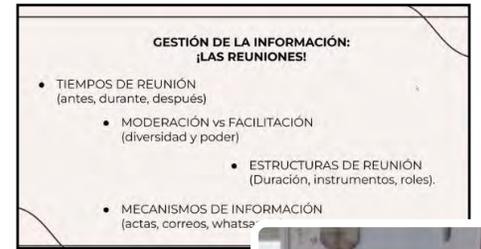


Foundation activities



❖ How to transform conflicts into opportunities for growth?

The workshop **"Conflicts in Social Organizations: From Discomfort to Evolution"** led by Daniele Cibati, took place within the framework of the institutional strengthening program of the Mexican Center for Philanthropy (Cemefi). The activity offered us valuable insights on how to approach conflicts constructively within collective work. We are grateful for these learning spaces, which motivate us to continue strengthening our work as an organization and to improve the support we provide in the community processes we accompany.



❖ Colaboración entre organizaciones

In May, we attended a wonderful collaborative event between organizations: at the kiosk in the Santo Domingo artisan market, the Advocacy and Policy area of Melel Xojobal A.C., in partnership with Médicos del Mundo Switzerland in Mexico, Sanando Heridas A.C., and allied private doctors, came together to hold a Health Fair. The fair provided care for both mothers and fathers working at the market as well as the general public.

General medical care and therapeutic health services were offered, a workshop on healthy eating was conducted for children, and an information table was set up to guide families on the process of registering the births of girls and boys. A true example of community philanthropy in action among organizations.



❁ Visita de estudiantes de la Universidad de Indiana

Students from Indiana University's **International Relations** program visited us to learn more about the reality of Chiapas, the social sector, and the work we carry out at Amigos de San Cristóbal as a community foundation.

We also visited Hogar Comunitario Yach'il Antzetic, A.C., where the team shared with us the nature of their training sessions with women, as well as the challenges and opportunities they face. We are always pleased to receive visits, as they offer a valuable opportunity to raise awareness about our work beyond our borders, and these young visitors can become ambassadors for our cause.



❖ 2025 ordinary general assembly of Comunalia

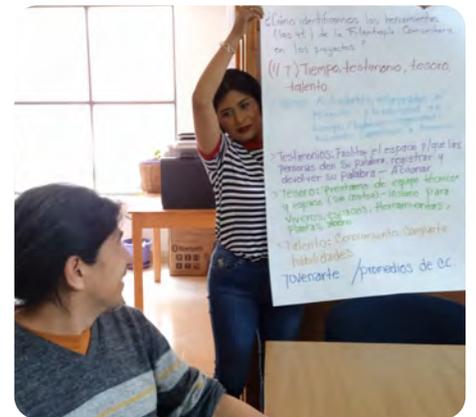
On May 22, Comunalia A.C. held its 2025 Ordinary General Assembly, together with its Board of Directors and representatives from the foundations of the Alliance of Community Foundations of Mexico. They shared their achievements through the 2024 Annual Report and, above all, reaffirmed what unites us: the conviction that strengthening each community foundation is essential so that the voices of our communities continue to be heard and lead their own development.



❖ Workshops with organizations

On May 23 and 30, workshops were held to share the research: **"A Comprehensive Encounter with Philanthropy through Collaborative Experiences with Amigos de San Cristóbal."** Organizations and collectives were able to share how they collaborate with one another, as well as how they experience philanthropy in their living spaces, workplaces, and social commitments.

We also reflected in groups on the challenges faced in the regional context when carrying out community philanthropy work. These reflections and observations are always valuable.



❖ Orquesta Sinfónica y Coro San Cristóbal

In this bulletin, we wanted to share that the Spring concert on April 11 was a great success — marking the debut of Saúl Urbina as the new artistic director. We also want to announce the next performance, which will take place on July 5 at CICAN CHIAPAS (Calle Dr. Manuel Velasco Suárez, #18) at 7:00 p.m., with an entrance donation of 100 pesos.

At Amigos de San Cristóbal, we are proud to be part of this wonderful work, where children and youth grow through learning music.

Remember that registration for this orchestra remains open throughout the year.

You can inquire with José Bermúdez at the Tercer Espacio Building (Calle Felipe Ángeles, #7, Santa Marta neighborhood, just steps from the ISSSTE clinic, near Ciudad Real neighborhood).

Take advantage of the opportunity to have an orchestra of this caliber in San Cristóbal!

