

**Project Proposal
Building a Children’s Library at
“Hogar de Niños Desde el Corazón” in
Marcos Juárez, Córdoba, Argentina**

1. Project Summary

Fundación Leer proposes the creation of a fully equipped children’s library at Hogar de Niños Desde el Corazón, a community-based residential home that provides shelter, care, and protection to boys and girls whose rights have been violated and who have been placed there by judicial authorities.

The project aims to offer these children ongoing access to high-quality books, literacy experiences, and shared reading moments that foster emotional well-being, curiosity, and a lifelong love of reading.

2. Problem Statement

Children living in residential care institutions in Argentina often face situations of vulnerability, limited educational opportunities, and emotional adversity. Many of these children arrive at the Home with little or no access to books, early literacy experiences, or positive reading role models.

In Marcos Juárez (Province of Córdoba), Hogar de Niños Desde el Corazón currently lacks a dedicated library or children’s reading space. Despite the commitment of caregivers, they do not have the necessary materials to promote daily reading routines that support cognitive, emotional, and linguistic development.

This situation is particularly urgent because:

Reading has been proven to reduce stress, support emotional processing, and strengthen resilience in children who have experienced trauma.

Access to age-appropriate books significantly improves vocabulary, school engagement, and long-term educational outcomes.

The children spend many hours in the Home outside of school hours, making the availability of enriching materials crucial.

A retired teacher from the community, who participated for many years in Fundación Leer’s Maratón Nacional de Lectura, contacted us asking for support to bring books and reading moments to the children at the Home. This request reflects both a community need and a community willingness to support the project.

3. Project Objectives

Create a fully equipped children's library within the Home, including bookshelves, seating, and a curated selection of high-quality books.

Provide each child with daily opportunities for reading, both independent and shared, in a safe and welcoming environment.

Train caregivers and volunteers to facilitate interactive read-alouds and encourage reading habits.

Strengthen community involvement by forming a volunteer reading group led by the retired teacher who initially contacted Fundación Leer.

Promote emotional well-being and educational opportunities through reading experiences that nurture imagination, empathy, and language development.

4. Project Activities

a. Library Setup

Purchase and installation of shelves, reading mats, cushions, and a cozy reading corner.

Selection and acquisition of 150–200 high-quality children's books suitable for ages 2 to 12.

Inclusion of picture books, early readers, short novels, poetry, and informational books.

5. Beneficiaries

Primary beneficiaries: 10–15 children currently living at Hogar de Niños Desde el Corazón (the number varies as placements change).

Secondary beneficiaries:

Caregivers and staff

Community volunteers

Families and community members who participate in reading activities

6. Expected Outcomes

A functional, welcoming library available every day to the children.

Increased access to books, with each child engaging in reading daily.

More than 150 shared reading sessions in the first year.

Improved reading interest and habits, supported by trained caregivers and volunteers.

Strengthened community involvement through an organized group of reading volunteers.

Positive emotional impact, especially for children who have experienced trauma or instability.

7. Sustainability

The project is designed to remain active long after initial funding:

The Home will maintain the library permanently.

Volunteers will continue organizing reading sessions.

Fundación Leer will provide ongoing guidance and free access to our digital reading platform.

Books and activities will become part of the Home's daily routine.

8. Organization Overview (Fundación Leer)

Fundación Leer is Argentina's leading childhood literacy organization, with 27 years of experience promoting reading and providing books and educational opportunities to underserved children. Each year our programs reach hundreds of thousands of children, families, educators, and community spaces across the country.

9. Conclusion

This project represents an invaluable opportunity to bring books, imagination, and emotional support to children who need it deeply.

A small investment will transform their daily lives—giving them access to stories, reading role models, and a peaceful space where books can help them heal, learn, and dream.

Fundación Leer respectfully submits this proposal to GlobalGiving and hopes to count on your support to make this children's library a reality.