



SEEDS FOR  
PROGRESS  
FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



THE  
**BL\*O\*MING**  
EFFECT



## **EVERY SEED BLOOMS INTO ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES**

This year, we planted seeds of education in young minds ready to grow. We nurtured families with the care and nourishment that help everyone thrive. We cultivated communities eager to create new opportunities for their future. And we watched them blossom.

This is the Blooming Effect, the transformation seen in every child who learns, in every nutritious meal served, in every teacher who receives new tools, and in every community that grows stronger together.

## DEAR FRIENDS OF SEEDS FOR PROGRESS,

There is something extraordinary about watching a seed bloom. It reminds us that growth is not immediate. It takes care, patience, and the right conditions. And yet, when it happens, it transforms everything.

In 2025, we witnessed this transformation in the lives of hundreds of children, families, and communities across rural Guatemala. We saw children gaining confidence as they learned and were cared for in safe spaces, families strengthened through nutrition and food security, teachers transformed into leaders of change, and communities coming together to build brighter futures. This is what we call The Blooming Effect.

Through our Cultivating Education Model, we worked in 10 schools, reaching more than 900 children and equipping 65 teachers with the tools to transform learning. Classrooms became spaces where students lead, create, and grow; where education goes beyond knowledge and becomes opportunity.

We nurtured growth from the roots through targeted support to 507 children with learning gaps, helping them strengthen foundational skills and accelerate their progress. Because when a child learns to read with confidence, everything begins to bloom.

During the coffee harvest, we expanded our Seeds Camps to 9 communities, providing 548 children with safe spaces to learn, grow, and be protected. With over 17,000 meals served and hundreds of families engaged in awareness workshops, we reaffirmed that protecting childhood is essential for long-term transformation.

At the same time, through our food security and nutrition program, more than 1,500 children accessed balanced diets, complemented by school meals, agroecological productive gardens, community initiatives, and family training.

We also continued building environments where learning can flourish. From new classrooms and libraries to improved kitchens and sanitation facilities, hundreds of children now learn in spaces that reflect their dignity and potential.

And just like in nature, none of this happens alone. It takes a community that believes in possibility. It takes people who are willing to plant seeds without knowing exactly when they will bloom but trusting that they will. Because of you, our partners, donors, and friends, these seeds are growing. They are taking root in classrooms, in homes, and in entire communities. And little by little, they are changing the future.

The Blooming Effect is not a moment; it is a process. It is what happens when we invest consistently, care deeply, and believe in what is possible.

To each of you who has been part of this journey: thank you. You are not just supporting programs, you are helping children, families, and entire communities flourish.

Let us continue planting, nurturing, and believing in what can bloom.

With deep gratitude,



**Kevin Marinacci**  
President  
Seeds for Progress Foundation





# WE TRANSFORM SEEDS OF HOPE INTO GARDENS OF LASTING CHANGE

We are Seeders, cultivators of change, sowing the seeds of education to transform lives in rural communities. We are cultivating a future where knowledge flourishes, opportunities take root, and entire communities reap the fruits of progress.



[LEARN MORE ABOUT US](#)

# PLANTING IN EVERY CORNER OF GUATEMALA

We cultivate opportunities in the heart of rural Guatemalan communities, making sure that no child is left behind.

## WHERE WE WORK



**JUST LIKE IN SPRING, OUR  
WORK NEVER STOPS BLOOMING.  
NEW OPPORTUNITIES SPRING  
UP EVERY DAY.**

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT  
HOW WE CULTIVATE CHANGE**





## **CULTIVATING EDUCATION MODEL**

LEARNING THAT TAKES ROOT IN THE COMMUNITY  
AND FLOURISHES IN THE CLASSROOM

Our Cultivating Education model proposes competency-based learning, in which the community is the main setting where children flourish as active protagonists of their own educational process.

The methodological transfer is carried out through a 120-hour teacher training course organized into three 5-day meetings per year for three consecutive years. The process is cultivated in stages that allow new practices to take deep roots:

## YEAR 1



### INTRODUCTORY MODULE:

Fundamentals of the model, link with teaching experience, and introduction of two strategies.

## YEAR 2



### PRACTICE MODULE:

Deepening, application in new contexts and grades, implementation of two additional strategies.

## YEAR 3



### APPLICATION MODULE:

Complete mastery, implementation of the five strategies, and creation of own extensions.

