



# FUNDAMIRA

Educating with love  
for a better world







# WELCOME

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## WELCOME TO FUNDAMIRA USA, THE FOUNDATION FOR THE WELFARE OF THE MIRA

We are a non-profit organization founded in 2004 with headquarters in Colombia and the United States.

### OUR MISSION

Our mission is to **develop better living conditions for the communities of the areas near the Mira and Mataje rivers** in the Department of Nariño through educational programs that promote welfare and prosperity of the community and the region.



## AREA AND POPULATION

For years, this remote area of the country has been affected by poverty, illiteracy, violence, displacement, drug trafficking, flooding, lack of potable water and sewage systems. Children are the most affected, some showing signs of malnutrition, learning difficulties, as well as emotional and mental health problems.

We know that **education is the first step to create sustainable development**. Since our inception we have dedicated our efforts to develop a high-quality educational and community programs that have grown over the years, with the support of private volunteers, companies and institutions.

According to the DANE Census, in 2016 the region had the following **educational indicators**:

- **17%** of the total population does not know how to read; this figure reaches **32%** in rural areas.
- Only **2%** of the population has completed preschool.
- **6%** have completed primary school, compared to 31% who have not.
- **13%** have completed high school, in contrast to 27% who have not completed high school.
- Other levels (university, technical, technological) represent very low percentages.

These indicators show the **significant educational gap in the area compared to the rest of the country**, which has an average illiteracy rate of 7%.







# OUR PROGRAMS

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## Basic primary education program in a rural context

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### “JULIETA DE CORREDOR” INSTITUTE

The Institute “Julieta de Corredor” is attached to the Ministry of Education of Colombia under the name CENTRO EDUCATIVO LA PIÑUELA, SEDE #2, VUELTA DE CANDELILLA, (DANE No: 252835001201) and offers an Elementary program from pre-school to 5th grade for approximately **100 children per year**. We focus on teaching values: respect, solidarity, civic responsibility, self-reliance, commitment, excellence, participation, transparency and sustainable development.

- The Institute has six full-time teachers, one social worker, one maintenance technician, one kitchen assistant and one cleaning assistant.
- The program offers extracurricular courses in reading, writing, mathematics, communication and technology.
- Since 2010, we have served **1,283 students and 125 children** have completed their Elementary education.







## SCHOOL MEALS PROJECT

The School Meals project contributes to the balanced nutrition, increases concentration levels, energy, physical and emotional well-being of students. We have distributed more than **449,200 healthy snacks and lunches during our 14 years of operations.**



## “EDUCATING EDUCATORS” PROJECT

Through the “Educating Educators” project we provide continuous training for teachers to ensure innovation and acquisition of didactic tools. Not only our teachers, but also teachers from other schools in the Tumaco area, benefit from this project’s offer to develop quality competencies. Since our opening, **125 teachers** from both the Institute and institutions in the area have benefited from different continuous education programs offered by Fundamira.



## SCHOOL FOR PARENTS PROJECT

The School for Parents project creates bonds and reinforces values in the community that are crucial in an area with multiple family and social problems.



## SCHOOL HEALTH POLICY PROJECT

This innovative project focuses on teaching social and emotional skills that empower children to acquire the cognitive, communication, critical thinking and healthy decision-making skills that are so necessary to achieve medium- and long-term social change.



## BICYCLES FOR GRADUATES PROJECT

The Bicycles for Graduates project facilitates the transportation of graduating students from our high school and the Candelillas industrial school so that they can get around and continue their studies.



## INTEGRATION AND LEADERSHIP EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

During the school year, multiple events are held to further promote student engagement: sports competitions, folkloric dance presentations, poetry contests, selection of the student representative, flag raising, Earth Day, Children's Day, Women's Day, Father's Day, Christmas, and graduations. The celebration of special dates throughout the year generates joy, gratitude and cohesion in the community.





# Community Vocational Center Program

## COMMUNITY VEGETABLE GARDEN AND HYDROPONIC FARMING PROJECT

The Community Garden and Hydroponic Growing project for parents and students enables learning about nutrition, sustainability, skills development and strengthening community participation. The harvested produce complements the food for students. **We have planted more than 250 fruit trees, vegetables and greens.**





## SEMI-INDUSTRIAL SOYBEAN PLANT PROJECT

The Semi-industrial Soybean Plant project allows the processing of soybeans to supplement the nutritional intake of student meals.



## ADULT LITERACY PROJECT

The Adult Literacy Project offers basic reading and writing tools to break the cycle of poverty and empower the community to access better opportunities. **160 adults** have benefited from this project and can now write and read.



## BAKERY TRAINING PROJECT

The Bakery Training project provides students with practical skills for future local employment, entrepreneurship and self-sufficiency.





# Community Support

## FLEA MARKET PROJECT

The Flea Market project offers clothing, shoes and backpacks to the community at low prices and the proceeds contribute to the budget to cover urgent food and maintenance expenses.



## DRINKING WATER FILTERS

We have distributed more than **150 drinking water filters** for students and their families.



## PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PROJECT

We offer primary **health care** brigades, **dental services and visual health** for our students and their families. Since 2022, **1,502 patients** from the community have been seen in primary health care consultations, **452 patients** in dental consultations and **120 patients** in visual health consultations.





