

Mujeres de Maiz Opportunity Foundation

P.O. Box 1954

Sequim, WA 98382

501(c)(3) Tax ID 20-4289123

2021 Annual Report

2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 13 girls and women are currently on scholarship and we've added one new scholarship recipient
- 6 communities have weekly children's programs
- We funded 6 laptops
- We held 2 online auctions
- We were awarded Great Nonprofits top-rated badge for the 9th year in a row!



- We earned the Guidestar Seal of Transparency 2021
- Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and with the permission of certain donors, we sent one additional relief aid package to the women in the cooperative. \$13,300 was sent.
- We more than doubled the books in the mini-libraries in the communities with children's programs.
- We funded eye exams for 11 women, purchased 5 pairs of glasses and set up a program to cover the cost of eye drops

Our Mission Statement

We are dedicated to partnering with and empowering indigenous women in Chiapas, Mexico, by providing them with access to education. Our goal is to help break the cycle of poverty, build self-esteem, and create positive role models.

YEAR IN REVIEW

2021, our 16th year in existence, continued to be challenging due to the ongoing Corona virus. Scholarship recipients shifted between attending classes and working from home. As the year went on, workshops and children's programs were functioning again. A trip to Chiapas by Board Chair Judith Pasco was most encouraging. She had the opportunity to spend time with previous scholarship recipients who were doing excellent work in their communities. It is so rewarding to see the results of our education funding.

Profile of the Indigenous Women of Chiapas

The women with whom we partner are indigenous Maya who speak Tsotsil, Tzeltal, and Tojolabal. About 50% speak Spanish, their second language, well. They live in extreme poverty. Many have dirt floors and rudimentary latrines. 39.2% of the general indigenous population is illiterate while illiteracy of indigenous women is estimated at 50% or higher. Girls, in particular, are unable to attend school for many reasons: having to work to sustain the family; deferring education to males in the family; lacking funds to cover educational expenses; and continuing long-standing traditional roles of a woman in the culture. (Source: INEGI 2010, CONAPO 2010)

What We Do Mujeres de Maiz Opportunity Foundation, founded in 2006, partners with an indigenous seamstress and weaving cooperative (established in 1996). We provide access to education in the form of scholarships, workshops, Saturday children's programs, laptop computers, and eye exams and glasses. The women assess their own needs, develop programs and make proposals to us, which we fund as we are able. In addition, in the past few years, we have funded a women's center in San Cristóbal de las Casas, funded a government accredited literacy program in a rural community for 6 years, and provided 20 eco-friendly latrines to 20 families.

Who We Are We are a small grassroots organization with a working Board of Directors. Until Covid, we held a "Men with Guitars" concert and a Mexican breakfast as part of our fundraising. Funds are solicited from our individual donors only once a year. We are a 501(c)(3) organization.

Judith Pasco, Board Chair
Cathy Van Ruhan, Secretary

At large: Steve Gilchrist
Martha Rudersdorf

Kathy Purcell

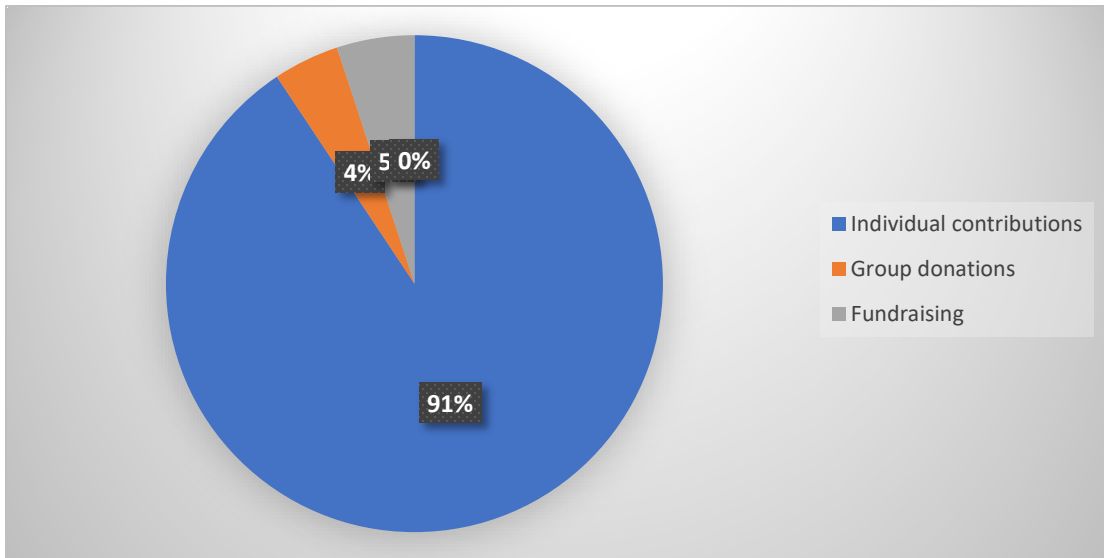
For additional information go to: www.MujeresDeMaizOF.org or contact mujeres@olypen.com

Donations may be given through our website or by mail to: Mujeres De Maiz Opportunity Foundation, P.O. Box 1954, Sequim, WA 98382



Zinacantan Children's Program July 2018 1

Total income 2021 \$52,980



Total expenses 2021 \$35,550