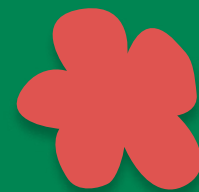
THE MODEL BASES ITS IMPLEMENTATION ON  
FIVE KEY STRATEGIES THAT NURTURE EACH  
STUDENT'S LEARNING:



Management  
of School  
Governments



Project-Based  
Learning



Training instruments  
for the development of  
socio-emotional  
skills



Using Interlearning  
Guides



Competency-Based  
Assessment

# DURING THE YEAR 2025, OUR WORK FOCUSED ON 10 SCHOOLS TO START THE PROCESS OF ADOPTING THE METHODOLOGY, ACHIEVING: IN THE CLASSROOM



**10  
SCHOOLS**  
implementing  
the model



**905  
CHILDREN**  
impacted



**3 MINI  
LIBRARIES**



**11 SCHOOL  
GOVERNMENTS**  
organized, trained, and  
developed with their  
action plan and/or  
learning projects



**20 LEARNING  
PROJECTS**  
implemented by 175  
students with a total  
value of more  
than \$3,500



**40-HOUR  
TRAINING FOR  
65 TEACHERS**  
in pedagogical  
strategies of the  
methodological model,  
and 65 kits of supplies  
and pedagogical  
material delivered to  
teachers.



The Cultivating Education model bore its most beautiful fruits when the children designed, planned, budgeted, and presented their own projects to local authorities.



They learned to lead with purpose, and their ideas sprouted into real transformations: a musical band, a sports field, painted classrooms that revived their school, a soccer "World Cup" to promote values and prevent violence, and student talks on "learning by playing" that multiply the culture of active learning.



Every project is evidence that when we give children the tools to design their environment, they not only learn, they flourish as leaders, creators, and pioneers of their own communities.



Our strategies cultivate competencies through interdisciplinary learning projects that nurture essential life skills through reading and writing and reaffirm our belief that education is the seed that can transform lives.

Like caring for a garden, our approach considers: the training of teachers as gardeners of knowledge, assessments that measure progress, personalized tutorials and reading materials that accompany children at each stage.



## THE FRUITS OF CARE

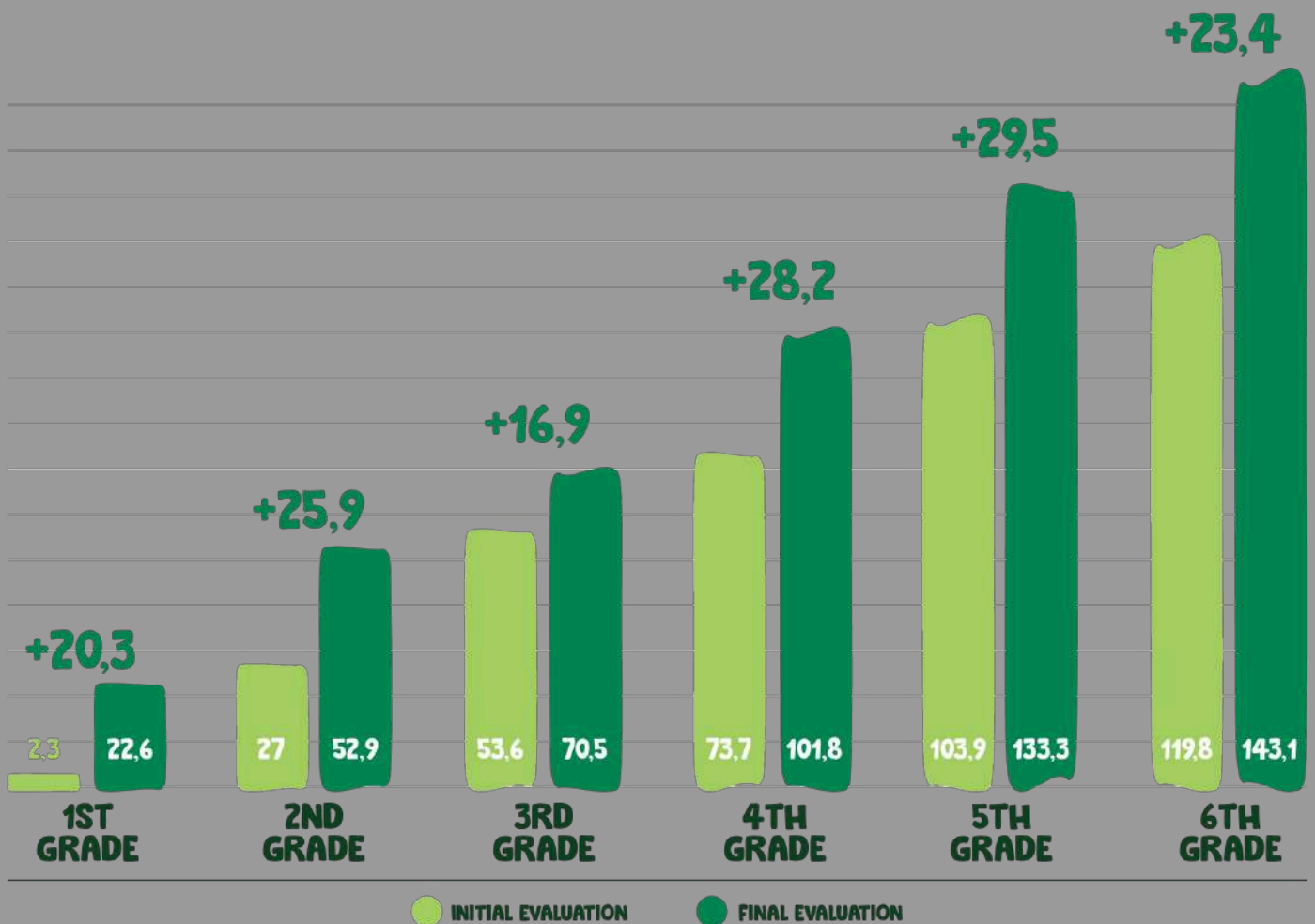
Students who received personalized tutoring improved on average +24 words read per minute over their initial assessment. With this strategy, not only are reading skills transformed, but the foundations are cultivated for each child to flourish academically.



