



International Development Society

Annual Report 2022-2023



A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

This has been a very busy and exciting year for Sombrilla as we have tackled new challenges and opportunities. Sombrilla received a grant from the Fund for Innovation and Transformation (FIT) to provide public engagement funds to help us to share what we have learned from the Equal Access to Justice for Women in the Honduras project. These funds were very welcome, as we had already invited the lawyer from the project Karla Marquez to come to Edmonton and to speak at some events. The FIT funding allowed us to hold public events in Calgary and Edmonton and to visit with organizations working toward preventing gender-based violence herein Alberta. Karla was in Alberta in late May and early June. She joined the ACGC youth connect tour for the first part of her visit and was with Sombrilla in Edmonton and Calgary for the second part, with a quick trip to Banff to see the mountains.

Another exciting opportunity came to us in May when we were approached by the board of Canadian Peacemakers International (CPI) to explore the possibility of transferring their Honduran Computer Assisted Learning (CAL) project to Sombrilla as CPI broadens its focus to sub-Saharan Africa. Talks went on into the fall and resulted in five members of the CPI board joining us on the Sombrilla board and the transfer of the CAL project to Sombrilla. We look forward to working with the partner organization Asociacion Comunitario de Honduras and to continuing to support this very important educational project.

As we reflect on the impact of Sombrilla's work over the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the generosity of our members and supporters, which allows us to continue to make an impact in El Salvador, Honduras and Peru.

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FIT Project – Public Engagement

The activity around the Equal Access to Justice for Women in Honduras Project was centered here in Alberta this year as we used a grant of almost \$20,000 to raise awareness about the issue of gender based violence in Honduras and shared the ways that our project attempted to prevent GBV. In June, Karla Marquez, the lawyer from the project in Honduras joined us here in Albert to share her knowledge and experiences from the project. We organized a series of workplace visits in which Karla presented and shared ideas with professionals who also work towards preventing gender based violence here in Alberta. Karla presented to groups including lawyers, social workers and groups supporting immigrant women.



Karla (in black) presenting to Edmonton Social Workers

Karla did six workplaces presentations in Edmonton and Calgary as well as three public presentations. We continued into the fall with the development a report on the project and we held two workshops intended to promote a learning exchange on how we can promote safer communities for women both in the “North” and in the “South”.

We continue to raise funds to further support the work out partner organization OCHDI is doing to support women in communities in Honduras.

Karla Marquez wins ACGC 30 under 30 Award



Karla (in green) participating in ACGC Global Connect Tour

In February 2023 Karla Marquez, the lawyer from our Equal Access to Justice for Women in Honduras Project was named as one of the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation’s 30 Under 30 Awards.

We were thrilled to see Karla’s important work with the project recognized in this way. On February 9th 2023 some of us attended the ceremony at Central Library in Calgary.

Karla was unable to attend the event in person but was watching on-line from Honduras.

This award led to Karla receiving an invitation to visit Canada in May and to be a part of the Council’s Global Connect Tour. From May 22nd to June 1st she joined other youth participants to explore themes of sustainability, gender equity and local and global issues. On the last day of the tour, Sombrilla hosted the group at a dinner in Edmonton and Karla was able to present to them about her work in Honduras.

El Salvador – José García Scholarship Project.



2023 Scholarship Recipients

Sombrilla has continued the ongoing commitment to the Jose Garcia Scholarship project for post-secondary. Sombrilla provides support to 4 of 12 recipients. We believe that providing individuals with the Right to Education at any stage of life fosters tolerance in society and contributes to reducing conflicts among diverse populations.

Upon completion of their degree, students often stay involved with the program and share their time and skills with their hometowns.

Members of the community have benefited from the involvement and leadership of the students and graduates in the following enterprises; Sewing, Handicrafts, Bee Keeping, Floral Arranging, a Microenterprise fund supporting small business start-ups, and the operation of a small restaurant.

Tanya Maria (scholarship recipient studying psychology) leads a youth group. She also works with women from the surrounding communities covering topics like stress management, self-esteem, mental health and healthy relationships.



Mental Health Workshops

Peru – Yurac Yacu Project

The Yurac Yacu community in Peru has continued to feel the after affects of the pandemic followed by months of political unrest. Because of the ongoing unrest, tourism has not bounced back in the region. This affects parts of the Yurac Yacu project, particularly the café that provides training seasonal employment for women in the community. The café was open during the tourist season but only two days a week. There just were not enough tourists visiting the community to make it profitable.

