

2023

Liga MAC DONOR REPORT



A student wearing a blue shirt and a white face mask is writing on a whiteboard. The whiteboard has the word "Proporciones" at the top. Below it, there are several mathematical problems written in black marker. The student is holding a white marker in their right hand and is in the process of writing. The background is slightly blurred, showing the student's profile and the whiteboard.

Mission

to provide students in need with the support required to advance their education, facilitate independence and encourage personal contributions to their community.

Vision

Inspire and support - both scholastic and personal growth

Family centred - safe, nurturing learning environment for students and their families

Holistic approach - for educational, financial, social, health and essential well being support

Helping Generations Build Better Lives

Introduction

Liga MAC is transforming...Liga MAC is about to embark on its most impressive transformation yet with the opening of the Liga MAC Learning Centre. A product of the pandemic, the Learning Centre was conceived as a way to help marginalized students reach their full potential through designated resource filled spaces designed to deliver dedicated support. The Learning Centre will accommodate all Liga MAC's previously out sourced programs and give students a safe, comfortable environment in which to study.

It's because of you...Liga MAC's current growth could not have been realized without the overwhelming support of our donors. Once the need was identified and a solution proposed, the hearts and wallets of Liga MAC supporters opened with abundance. The overwhelming support resulting from last year's 25th Anniversary Gala, allowed Liga MAC to proceed with more low key fundraising efforts in 2023. In order to sustain Liga MAC's educational support programs and its dedicated facility, we have decided to enter into a new support campaign. The Liga MAC Endowment Program will create a permanent fund to finance Liga MAC's annual operating costs.

The results are in...Liga MAC is proud to announce the [2023 graduating class](#) (please click on the preceding link) of 34 high school graduates and 5 university graduates! A new cohort of 301 students has begun the 2023/2024 student support program year and will be the first to benefit from the Learning Centre. Staff, students and our volunteers are excited to test the boundaries of our new facility and Liga MAC supporters will be invited to a grand opening event in early 2024.

With full hearts and minds...We thank you, our dedicated believers, who enabled a little Mexican charity to raise its sights and expectations for the children and families of San Jose del Cabo!

Message from the Executive Director

In the midst of the pandemic, frustrated that we could not help Liga MAC's students keep up with the demands of such a challenging, unprecedented situation, I heard for the first time from a board member, "Why don't we build our own building?" Back then, it sounded unreal and impossible. Step by step, the dream started to take shape. With the generosity of volunteers and donors the dream is about to come true. Our new Learning Centre is almost finished.



Although we are not a school, we do know by experience the needs of the underprivileged students who attend public schools in San Jose del Cabo: financial constraints, academic challenges, neglect and abuse from those who are supposed to take care of them, and zero opportunities to grasp a better chance in life. These unsolved needs make our kids more vulnerable and as a result, our entire community suffers.

Our new Learning Center will allow us to serve our kids and their families in the holistic way that Liga MAC has approached the problem, all in one location. We will ensure that they get an education, stay physically and mentally healthy and well nourished.

Our staff, the 300 young deserving students that we have under our wing this year and their families, our partners in the community like social workers and school officers, our Mexican professional volunteers and supporters from different public and private entities in town plus our ex-pat volunteers, are thrilled to see the new building rising from its foundations. Our kids cannot wait to start using their new classrooms!

Thank you!

Elva Haro

Message from the President

Since our humble beginnings in 1997, Liga MAC has continued to evolve to meet the needs of our community. With our feet on the ground and eyes on the horizon, there is one thing that Liga MAC staff, volunteers and donors have in common... the belief that we can inspire underprivileged students to learn, dream, achieve and succeed.



Together we have the power to Change Lives Through Education. One student at a time, our graduates lift themselves up and take their families with them making our corner of the world here in Los Cabos a better place.

We are excited about our new Learning Centre and the opportunity to touch more lives. Our staff are skilled and committed, our volunteers are passionate and engaged, and our donors are loyal and generous.