## ATTENDING FROM THE ROOTS

For 14 consecutive weeks, specialized care was provided to 507 children who presented greater difficulties. This individualized care levels their abilities, cultivates success from the roots in the rest of their school career, and encourages continuity and permanence.

## WORDS READ PER MINUTE





## PROTECTING CHILDREN, CULTIVATING OPPORTUNITIES.

During this year's coffee harvest, we sowed seeds of hope by opening 9 Seed Camps in different coffee-growing communities that flourished with prosperity and dignity.

The camps offered specialized education, care, protection, and nutrition for children ages 4 to 14 while their parents worked. In addition, we work hand in hand with teachers, parents, coffee producers, coffee pickers, and the community to raise awareness about the importance of child labor prevention and protection of children's rights through workshops and communication efforts.

Children who learn and grow up in a safe environment do not flourish individually; they become the seed of transformation for their family, and the future harvest of changemakers in their community.

# CARE BY AGE GROUP

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

(Children from 4 to 6 years old)



## PRIMARY EDUCATION

(Children from 7 to 14 years old)

- Cycle 1: 1st to 3rd grade
- Cycle 2: 4th to 6th grade

## COMPONENTS



SECURITY



NUTRITION



EDUCATION



HEALTH



SUSTAINABILITY

# 2025 RESULTS



9 SEEDS CAMPS

(Child Labor Prevention Centers)



548 CHILDREN

received education, care and personalized attention



45 TEACHERS

teachers trained in programmatic methodologies



35,312 MEALS

served during the camp.



282 FAMILIES

benefited



117 SMALL COFFEE

PRODUCERS

benefited



215 COFFEE

PICKERS

processed



119 SINGLE

MOTHERS

benefited



215 PARENTS SENSITIZED

ON THE TOPICS OF:

Food safety, Importance of a healthy education, Importance of family well-being, prevention of child labor and importance of children's rights.

# STORIES THAT BLOOM

Discover what a day at our Seeds Camps is like and see how children grow in environments that allow them to flourish without limits.



[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

**WHERE PROGRESS IS SOWN,  
A COMMUNITY FLOURISHES.**





**SEEDS TO  
NOURISH**



NURTURING MINDS,  
CULTIVATING BRIGHTER FUTURES.

# MAYA NUTRI PROJECT



Our Maya Nutri project is an initiative to promote food security and child nutrition in rural communities.

Together with our ally We Effect, we know that access to adequate food is key to child development, and that a well-nourished child is a child ready to learn. We cultivate the foundation for growth, health, and academic success through nutrition.

