



CORAZÓN
RAÍZ



FUNDACIÓN

Corazón Raíz

Everyone deserves a chance

*to achieve
their
dreams.*

Our Director and Co-founder, Fernanda de la Cerda, is convinced that education is the most powerful tool to transform realities and reduce inequalities.





**CORAZÓN
RAÍZ**

INDEX

1. General Information	4
2. Mission and Vision	5
3. Our Roots	6
4. Programs	8
5. Our Process	10
6. Collaborations	11
7. México	12
8. Uganda	20



GENERAL INFORMATION



Fundación Corazón Raíz is a Mexican organization with an international presence, established with the intention of promoting educational projects in the most vulnerable indigenous and rural communities, bringing the Mexican heart and support to the regions that need it the most in our country and around the world, in order to achieve a change from the roots.



**CORAZÓN
RAÍZ**

RFC: FCR220804IL9

CLUNI: FCR22080409P9G

MAIL: fernanda.delacerda@corazonraiz.org



Mission

To promote **educational projects** in **indigenous and rural communities** worldwide through **collaboration** strategies and programs that enable access to **equitable and quality education** for children, youth, and adults, aiming to support the **comprehensive development** of the community and thereby 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**.

Our Roots

☛ Solidarity

☛ Justice

☛ Trust

☛ Respect

☛ Empathy

☛ Coherence

☛ Transparency



"Our roots are the values that define us and help guide our path, always with our feet firmly on the ground and close to the community."

-Fernanda de la Cerda
General Director

Students of Baby Class at Deslibe Charity Organization in Kimanto, Uganda.



OUR PROGRAMS

Sustainability and Institutional Development

Support and guidance for improving the organizational structure, enabling them to achieve financial sustainability.

Training and Empowerment

Training programs for community members that promote the development of skills and abilities.

Educational Infrastructure

Support for the development of appropriate educational infrastructure and facilities.





Consensus meeting with Nahua indigenous women from the community of Emiliano Zapata in Zongolica, Veracruz, to co-create educational workshops that contribute to women's economic empowerment.

OUR PROCESS



Project Design

We use methodologies such as the Logical Framework Approach and Theory of Change, through hybrid models that allow us to adapt these methodologies to the environments where we operate.

Identification

Identification of educational community projects in vulnerable populations and collaboration opportunities (Documentary and field research).

Collaboration

Signing of collaboration agreements, establishing clear responsibilities for each of the parties involved and the budget to be executed.

Project Cycle Management

Project development in collaboration with communities, always ensuring respect, trust, empathy, and active listening.

Measurement and Results

Project evaluation using participatory methodologies and in close collaboration with the communities.

Lessons Learned

Reflection and critical analysis of experiences to improve future projects based on identified areas for improvement.



**CORAZÓN
RAÍZ**

Active Collaborations

Our projects are located in Mexico and Uganda



Mexico is our home, a Latin American country that, despite significant growth in recent years, still has over 9.1 million people living in extreme poverty.

Veracruz is the second state with the highest number of people in poverty in Mexico, with 3.1 million residents. The municipalities with the highest concentration of poverty coincide with those inhabited by indigenous communities, including Mixtla de Altamirano and Zongolica, with Mixtla being the poorest municipality in the state.

The census conducted by The National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI, 2022) in Veracruz recorded that there are 2.1 million children aged 0 to 15 living in the state, representing 26% of the total population in that area. Of these, 1.7 million are in conditions of economic vulnerability and, consequently, face challenges related to food security, education, psychological well-being, material resources, among others.

Our projects in Mexico have benefited over 6,000 people in Veracruz





Educational Infrastructure for the Nahuatl Communities of Zongolica, Veracruz.

Through partnerships with local and community authorities, a project was developed to bring educational infrastructure to the Nahuatl indigenous communities in the municipality of Zongolica, Veracruz, that need it the most.

In the target communities: Cuahuixtlahuac, Tlacuilotecatl el Grande, and Azcuhatlanmanca, needs were identified, including appropriate classrooms for preschools and primary schools, benches and desks, restrooms, educational materials, doors and windows, among many others.