On behalf of myself and the Liga MAC board of directors, I would like to thank all the like-minded, kind hearted people who choose to give back to their community of San Jose del Cabo.

My heartfelt thank you for your trust and support.

Maria Lindenberg

Liga MAC Learning Centre

What is it all about?

- 8,000 sq. ft of designated workspace
- safe working environment for students and staff
- 3 ground floor classrooms expanding into a multi-functional space
- 3 first floor classrooms
- designated library
- designated computer room
- counselling room; meeting room
- reception area; administrative offices; onsite storage
- indoor and outdoor teaching kitchens
- outdoor exercise area
- accessible washrooms

What does it mean for our students?

- all Liga MAC support programs conducted in one location
- programs will be more efficient by running concurrently
- Liga MAC can offer students drop in study space
- student access to resources such as library, reading room, computer lab
- safe space where vulnerable students don't need to be alone
- designated student lunch room



Liga MAC Learning Centre under construction July 2023

What does it mean for our staff & Volunteers?

- private space for student and parent interviews
- student counselling in designated private rooms
- volunteer led programs not dependent on off-site venue availability
- suitable and reliable resources available on site for all programs

What does it mean for our donors?

- open door policy - donors always welcome at the Learning Centre
- The Learning Centre will host celebrations and events to bring together our students, staff, volunteers and donors
- enabling Liga MAC to help more students and families

Student Support Program

Program Outcomes

2022/23 Enrolment:

Secundaria (grades 7 - 9)	118
Preparatoria (grades 10 - 12)	157
Universidad (University)	25
Total	300

2023 Graduates:

Continuing on to university (self-funded)	18
Joining the workforce	4
Received full university scholarships	12
Graduated from university	5
Total graduates	39

2023/24 Enrolment:

Secundaria	129
Preparatoria	143
Universidad	29
Total	301*

• Continuing with Liga MAC	232
New students	69

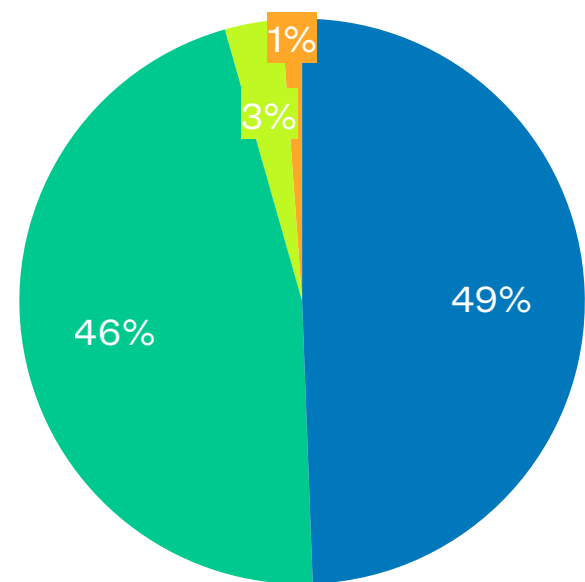


Financial Summary

Operating Costs for the year ending December 31, 2022:

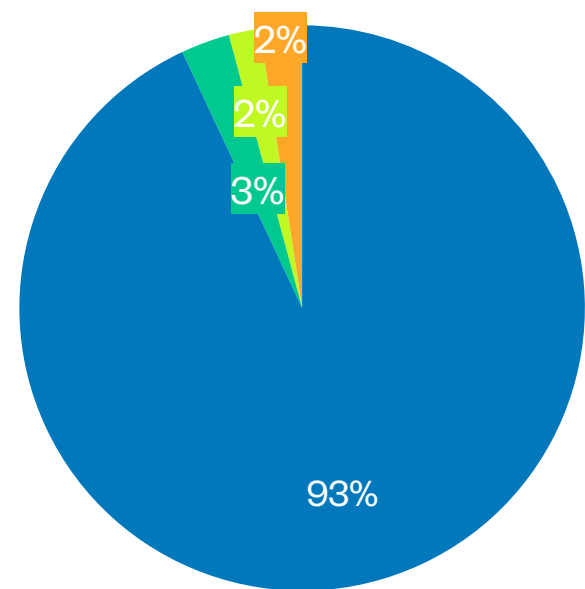
Income

- Donations
- Fundraisers
- Volunteer Activities
- Grants



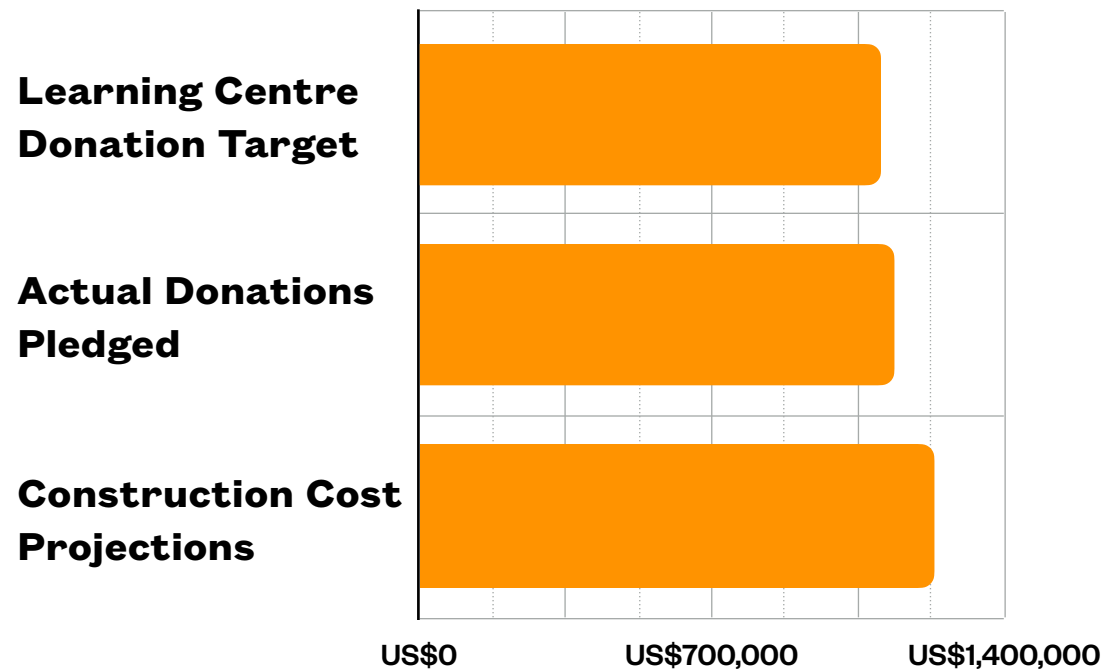
Expenses

- Student Support
- Family Support
- Computers
- Administration



Capital Campaign 2022 - 2023

Learning Centre Construction



- preliminary campaign budget of \$1.1 million US
- construction began in late 2022 with expected completion in late 2023
- actual construction costs exceeded construction budget due to a surge in value of the Mexican peso against the US dollar (a large % of Liga MAC donations are received in US funds)
- actual cost increase due to exchange rate: \$143,078 US





Tutoring Program



Alas & Aguilas Program



English as a Second Language

Student Support Programs

Alas & Aguilas

- created in 2005 for female students, Alas was the first student support program
- Aguilas was created later for male students
- co-ed for the first time in 2022
- students explore post secondary options, human rights and sexual rights; develop confidence
- students work in small co-ed groups to research and prepare presentations on topics ranging from gender equality, human rights, teen pregnancy and relationship violence
- facilitated by trained professionals

Outcome - 42 Grade 10 students completed the program during two training sessions

AHA Moment - due to pandemic facilitators noticed students struggling to socialize

English as a Second Language

- conducted over 10 consecutive Saturday mornings starting in January 2023
- facilitated by volunteers including former teachers, certified ESL teachers, Liga MAC graduates, bilingual private school students
- students preselected by What's App interviews
- full classes plus breakout groups
- final class included verbal and artistic presentation for students and guest followed by pizza

Outcome - 60 high school participants

AHA Moment - very popular program due to low-key, fun approach delivered by native speakers

Student Support Programs, con't.