## COMPONENTS



Access to and availability of nutritious food.



Adoption of nutrition, hygiene, and food safety practices.



Resilience capacity.

# IMPACT



1,524 GIRLS  
AND BOYS

with access to a nutritious and balanced diet in their schools.



320 GIRLS  
AND BOYS

from 0 to 4 years old benefited from access to a nutritious and balanced diet through community kitchens.



87,400  
MEALS

served during the school year.



43 SCHOOL,  
FAMILY,  
AND COMMUNITY  
GARDENS  
implemented.



25  
AGROECOLOGICAL  
PLOTS

installed, 16 led by 240 women and 9 mixed with the participation of 225 people.



8 ORGANIZED  
SEED BANKS.



44,120 MEALS  
SERVED

in 12 community kitchens.



130 FAMILIES  
TRAINED

in food safety practices and nutritious recipes.



2150 DEWORMED  
CHILDREN.



14 TRAINING  
WORKSHOPS

in 12 schools on food preparation with the participation of 310 participants.



16 SCHOOLS

received food supplements: rice, beans, soybeans and Mannapack.

# FULL PLATES, MINDS READY TO GROW

MannaPack is a fortified food supplement designed to combat malnutrition. It consists of a nutritious mixture, commonly rice or potato with soy, vegetables, and micronutrients to provide essential proteins and vitamins. It is distributed by the organization Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) and reaches our communities thanks to our partners Fabretto Children's Foundation and Convoy of Hope.

## IMPACT



16 RURAL  
SCHOOLS

benefited during the  
school year.



9 SEED  
CAMPS

benefited during  
the coffee harvest.



1,524  
CHILDREN

benefited from  
better nutrition.



12 TRAINING  
WORKSHOPS

about: MannaPack  
preparation, healthy ea  
ting, and food Hygiene.



## ROOTS OF EQUALITY

We are creating transformation gardens, working from the roots to close the gender gap in rural areas. We design initiatives for women and girls because we know that when they thrive, everything around them rises.



**16 TRAINING WORKSHOPS**

with a focus on the transformation of traditional gender roles with the participation of 406 parents.



**72 GIRLS**

from different schools participated in the first girls' meeting, "Girls Who Inspire", creating a space to talk about the importance of their rights as girls.



**175 CHILDREN**

participated in the First Children's Rights Festival.



**234 CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS**

participated in a discussion on hygiene and health.

# CULTIVATING RESILIENCE

Environmental risk management in the communities served by the program has become a challenge that requires deep roots of preparedness. In addition to creating local commissions for the coordination of disaster reduction and management by leaders and volunteers, community capacities were strengthened to identify, plan and execute disaster mitigation, prevention and response actions. This initiative confirms that by working together, communities can flourish with strong roots of security that will remain for generations.

The 8 communities mapped the risks and developed mitigation and capacity-building actions, such as the following:



**2,050 TREES  
PLANTED**

in water recharge areas, through 8 days of reforestation.



**8 WATER COLLECTION  
SYSTEMS**

implemented.



**8 PIPED WATER  
SYSTEMS**

upgraded or under maintenance.



**8 CLEANUP  
DAYS**

in Esquipulas and Camotán communities.



**16 WORKSHOPS**

on resilience, climate change, and the development of organic inputs facilitated.

# THE SEED EFFECT



The Seed Effect is an inspiring three-episode series that follows families, community leaders, and children in rural communities along Guatemala's dry corridor as they transform their lives through food security, nutrition education, and community resilience.

WITNESS HOW A SINGLE SEED CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING.

[WATCH THE VIDEOS](#)

# CULTIVATE WITH US A FUTURE WHERE EVERY CHILD CAN FLOURISH.

If you're passionate about a particular program, consider supporting it directly.



**DONATE**





**BUILDING ENVIRONMENTS  
WHERE LEARNING FLOURISHES.**

SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE SPACES WHERE CHILDREN  
CAN PUT DOWN ROOTS AND GROW.



## EL ZAPOTAL SCHOOL

We inaugurated the new, expanded facilities of the El Zapotal School with the support of the Costa Foundation, located in a coffee-growing community in the municipality of Esquipulas.

The construction includes: a new preschool classroom, a multigrade classroom, a school office with storage, a fully equipped kitchen with a pantry to store food, sanitary facilities for boys and girls with a septic treatment system, and a new handwashing station.