Due to their remote locations and difficult access, these communities do not receive sufficient support, making collaboration and joint efforts essential to change their reality





Cuahuixtlahuac

Achievements

Educational Infrastructure

- First community served in Zongolica, Veracruz.
- Signing of the collaboration agreement between the Zongolica City Council and the indigenous authorities of the community.
- Development of a project for the construction of a preschool using Ecobricks.
- Cleaning of the land and excavation for the foundation.
- Construction began on October 12th, 2023, with labor provided by the community.
- The preschool is equipped with sanitary facilities and appropriate restrooms, modular furniture for dynamic classes, and a learning corner with over 100 books and educational games.
- **Completion and inauguration: March 23th, 2024**



INAUGURATION OF THE PRESCHOOL CLASSROOM IN CUAHUIXTLAHUAC, VERACRUZ

On March 23th, 2024, the Cuahuixtlahuac Preschool was inaugurated in Zongolica, Veracruz, with the participation of parents, teachers, municipal and community authorities. The community performed their traditional Nahuatl ritual called Xochitalis, expressing gratitude to Mother Earth for this new educational space for children, always remembering the connection between Mother Earth and the community.

The new preschool center provides a dignified and safe space for the education of children. It is equipped with restrooms, modular furniture, and a Learning Corner integrated with books and games that contribute to their learning.

The construction was carried out using eco-friendly bricks, which generate a lower environmental impact and have thermal-acoustic properties that help regulate temperature and noise within the classroom.





Training for Teachers in Mixtla de Altamirano, Veracruz.

Corazón Raíz, in collaboration with Formación Docente Integral, the City Council, and the Council Administration for Children and Families of Mixtla de Altamirano, provides training to develop neuro-pedagogical and socio-emotional skills in 250 basic education teachers in the Sierra de Zongolica, as part of the New Mexican School model.

In this Forum of the New Mexican School, consisting of four sessions, we aim to create a space for dialogue and collective construction, where teachers can exchange knowledge and experiences for the acquisition, understanding, and implementation of the new educational model.

As a result of this training, more than 5,000 basic education students from the Nahua communities of the Sierra de Zongolica will benefit indirectly.



Quality Education for Indigenous Women in Zongolica, Veracruz.

Fundación Corazón Raíz, in collaboration with La Casa de la Mujer Indígena, a local NGO dedicated to supporting women experiencing violence in the Sierra de Zongolica, identified the need to provide educational opportunities for work that foster the economic empowerment of women in the community.

As part of our process and through active listening, we conducted visits to talk with women and understand their needs and interests.

With the results obtained and in partnership with the Instituto de Capacitación para el Trabajo de Veracruz (Regional Job Training Organism), we will offer two courses in our community locations—Computer Skills and Hairstyling—starting in November 2024, certified by the Ministry of Public Education. We will equip a classroom with everything necessary, bringing education directly to the communities.



Technological Education for the Communities of Mixtla de Altamirano, Veracruz.

The Foundation and the municipality of Mixtla de Altamirano co-created a project to bring technology closer to the communities in the municipality.

Through mobile digital classrooms, we plan to provide certified computer skills courses in three schools in a phased approach, benefiting over 500 primary students in the communities of Xochitla, Axoxohuilco, and Barrio 4. Additionally, we will offer training and certifications for 20 teachers and an evening course for 75 adults who wish to develop computer skills and obtain a job certification accredited by the Ministry of Public Education.

With this comprehensive approach, we aim to serve three communities each year, maximizing our impact.



Municipal authorities of Mixtla de Altamirano and Corazón Raíz staff



Students of the Cuahuixtlahuac
Preschool



UGANDA

More than 300
children
benefited

Uganda is an East African country that has historically struggled with poverty. Currently, 41% of its population lives on less than \$1.90 a day, according to the United Nations Development Programme. Compounding these social difficulties is the high percentage of children in the population, which stands at 46%. This situation has resulted in elevated rates of abandonment, abuse, malnutrition, mistreatment, and, of course, educational lag.



Projects

Details

Achievements

**Deslibe Charity
Organization, building an
educational future for
the children of Kimanto
in Uganda.**

Deslibe is a no-fees preschool and primary school in Kimanto A, where there are no other nearby schools that can provide education to the youngest children.

- Three temporary classrooms were built in 2021 to kick off the school year.
- In the 2022 school year, 135 children benefited, with 124 graduating at the end of the course.
- During the 2023 school year, 170 students were served.
- The first permanent classroom was constructed in 2023.
- The second school year concluded in November 2023 with excellent results from our students.
- The 2024 school year began with 270 enrolled students and will end with 296 students.