# OUR PROGRESS

## NEW ACHIEVEMENTS 2024

Each year we work to continue improving our facilities. In 2024, we have achieved the construction of a **new air-conditioned classroom, a library and a multipurpose sports court** to serve the students and the community.







# OUR PARTNERSHIPS

## CURRENT ALLIANCES

- Palmeiras Colombia S.A.A. donated the Institute's land and is responsible for paying the utilities, internet, administrative processes, payment of medical services and support for agricultural activities.
- Open International S.A.S, Thin Oil Products and Elais Corporation provide their constant economic support.
- INTEL, Microsoft and United Heath double the value of the private donations we receive in the United States.
- Our network of family and friends continues to contribute their time and donations.
- The Ministry of Education validates our work, provides a monthly meal supply through its school feeding program (PAE) and has donated computers through the "Computers to Educate" program.
- Rotary International and several Rotary Clubs in Colombia, along with the women's group "Mana" in Florida (USA) donate time and money annually to various projects.
- Imbanaco Clinic physicians, optometrists and dentists in Cali lovingly contribute their time, knowledge and health solutions and participate in Health Brigades.
- Continental de Transporte is the transportation company that year after year takes all the donations received from Colombia and the United States to our facilities.
- Colgate Palmolive has donated dental hygiene material.
- La Senté Laboratories have donated medicines.
- Belleza Express has donated toiletries.
- Caracol television has visited us, made a special news report and supported us with the diffusion of our mission.
- The Carvajal Foundation has provided us with ongoing technical assistance.

**We thank all the volunteers, foundations and corporations, who, with their contributions and advice, have made it possible for us to carry out this important work.**





# OUR CHALLENGES

## OUR MAIN CHALLENGE FOR 2024/2025 IS TO CONTINUE GROWING IN A SUSTAINABLE WAY

We require a greater presence from the government, companies and institutions to achieve our purpose and to be able to fulfill the promise of educating our students and community.

- The institute needs to **update and expand its facilities**: maintenance of roofs and classrooms affected by weather conditions.
- Update **boys' and girls' restrooms**.
- There is a lack of **new classrooms**, as several classrooms are operating under temporary tents.

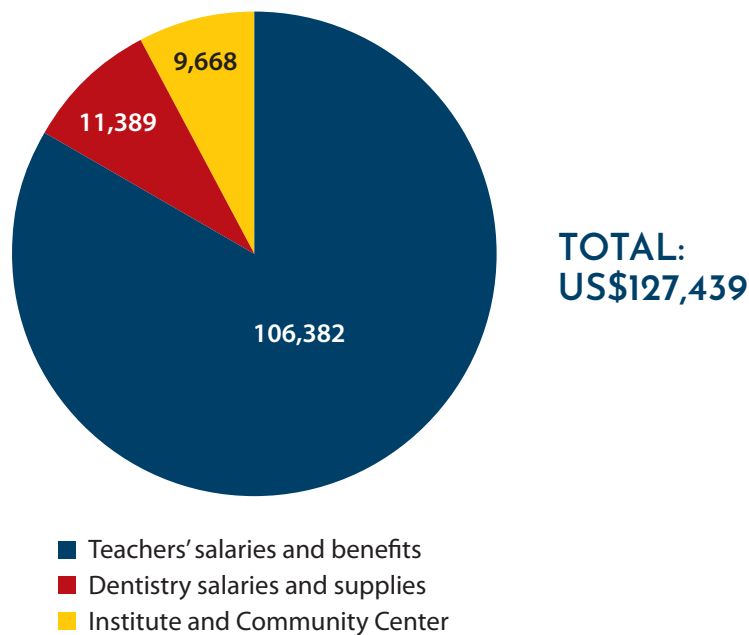




- There is a lack of **air conditioners and fans**, which are indispensable in classrooms that sometimes exceed 35 degrees Celsius.
- We need to upgrade **computers** for students and teachers.
- Renovation of **school furniture**: chairs and tables.
- Donation of **bicycles** to continue the easy transportation project.
- We require **recurring donations** to help pay the Institute's fixed operating expenses: salaries and social benefits for 10 employees including teaching staff, social worker, kitchen, cleaning and maintenance, and dentistry.



## Expenditure categories 2024





# YOUR SUPPORT



**1,283**  
students  
served



**449,200**  
healthy snacks and  
lunches served



**250** fruit trees,  
vegetables and  
greens planted



**160**  
literate  
adults



**150+** drinking  
water filters  
delivered



**125**  
teachers  
trained



**1,502** patients  
attended to  
in Health Days



**452** patients  
attended to in  
the Dental Office

## WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO CONTINUE OUR MISSION.

### How can you help?

- Contribute to our cause by encouraging your organization to support us.
- Donate through our website on a one-time or recurring basis.
- Give us your time to continue strengthening our impact and raising resources.

Thank you in advance for your attention and cooperation!

Get in touch with us:

[info@fundamira.org](mailto:info@fundamira.org)

Visit us at:

[www.fundamira.org](http://www.fundamira.org)





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