These improvements create a safe and dignified learning environment for the school's 40 students and 2 teachers.

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## TIZAMARTÉ SCHOOL

In collaboration with the Embassy of Japan, we celebrate the transformation of the Tizamarté School, where the renovated walls now protect bigger dreams and the new classrooms house limitless possibilities.

The project included: construction of new classrooms designed for active learning, sanitary facilities that dignify the school experience, and a comprehensive renovation that restores brightness and hope to every corner.

Today, 219 children together with their 8 teachers have the environment they deserve.





## LA ESPERANZA SCHOOL

Nutrition and knowledge have new spaces designed to flourish. The new spaces are a completely new and equipped kitchen that guarantees food prepared with dignity and care, and an equipped library where books become seeds of imagination and learning for the entire school community.

These improvements transform the educational experience of 107 students and 6 teachers, who now have spaces that nourish both the body and the mind.

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## MONTESINAS SCHOOL

A space fully equipped with books, furniture designed for young readers, and a vibrant atmosphere that invites you to explore, discover, and dream on every page now illuminates the Montesinas School. Here, reading ceases to be a chore and becomes an adventure.

This new literary garden transforms the experience of 203 children and their 10 teachers, who now have a space where words flourish and stories plant seeds of knowledge that will grow forever.



## OLOPITA SCHOOL

We are advancing the transformation of the Olopita School, a project that represents our continued investment in the future of this community with the support of the Costa Foundation.

The project under development includes the construction of new classrooms that will expand the capacity and quality of learning, and a comprehensive renovation that will renovate floors, walls, windows, and spaces, preparing a bright, safe, and welcoming place.

Very soon, 67 children together with their 4 teachers will reap the fruits of this effort, with a dignified learning environment in which to cultivate knowledge.



## PASO DE CABALLOS SCHOOL

Spaces that nourish the body and the imagination were set up at the Paso de Caballos School. The 121 children and 5 teachers at this school now enjoy: a renovated and fully equipped kitchen that allows them to prepare nutritious meals with the conditions of hygiene and care that each child deserves, and a library full of color, books, and furniture that invites young readers to enjoy each story.





"Having a new school for me has been a blessing, because before we only had one classroom that had its pieces falling and water getting in. We also didn't have electricity, and we only had one bathroom that served everyone. Thanks to the foundation, we now have a bigger, nicer school where we are happy. "

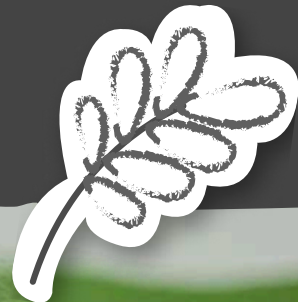
**Luis Padilla,**  
**Student of the El Zapotal School.**



"Now we have a very nice school. We all love it. I like that we now have sinks and bathrooms for everyone. We come to learn and read, they cook delicious food for us, and we enjoy it, we water our plants, and have fun in this new space."

**Evelyn Salazar,**  
**Student of the El Zapotal School.**

**SPRING DOES NOT COME ALONE.  
WE GROW IT TOGETHER,  
ONE DAY AT A TIME.**



# MOMENTS THAT MAKE OUR IMPACT FLOURISH

## THE POWER OF COFFEE EVENT



This event demonstrated what we've always believed: coffee's greatest strength isn't what it gives us every morning, but the connections it generates and the lives it transforms.

Organized in collaboration with Macquarie Group, Sucafina, and Kahawatu Foundation, this was not just another industry gathering. It was a moment where passion met purpose, and the coffee community demonstrated what can be achieved when we channel our collective energy into education in Guatemala's coffee-growing regions.

Thanks to your generosity, we raised an incredible amount of over **\$320,000**, which will benefit children, teachers, and entire communities.

Here's what "The Power of Coffee" really means: when we come together with purpose, when we invest in people, when we decide to be more than just an industry and become a force for good, there's no limit to what we can achieve.

[PHOTO GALLERY](#)

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

# RUN FOR PROGRESS 2ND EDITION RACE



This second edition reminded us that change does not happen in isolation. It occurs when we move forward together, when we transform individual steps into collective advances towards a brighter future.

More than 80 participants decided to spend Sunday morning running 5 and 10 km routes, knowing that each stride would have an impact on rural Guatemala.