**Gayela Children
Foundation, providing
home and education
with love.**

Gayela is a children's home that provides shelter, education, and love to those who need it most.

- 331 children benefited who successfully completed their studies in the 2022 school year.
- 4 out of 4 candidates for secondary school passed the exam and are currently studying in the 2024 school year.



Students of Deslibe Charity Organization during their morning activity, before classes start.



DESLIBE CHARITY

ORGANIZATION

Achievements

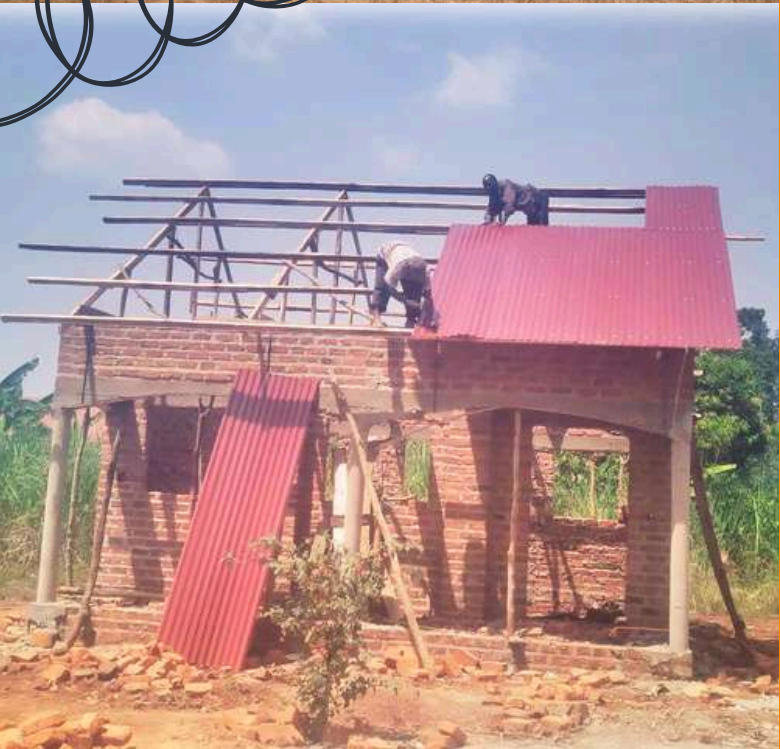
Educational Infrastructure

Financing for:

- Reconstruction of 3 temporary classrooms for the reopening of the school in 2022 (first school cycle).
- Construction of a dividing wall for the bathrooms according to local requirements.
- Acquisition of an adjacent plot of land of 1 acre or 4,046 square meters for the development and expansion of the school.
- Construction of the first permanent classroom made of brick and concrete (2023, to be completed).
- Construction of a temporary classroom for Primary 3 students and benches for new students in the 2024 school year.



As of today, the school provides education to 296 preschool and primary students up to the third grade.



Institutional Sustainability

- Advisory for Website and Social Media Improvement
- Support in the process of registering on platforms to process online donations.
- Assistance in generating operational documentation (educational, financial, and legal).
- Funding for teachers' salaries during the 2022, 2023, and 2024 school years.

GAYELA CHILDREN FOUNDATION

Achievements

Institutional Sustainability

- Advisory for Website and Social Media Improvement
- Support in the process of registering on platforms to process online donations.
- Guidance and support for generating operational documentation (files, financial, and legal).
- Creation of a Sponsorship Program to secure monthly funding.
- Donation of a laptop for the organization's operations.
- Advisory and support for registration on volunteer platforms and sending volunteers through the Foundation.

Training and Empowerment

- Advisory for the creation and operation of a Sponsorship Program to ensure monthly funding.
- Advisory and workshops for managing Office Suite.
- Advisory and workshops for managing social media.





If you're interested in

donating ...

Visit our website:

<https://corazonraiz.org/>

Bank Details:

ACCOUNT HOLDER: FUNDACIÓN
CORAZÓN RAÍZ

BANK: BBVA MÉXICO

BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER:

0119456945

CLABE: 012180001194569458

SWIFT CODE: BCMRMXMMPYM

PayPal: Fundación Corazón Raíz A.C.



fcorazonraiz



Fundación Corazón Raíz



Fundación Corazón Raíz