



FUNDACIÓN LEER'S PROJECT Rebuilding Bahía Blanca's School Libraries

PROJECT SUMMARY:

In March 2025, a devastating storm swept through the city of Bahía Blanca, Argentina, causing severe flooding that left countless families and institutions in despair. Among the many losses, dozens of school libraries were heavily damaged—some completely destroyed—leaving hundreds of children without access to books, reading spaces, or even a quiet corner to dream.

Libraries are more than just shelves and books. They are places where imagination takes flight, where children discover the world and their place in it. In the aftermath of this disaster, what remains in many of these schools is silence—wet pages, broken shelves, and the absence of stories.

The Problem: The storm has taken away what years of love, effort, and learning built. Many schools in vulnerable areas have lost nearly all of their library materials. Children who already faced social and economic challenges are now left without the basic right to read, explore, and grow.

Our Goal: To raise funds and gather resources to rebuild the school libraries most affected by the floods in Bahía Blanca.

This means not just replacing books, but creating warm, welcoming, and inspiring spaces where kids can once again find joy, learning, and hope.

Who We're Helping: This project is for the children of Bahía Blanca—especially those in public schools serving vulnerable populations. It's for the teachers who are doing everything they can with what little remains. It's for the future readers, writers, and dreamers who need a little help turning the page.

How Donations Will Be Used: We will purchase as many new children's books as we can and distribute them among the affected schools. In this way, little by little, they will be able to rebuild the spaces they created with so much effort—spaces that, in just a few hours, were swept away by the floodwaters.

Ways to Help

Donate money through this GlobalGiving platform and share this initiative with friends, family, and institutions who might want to help.

Why This Matters: Because no child should lose their access to books. Because reading is a refuge. Because in every story, there is a chance to heal.

With your help, we can write a new "chapter one" of community, resilience, and renewed hope.

4. **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT: U\$S 3000.-**

5. **Donation Options**

u\$S 20 you put 1 new book in a child's hand

u\$S 80 you help us donate 4 new books for kids to enjoy at the library

u\$S 160 you help us get 8 new children's literature books to form classroom libraries

u\$S 600 you help us buy 30 new children's literature books to support the school library rebuilding.

Project Location COUNTRY: Argentina

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

The storm that struck Bahía Blanca didn't just flood streets and buildings—it soaked years of effort, community, and learning. For many schools, the damage was not just physical. It was deeply emotional.

Entire libraries—some built over decades through teacher efforts, parent donations, and local fundraising—were submerged. Books that had been read and reread by generations of children were reduced to unreadable, muddy piles. Picture books that sparked imagination, encyclopedias that supported learning, novels that transported young minds to other worlds—all gone in a matter of hours.

In many of the most affected schools, these libraries were not just a resource—they were the only access point to books. They served children who may not have books at home, or even a quiet place to read. The library was their safe space, a warm, dry corner of curiosity and comfort. Now, all that remains is silence. The walls are damp, the shelves broken, the books unsalvageable.

Teachers have tried to create makeshift reading corners, but the damage is overwhelming. The loss of these libraries represents a deep setback in the learning process, especially for children in vulnerable communities who were already facing educational inequality.

Rebuilding these spaces is not a luxury. It's a necessity—for their education, their emotional well-being, and their right to dream.

HOW WILL THIS PROJECT SOLVE THE PROBLEM?

Children in Bahía Blanca have already been through so much. Some have lost their homes, others their classrooms, and almost all have lost something precious and irreplaceable: their stories. When you lose access to books, you lose the ability to imagine a different future. You lose the power to escape, even for a moment, from a hard reality.

Libraries help children build vocabulary and knowledge, yes—but they also help build resilience, creativity, and hope. They offer moments of calm in chaos. Joy in the ordinary. Discovery in every page.

Because reading is more than learning—it's healing.

Because a library is more than books—it's a door to the world.

Because a child sitting cross-legged on a rug, fully immersed in a story, is not just reading—they're rebuilding. Rebuilding trust, peace, and possibility.

That's why this matters.

This is not just about replacing what was lost. It's about creating something even better: brighter, stronger, and filled with new opportunities. And with your help, that's exactly what we'll do.

POTENTIAL LONG-TERM IMPACT

1. Educational Recovery and Reinforcement

Rebuilding libraries helps close the learning gaps caused by the disaster. It supports literacy development, improves comprehension and vocabulary, and re-engages students in their educational journey. For many children, this will mean better academic performance and more opportunities later in life.

2. Emotional and Psychological Healing

Books offer comfort, distraction, and emotional processing—especially for children who have experienced trauma. Restoring these spaces gives them a sense of normalcy and security. Libraries can become safe havens for healing, storytelling, and shared resilience.

3. Equity and Inclusion

Public school libraries are often the only access point to books for low-income families. Rebuilding these spaces ensures that all children—regardless of background—can dream, learn, and grow equally. It helps reduce educational inequality in the long run.

4. Community Strengthening

A rebuilt library is not just for the students—it becomes a hub for families, teachers, and neighbors. It fosters community pride and connection. Many schools use these spaces for reading programs, cultural events, and group activities that strengthen social ties.

5. A Culture of Reading for Future Generations

The books and environments created today will serve not just this generation, but the ones that follow. Investing in school libraries plants seeds that will continue to grow—into better readers, more critical thinkers, and empathetic citizens.