The women's knitting co-op, Club de Mujeres de Yurac Yacu is into its 10th year. There are 12 women involved in the production and sales of beautiful knitted clothing. The women earn income from their knitting which helps to sustain their families



The food security project continued to benefit the community with many greenhouses throughout the community providing a variety of fruits and vegetables. Three trainings are provided each year for the families taking part in the project and everyone works together to prepare organic compost and artificial chemical free pesticide.

The Yura Yacu preschool celebrated its 12th anniversary in 2022. The preschool continued to provide free, quality early childhood education for children from 3 to 6 years of age right in their community. The preschool serves families who would otherwise face barriers to accessing preschool because of distance to the schools and financial barriers.

SOMBRILLA INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

About Us

Sombrilla is an Alberta-based, independent, non-governmental organization, founded in 1985 as a registered charity to facilitate projects supporting sustainable development, social justice, gender equity and human rights.

Our Mission

Sombrilla partners with communities in Latin America to empower them to assert their democratic, economic, cultural, and social rights.

Our Mandate

Sombrilla's mandate is to walk in solidarity with our partners in the global south towards effective social change for all.

Our Partners

Sombrilla develops partnerships with Latin American community-based organizations that share our mission in order to assist them in reaching their goals.

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Sombrilla International
Development Society



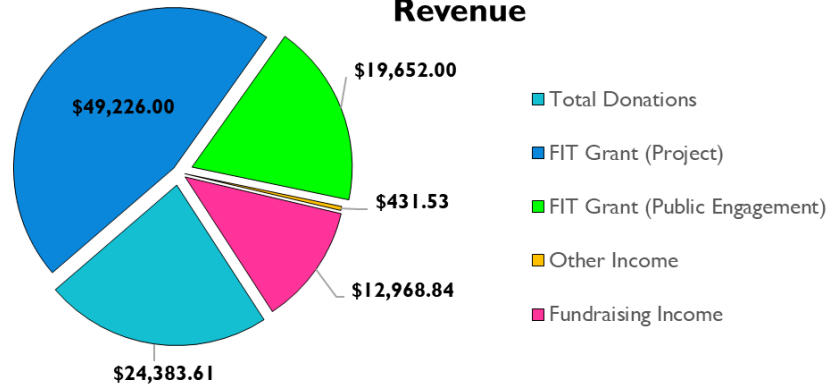
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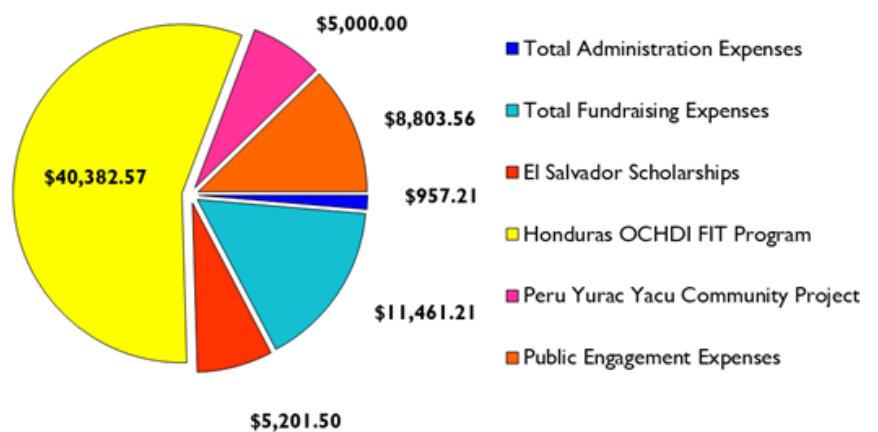
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FINANCIAL REPORT 2022-23

Revenue



Expenses



Total Revenue: \$ 100,661.98

Total Expenses: \$ 71,806.05

Net Income: \$ 28,855.93

A huge thank you to our Funders, Supporters and Individual Donors!



In partnership with

Canada



Fund for Innovation
and Transformation
Fonds pour l'innovation
et la transformation

Sombrilla's 2022/23 Board of Directors

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