This year, we were honored to welcome 12 partner brands\* that shared our vision and elevated the entire experience. Thanks to their generous support, our running kits were not just goodie bags, but tangible proof of solidarity, commitment, and the belief that progress is possible when we run together.

As we celebrate this second edition, we are already looking to the future. The race for progress never stops.

*\*Quick Assist, BHBH, 1001 Athletics, c3ntro, Ainhua, Productos Castilla, Glad, Oca, Eucerin, Panorama, Smash Shack, y Galerías Tiffany.*

IF YOU OR YOUR BRAND ARE INTERESTED IN  
PARTNERING WITH US, CONTACT US AT:

[INFO@SEEDSFORPROGRESS.ORG](mailto:INFO@SEEDSFORPROGRESS.ORG)

## SABORES CON IMPACTO ALLIANCE



We believe that collaboration is the secret ingredient to transforming lives. That's why we launched "Sabores con Impacto" in partnership with the restaurant Melí Meló Fusión Peruana, a purposeful gastronomic experience in which we raise funds to support the education of children in rural communities.

This initiative allowed us to create connections beyond the table: we brought together diners committed to change, entrepreneurs with a social vision, and families who believe in the power of education. Every dish served became a seed of hope, every conversation a bridge between the city and the coffee communities, and every contribution a real opportunity for a child to flourish in the classroom instead of working in the fields.

Beyond the numbers, this alliance planted something more powerful: the seed of an engaged community that now knows that change tastes better when cooked together.

# ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SOWING SEEDS OF PROGRESS WITH US?

Join in and watch your contribution transform into something extraordinary.

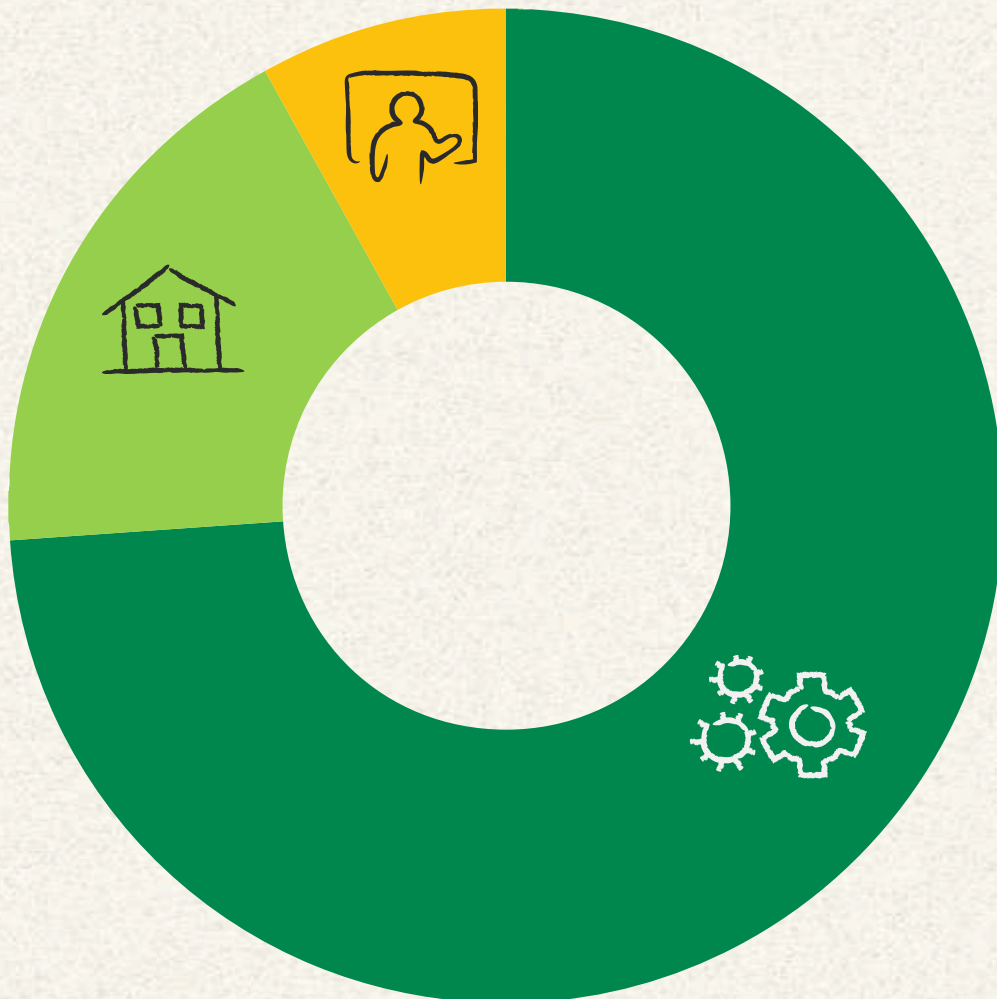
**TAKE ACTION**



# SOWING WITH PURPOSE AND INTEGRITY

Just as a gardener takes care of each plant with precision, we manage each contribution responsibly. Your investment flourishes exactly where it's needed most.

## PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

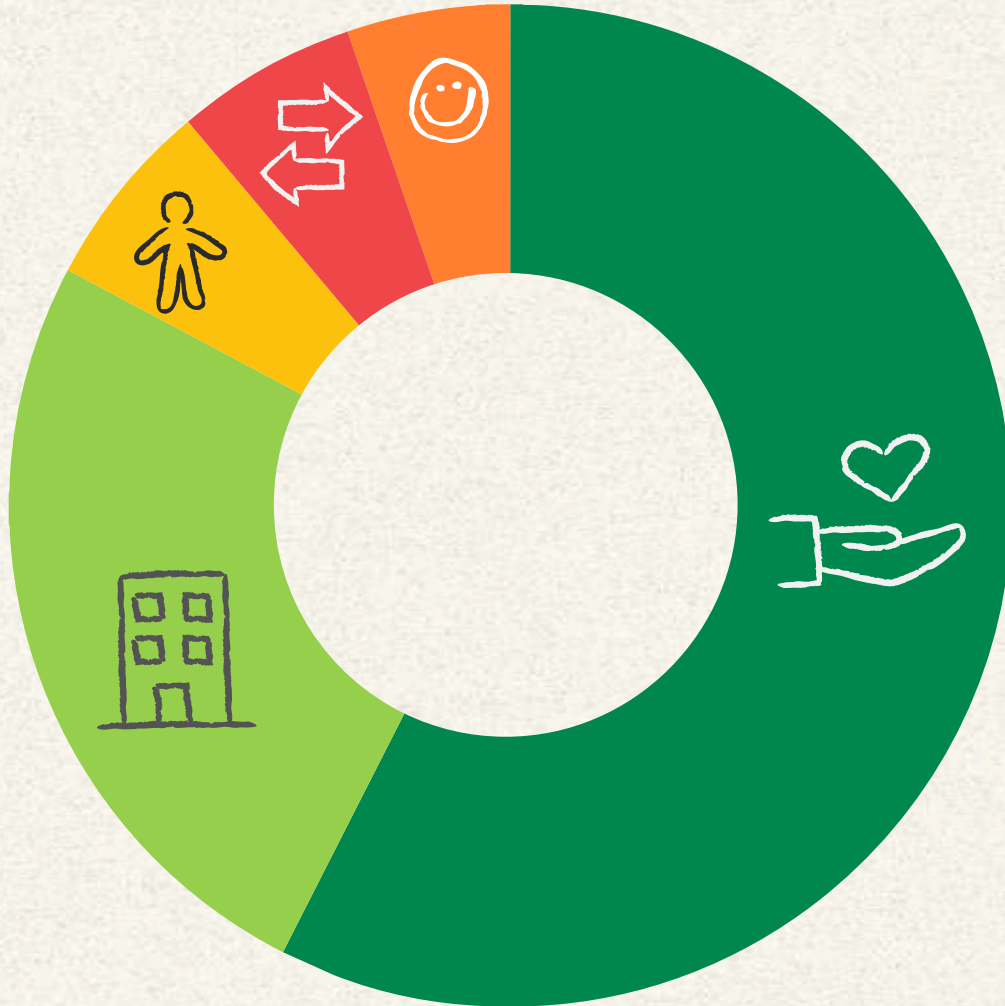


**74%** General program implementation

**18%** School infrastructure

**8%** Teacher training

# INCOME 2025



57% Foundations /NGOs

25% Corporations

6% Embassies

6% Individuals

5% In-kind



Gold  
Transparency  
2025

**Candid.**

We have obtained the Gold Seal of Transparency awarded by Candid. This seal certifies that every dollar invested is transformed into education, nutrition and real impact. This is how we cultivate new opportunities together; with clarity, responsibility and deep roots of trust.



