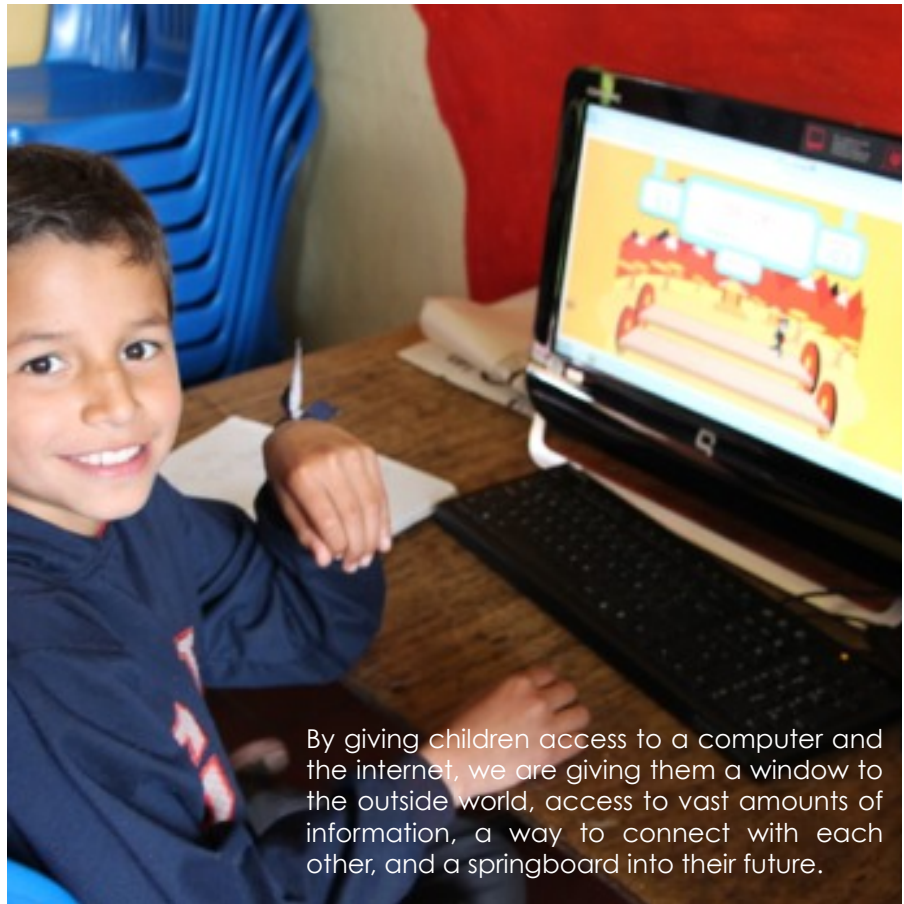




## OUR MISSION

We believe enabling them with these skills allows them to permanently overcome the cycle of poverty and abuse.



By giving children access to a computer and the internet, we are giving them a window to the outside world, access to vast amounts of information, a way to connect with each other, and a springboard into their future.

## ABOUT US

**The Orphaned Starfish Foundation was founded in 2001 on the belief that education is the key to escaping the poverty trap.**

The foundation partners with orphanages and homes that provide a refuge for impoverished children who otherwise have little access to an education in critical skills they will need to someday support themselves. OSF funds the construction and operation of vocational training facilities to instruct children and young adults. This can include furnishings, required equipment, teacher salaries, and job placement services. Our programs specifically focus on providing the

children with technology training so that they will be able to provide for themselves and grow into successful adults.

To date, we have funded the installation of thirty-eight computer centers in homes and orphanages in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru and Puerto Rico. OSF has also created a scholarship fund to allow children who excel in its programs the opportunity to attend college. We also created a job placement program to provide internships in the hospitality industry for some of our graduating students. Thus far, we have been able to touch

the lives of over seven thousand children. Providing these children with access to computer training, scholarships and internships enables them to develop the skills that will help them reduce educational disadvantages, overcome cultural and social inadequacies, and grow as responsible and active workers and citizens in their communities.

### FACTS:

Programs	38
Countries	18
Children	8000

*We believe enabling them with these skills allows them to permanently overcome the cycle of poverty and abuse.*

FOUNDED IN:



# 2001

### Want to Get Involved?

Make a donation, like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, tell a friend about our foundation, or become a Starfish Advocate. Please visit our website to learn more.

[orphanedstarfish.org](http://orphanedstarfish.org)

[facebook.com/ostarfish](https://facebook.com/ostarfish)

[twitter.com/ostarfish](https://twitter.com/ostarfish)

# The Orphaned Starfish Foundation

## Argentina



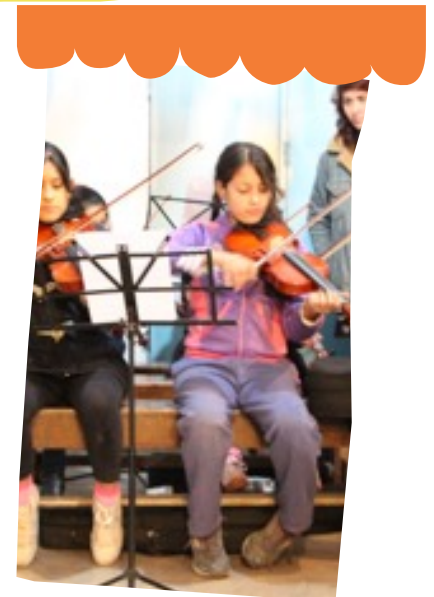
### The Parish Mary Mother of the Village Institute

Many of the children in Argentina have little to no resources with nowhere to turn to. We provide them with the education they need and the love they deserve.



