



Mujeres de Maiz Opportunity Foundation

P.O. Box 1954

Sequim, WA 98382

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

2025 Annual Report

2025 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 9 girls and women are currently on scholarship.
- 5 communities had weekly children's programs currently serving 57 children
- 8 girls had eye exams and 3 received glasses
- Workshops were funded for both the cooperative members and for the girls who are receiving scholarships
- A women's literacy program is taking place in Zinacantan
- New chairs were purchased for the women's center
- As scholarship girls graduate and no longer manage the children's programs, we are replacing them with qualified instructors on a stipend basis

Mujeres is in a wind down mode and we only solicited donations to support the girls on scholarship. We are assuring that scholarship recipients will be able to complete their academic careers and working toward making the children's programs self-sustainable. Other programs will continue as we are able. We are so grateful to all our donors as our stable financial situation is due to them.

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

2025 was our 20th year in existence.

We are delighted with the progress of the scholarship recipients. The remaining girls have all been on scholarship with us since the 6th grade .Erika graduated with a law degree in Sept '25. Sara completed the 6th semester of an nursing/obstetrics degree. Eugenia thrives in her sewing/design classes. Yessica is in law school specializing in indigenous law. Yessenia loves her education preparing her to be a pre-school teacher. Karla studies business administration. Paty is in 2nd year Prepa and Perla just started Prepa.

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, a dinner/auction, 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 At large: Steve Gilchrist
Martha Rudersdorf, Secretary Cathy Van Ruhan

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

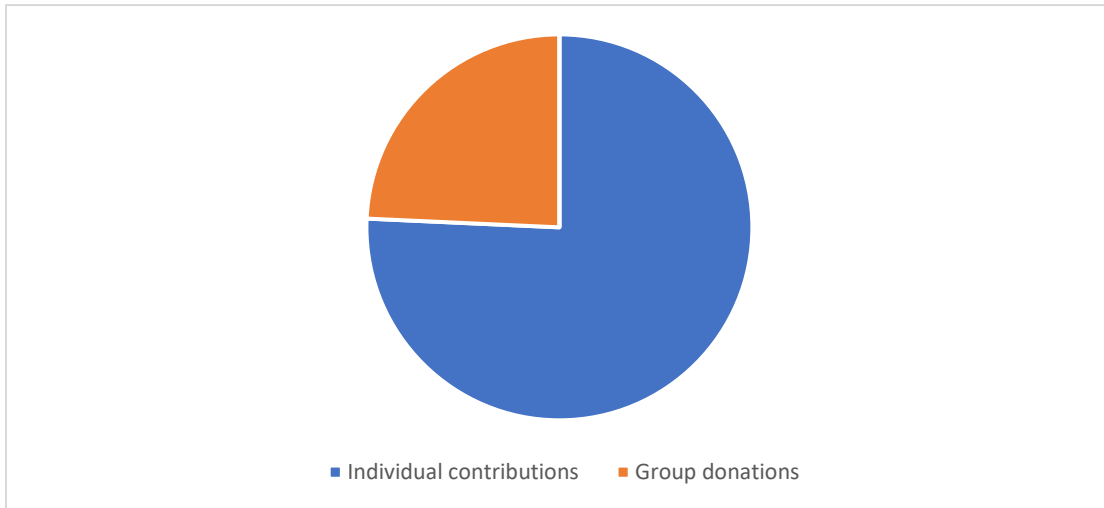


Cooperative members April 2024



Remodel complete of the women's center

Total income 2025 \$10,665 (Individual contributions \$8076 + Group donations \$2589)



Total Expenses 2025 \$22,185 (Programs \$21,440 + Business and Operations \$685)