# A GARDEN OF SEEDERS

TOGETHER, WE CULTIVATE A NETWORK OF SUPPORT,  
WHICH FLOURISHES WITH EACH ALLIANCE.



## DIAMOND SEED

Costa Foundation  
Luker Foundation  
Kahawatu Foundation  
Macquarie Group  
Radio AID  
The J.M. Smucker Co.  
We Effect



## PLATINUM SEED

Convoy of Hope  
Embassy of Japan  
Sucafina



## GOLDEN SEED

Fabretto Children's  
Foundation  
Peet's Coffee



## SILVER SEED

Eight O'Clock Coffee Company  
Hart Family Fund  
Illy Caffè  
Lacewing Foundation  
Paul and Deborah Davis  
Satya and Rao Remala  
Foundation



## BRONZE SEED

Carlos Ruisanchez  
Craig Shrontz and Lynn Ristig  
Fondazione Ernesto Illy  
Indiana Baltodano  
Matthew Fleissig  
RPM  
Waukesha Community Foundation



## STRATEGIC ALLIES

BUILDING GOODNESS - CONFEDERACIÓN DE  
FEDERACIONES DE REFORMA AGRARIA  
SALVADOREÑA (CONFRAS) - CONVOY OF HOPE -  
ENTREPRENEURS FOR EDUCATION - FABRETTO  
CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION - FUNCAFÉ - ROVIRALTA  
FOUNDATION - GRAN CAMPAÑA NACIONAL POR  
LA EDUCACIÓN - LACEWING FOUNDATION - HAPPY  
PEOPLE - FEDERATION OF COFFEE GROWERS OF  
COLOMBIA - LUKER FOUNDATION - NOREC -  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OF GUATEMALA -  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF GUATEMALA -  
MUNICIPALITY OF CAMOTÁN - MUNICIPALITY OF  
ESQUIPULAS - MUNICIPALITY OF CASILLAS -  
PROPEL - LEI NETWORK OF CENTRAL AMERICA  
AND THE CARIBBEAN - WE EFFECT





## WHAT YOU PLANT TODAY, BLOOMS FOREVER!

MAKE SURE THAT THE BLOOMING EFFECT DOES NOT STOP

Become a Seeder and be part of the transformation! Every contribution you make is a seed of education, nutrition and protection that blossoms into real opportunities for children in rural communities.

[\*\*DONATE\*\*](#)

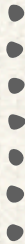
[\*\*OTHER WAYS TO HELP\*\*](#)

# THE GARDENERS OF CHANGE

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DEEP ROOTS OF WISDOM AND VISION THAT DRIVE OUR MISSION.

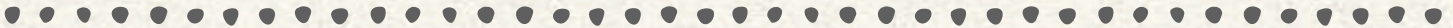
KEVIN  
MARINACCI  
PRESIDENT



BLANCA  
CASTRO  
SECRETARY



KENNETH  
HART  
TREASURER



## MEMBERS

SHARON M.  
RAVITCH

J. ANTONIO  
BALDODANO

JAVIER  
FERNÁNDEZ

## OUR TEAM

WHO SOW, NURTURE AND CELEBRATE EACH FLOWERING.

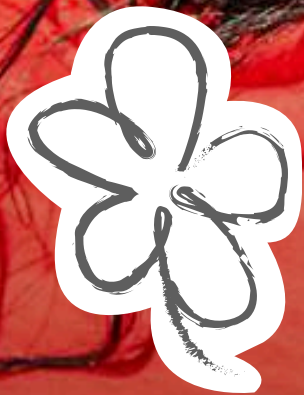
Mynor Maldonado **Executive Director**

Martha Moreno **Program Coordinator**

Melissa Arévalo **Marketing & Communication**

Stefanie López **Accounting and Finance**

Rosinely Montoya **Monitoring and Evaluation**



[VIEW REPORT ONLINE](#)

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING US CARE FOR THIS GARDEN.  
TOGETHER, WE WILL CONTINUE CULTIVATING A  
FUTURE THAT WILL BLOSSOM ENDLESSLY.**

For more information, please contact:  
Programs and Projects: [mmaldonado@seedsforprogress.org](mailto:mmaldonado@seedsforprogress.org)  
Partnerships and Donations: [info@seedsforprogress.org](mailto:info@seedsforprogress.org)  
Marketing & Communication: [marevalo@seedsforprogress.org](mailto:marevalo@seedsforprogress.org)