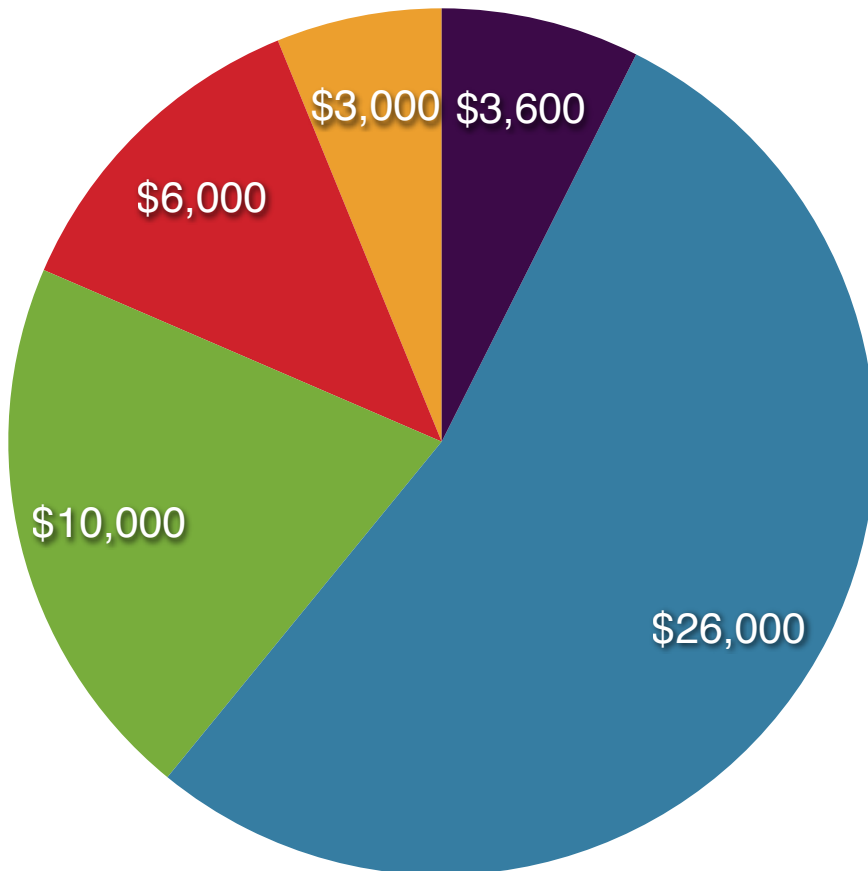
The Parish Mary Mother of the Village Institute (*El Instituto Parroquial Santa María Madre del Pueblo*) serves a community of over 5,000 residents, with approximately 50% of the population is under the age of 17, many of them already parents. They face various obstacles daily. This community is located in one of the poorest neighborhoods in Buenos Aires. They have been neglected, secluded, and marginalized by the rest of society, not given the same opportunities as any other Argentinian citizen. Without the help of the Orphaned Starfish Vocational Training Center, these children and teens will continue the cycles of poverty, abuse, and childhood pregnancy.

If every child in the world had access to a computer, what potential could be unlocked? What problems could be solved?



We will be furnishing the computer center, which includes cabinets, computer desk tops, and chairs. We also will be funding forty computers, a printer, antivirus software, monthly internet service, english learning software, Microsoft Office, and school supplies for the children. We are hoping to continue to provide internet connectivity on an annual basis and pay the for the Teacher's Salary and on going financial support.

## Orphaned Starfish Youth Computer Training Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina



- School Supplies
- Purchase of 40 computers
- Teachers Salary
- Purchase of English Language Software
- Computer Maintenance

### How The Orphaned Starfish Foundation will Help

The Orphaned Starfish Foundation vocational computer center serves as an addition to the school providing them with access to the internet and other programs to widen their opportunities for learning and give them a broader vision of the world, improving learning skills and stimulating interest in learning, increasing the children's self-esteem and enhancing their overall quality of life, and helping them take advantage of employment opportunities. By giving the children access to a computer and the Internet, we are giving them a window to the outside world, access to vast amounts of information, a way to connect with each other, and a springboard into their future.

The Parish Mary Mother of the Village Institute community center provides an important refuge and haven for the children and adolescents of this poorest area of Buenos Aires. We have partnered with the Parish Mary Mother of the Village Institute (El Instituto Parroquial Santa María Madre del Pueblo) which has served as a safe haven to the community since 1975. However, while their basic needs are taken care of, there is little emphasis on preparing them for life beyond their institutions. While schooling is fundamentally necessary and perhaps one of the most powerful tools to help generate greater integration, to remove from the exclusion and marginalization, providing equal opportunities elsewhere, there is no emphasis on life after school nor employment after the classroom.

**While children are by nature eager for knowledge, many countries have insufficient resources to devote to education— sometimes less than \$20 per year per child (compared to an average of \$7,500 in the United States).**