Many children can change their lives through music.



Let's take advantage of the opportunity to have an orchestra
of this caliber in San Cristóbal!

Many children can change their lives through music.



Visit to organizations



MID-YEAR VISITS TO ORGANIZATIONS

Midway through the year, our allied organizations submit their narrative and financial reports. As part of the support provided by Amigos de San Cristóbal, our colleague Paty, from the Strengthening and Projects area, conducts monitoring visits. These visits allow us to closely **observe the progress and challenges of each group** and subsequently offer constructive feedback aimed at strengthening their processes and supporting their growth. In June, visits were carried out to:

❖ Melel Xojobal, A.C.

Activity with children at the Santo Domingo artisan market. The children reflected on public spaces for playing. They made drawings for a mural and shared that they would like to have a space to play soccer since they can only use the courtyard of the Caridad temple when they are with Melel.

In another group, the girls worked on the theme of identity and recorded an audio to share their experiences. We appreciate that Melel provides this community with safe, creative environments where listening is encouraged.



❖ Agua y Vida: Mujeres, Derechos y Ambiente

During this visit, we witnessed how women organize and reflect on participatory water management in the neighborhoods of San Cristóbal. On this occasion, the meeting took place in Alcanfores, where the team discussed the importance of sustainable technologies for the care of this vital resource. They also conducted an activity as a follow-up to a previous tour in the Moxviquil area. We value the awareness-raising efforts they are undertaking.



❖ Jóvenes Construyendo Territorios, A.C. (JOVENARTE).

The initiative takes place at CEMSaD 300, Cobach in Huixtán, where we toured the school and closely learned about their awareness efforts in agroecology and educational topics with youth. We also observed progress in setting up a nursery dedicated to reproducing heirloom seeds of vegetables and forest trees.



❖ Semillero 259 and Patrulla Roja

During this monitoring visit, a talk titled “Snakes: myths, realities, and care to coexist without fear” took place with children. Participants learned about the ecological importance of these reptiles, identified which ones might pose risks, and received recommendations on how to coexist safely and respectfully with them. Additionally, they learned how to prepare a delicious roasted rabbit with vegetables. Children from the Patrulla Roja collective also participated in this activity.



❖ Hogar Comunitario, Yach'il Antzetic, A.C.

The visit took place during the **Bimonthly Gathering of Artisans**, where women come together to exchange techniques, colors, designs, embroidery, and types of brocades in textiles from different regions. Women from Huixtán, Zinacantán, San Juan Cancuc, San Andrés Larráinzar, Chalchihuitán, and Aldama participated.

They also shared, through the history of huipiles, how the use of colors and materials has transformed over time. The workshop included a space where women could express their feelings and how their emotions influence the colors of their brocades. The artisans exchange feedback in this beautiful space offered and supported by Yach'il Antzetic.



2025 Membership Renewal Campaign

From now on you can **purchase or renew your membership with Amigos de San Cristóbal, A.C.**

It is a way of belonging, of contributing to our cause in a symbolic way, and of supporting projects.

- 1 • **Individual** (\$300 pesos once a year) and family (\$500 pesos annually).
- 2 • **Small companies** (\$2,500 pesos per year).
- 3 • **Residents of Spain** or countries with euro currency (€15 euros per year, individual membership and €25 euros per year, family membership).
- 4 • **U.S. residents** (\$15 dollars per year, individual membership and \$25 dollars per year, family membership).

For more information, contact us



967 678 3374



**Become a powerful
change maker**

Fundación Comunitaria
amigos
de San Cristóbal A.C.

Donate, inspire, and transform!

You can be part of this
solidarity movement to transform
the lives of hundreds of families
in Los Altos de Chiapas, A.C.!

Get your membership

Friend partner €15 USD	Family friend €25 USD
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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

At **Amigos de San Cristóbal, A.C.**, we raise funds and accompany local organizations so that their projects become **realities that transform lives.**

Here are the projects supported in 2025:
<https://bit.ly/ASC2025-English>



JOIN US AS A AMIGO COMPANY

Join the group of entrepreneurs that is already transforming their environment



Generate impact and social responsibility with the support of Amigos de San Cristobal A.C. As a Amigo Company, you will be part of a community of companies, social investors, in Los Altos de Chiapas that contribute to the improvement of the living conditions of our community.

AMIGO COMPANIES 2024 - 2025

Empresas amigas



Patrocinadores





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