

# LIGA MAC A Mexican registered charity "Changing lives through education"

# **Executive Summary:**

Since 1997, Liga MAC has helped to nourish, heal and give opportunities for education to thousands of individuals in the community of San José del Cabo, B.C.S. Mexico. This includes over 6,700 student grants to young students ever since we started our educational support program in 2004.

Our goal is to help as many students as possible to finish high-school and encourage them to attend college or learn a trade as a way for them to begin to earn their way out of poverty in a tough job market that favors skilled and educated workers.

Our **vision** is inspiring and supporting a consistent learning environment to the students in our educational support program with the goal of helping them achieve scholastic and personal growth to maximize their potential.

Liga MAC's **mission** is to offer consistent financial, social and health related support to the students selected for our educational support program and their families, as they transition through middle and high school and on to college or a trade to become educated, contributing and responsible members in their communities.

#### **Organization Overview:**

We are a volunteer-based charitable organization operating in the San Jose del Cabo community in the state of Baja California Sur in Mexico, consisting of Mexican, American, and Canadian individuals, although all nationalities are encouraged to support our mission. This group of dedicated women and men work together, with and through our students, to enrich the community, making it a better place for all residents.

## Our goals are:

To make our educational support program accessible to public school students, within the San Jose del Cabo community, in good standing who qualify based on the standards of our program.

To graduate as many students as possible from high school, so they can have access to jobs that help them develop a higher level of quality life for themselves and their families.

To advance as many students as possible to move on to a higher education degree through college or a trade.

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To impart to our scholars as many life-tools as possible to give them the opportunity to develop their full potential.

Deliver to the community of Los Cabos educated young adults that have changed not only their lives and the lives of their families, but also become part of the social fabric and development of Los Cabos, or wherever they choose to live.

# **Description of Services:**

Our **Educational Support Program** provides the required tuition, uniforms, and school supplies for students in good standing that are "at risk" of leaving school due to financial difficulties.

We award our support to students at the secundaria level (junior high school), preparatoria level (high school) and attend University in all the public schools of San Jose del Cabo. We partner with social workers and school administrators to qualify students for our financial support. Each student must sign a "contract" with LIGA MAC, whereby they agree to:

- 1. provide us with report cards and attendance records on a bi-montly/quarterly basis
- 2. to maintain a minimum GPA of 8.5/10 (Equivalent to a B+ in the US)
- 3. participate in community service projects developed by Liga MAC, and
- 4. to attend additional classes, workshops, lectures, seminars and any other cultural, educational, sport or social activity that we organize.

We also mentor and follow-up our kids along their way, not only through a variety of activities that supplement their preparation for life; we also carry out on-going social work services available to them and their families, making sure that they are well-nourished and stay healthy.

Whenever our students require special tests or medications that do not qualify for coverage under the national health care system, we help them. We work in conjunction with area physicians, hospitals, pharmacies and private or public agencies to provide this care at a greatly reduced cost. Our support includes (but is not limited to) medication, lab or image tests, minor operations, physician care, and emergency care. In all cases, the student's family is incorporated as a responsible co-participant in dealing with the corresponding costs and follow-up on treatments.

Whenever it is discovered one of our grantees and/or their families are going through a crisis, we provide the social support needed. We partner with local professionals, as well as the corresponding government entities, to help our kids to resolve the emotional, social or other issues and provide them with the resources needed to overcome the obstacles that prevent them from succeeding at school.

#### Population groups served:

Any student living in San Jose del Cabo studying middle-school or high-school, whose financial and social situation meets our criteria, is eligible for assistance. We do not charge a fee for our services, but we do screen and interview each prospective recipient and their parents or guardians to determine if they have applied for government assistance or help from family members, before using our resources to assist.

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# **Community Support:**

Liga MAC has established partnerships and working relationships with numerous local municipal and NGO organizations to effectively serve those students and their families in need who reside in San Jose del Cabo.

We register our students in local public schools. We rely on the advice of school administrators and social workers to identify those students most in need to be considered recipients of our financial support. All University students attend a local public University, in hopes they will enter the local workforce upon graduation. We utilize local teachers and volunteers to teach our community service classes, tutoring and educational support classes. We purchase the school supplies and uniforms from local businesses, who offer discounts to Liga MAC.

We have developed personal relationships with area physicians and pharmacists, and count them among our volunteers, donors and Board members. These physicians treat our students at a reduced rate, to support our mission. We also work daily with municipal and private entities to underwrite medical care. Through these collaborations, we are able to fully maximize all financial gifts and provide quality medical care to a large group of individuals for a fraction of the cost.

We purchase our voucher cards for qualified recipients from an established national company, which is easily accessible to those residing in low-income areas of our community. Local businesses and individuals donate clothing and household items for distribution to our students and family members in need.

## **Key Staff:**

Our Support Center (headquarters) is operated five days per week, by four full-time bilingual staff members. All staff members are Mexican nationals and bring both compassion & understanding of the local culture to our service.

We rely on volunteers to teach classes, facilitate workshops and operate information booths at local organic markets, raise funds, and organize special events.

# Sustainability:

Liga MAC sustains its operations and programs through financial donations from individuals, businesses, and foundations. Through the implementation of an annual development plan, our organization is able to maintain and build our donor base through annual giving, special events, and grants.

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#### **U.S. Tax-deductible Donations:**

Through the Seattle-based non-profit **Baja Community Foundation** (BCF) Liga MAC currently receives donations and donors will receive a U.S. tax deduction. Donations can be made online with CC, or by check payable to "Baja Community Foundation" and mail to our US address:

Baja Community Foundation PO Box 2461 Silverdale, WA 98383 United States

For on-line donations visit: https://www.bajacommunityfoundation.org/donate

#### **Canadian Tax-deductible Donations:**



Monarca Canada Foundation. A Canadian charity registered in 2012 with the Canadian Revenue Agency. It was formed by a small group of concerned Canadians who wished to contribute more to their adopted home of Mexico and to encourage others to do the same. The CRA designation allows Monarca Canada Foundation to fund projects in Mexico and to issue Canadian tax deductible receipts to its donors.

3044 Paisley Road North Vancouver, BC, Canada V7R 1C8

http://www.monarcacanadafoundation.ca/board.html

In addition, LIGA MAC holds the "Donataria" status in Mexico per SAT, the Mexican Fiscal Authority.

#### 2022-2023 Liga MAC Board of Directors

# Maria Lindenberg, President & Treasurer.

Canadian Citizen. Retired Supply Chain Management Executive.

Alternates her residency between Calgary and San Jose del Cabo.

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#### Fernando Romero Meza, Secreatary.

Mexican. Trial Lawyer. He belongs to the first generation of young professionals that Liga MAC helped to graduate. Works and resides in San Jose del Cabo.

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#### Tadd Chapman, Director.

Canadian citizen and nationalized as Mexican.

Chef and restaurant owner.

Resides in San Jose del Cabo.

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#### Susan Cornelius. Director.

US Citizen. Retired nurse. Susan has served in many boards in many areas, such as health education and adolescent foundations.

Alternates her residence between Seattle and San Jose del Cabo.

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#### Lina Gonzalez. Director.

Mexican citizen. Young and bright professional woman with a degree in tourism.

Works as Hospitality Director at a local high-end residential community.

Full time resident of Los Cabos.

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## Julián Pontón, Director.

Mexican. Marketing entrepreneur.

Works and resides in San Jose del Cabo.

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#### **Our Accountants:**

## GBC Asesores - Padilla Asesores y Asociados, S.C.

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