Spanish and Math Tutoring

- 2 year absence from in-school classes produced negative academic results
- Del Valle Centro de Apoyo Pedagogico hired to deliver tutoring classes in fall of 2022
- fall 2022, 70 Grade 7 - 9 students attend 4 hr. per week
- December 2022 assessment showed slow improvement
- Feb. 2023, 131 Grade 7 - 9 students attend classes

Outcome - May assessment showed 12.3% improvement in Spanish and Math for Grades 7 and 8, 5.7% improvement for Grade 9 Math

AHA Moment - students encouraged to change their attitude from “least effort” to “never enough to know”

Self-esteem & Social Skills

- 12 week program for Grade 7 students new to Liga MAC
- objective to develop a code of conduct including punctuality, respectfulness and participation in all Liga MAC programs
- led by Liga MAC's Co-ordinator of Social Services, Consuelo Espinosa

Outcome - participation by 32 students Grade 7 students

AHA Moment - students overcame their timidity and reluctance to participate in group settings caused by pandemic lockdown

High School Orientation

- “high school information fair” in March 2023 for Liga MAC Grade 9 students and their parents



Self-esteem and Social Skills

- organized by Liga MAC staff
- presentations by all 5 local public high schools plus distance learning program

Outcome - allows students to choose correct high school for career goals

AHA Moment - never offered before but vital to students' futures

Post Secondary Orientation

- 2 hour meeting in December 2022
- organized by Liga MAC staff
- discussion of career choices, university options, scholarship opportunities
- guest speakers from hospitality industry, university scholarship non-profits, Liga MAC Board members

Outcome - 34 students and their parents attended

AHA Moment - resulted in 12 Liga MAC students receiving university scholarships



Community Service

Student Support Programs, Con't.

Agentes de Cambio/Agents of Change

- year long weekly program
- held jointly with the Boys & Girls Club
- combines community leadership, field trips, workshops, exhibitions

Outcome - 32 Liga MAC grade 8 students completed the program

AHA Moment - final project and presentation: cleanup of Playita beach

Community Service

- mandatory participation by Liga MAC students and their parents
- options include helping at the Liga MAC Donation Centre on the corner of Paseo del Los Marinos and Calle del Kayac, at the Centro de Apoyo or in community cleanups

Outcome - win-win-win scenario for Liga MAC and Liga MAC students and their parents

AHA Moment - students and parents learn about giving back



Profile: Executive Director Elva Haro

On a mission to help educate!

Liga MAC is the oldest and one of the most impactful charities in the San Jose del Cabo area. Liga MAC's success is in no way accidental. Success has been achieved through the countless efforts of many volunteers and the generous support of our donors and community partners. However, behind the scenes it takes a steady hand and dogged determination to shepherd efforts to positively impact as many student lives (and their families) as possible. Meet Elva Haro.

Elva Haro is the Executive Director of Liga MAC. Elva together with her staff of three others are ultimately responsible for the delivery of Liga MAC's programs and services to support program students and their families and for the implementation of Liga MAC's strategic plan developed in partnership with the Board. It's a big job! Liga MAC runs lean to ensure as many donor dollars go to students rather than pay for administration costs. However Elva and her team have proven to be more than up to the task.

Elva joined Liga MAC in June of 1993 after a nearly 30 year career working with private corporations and nonprofits in Baja California Sur. Elva is highly educated with a Bachelor's degree in Business Management, a Master's in Gestalt Psychotherapy and an English as a Second Language degree. Along the way she won many awards and commendations for her scholastic achievements. Liga MAC is very lucky to have her.



Elva welcoming Lorenzo Angulo at one of Liga MAC's support programs

Why is Elva so passionate about Liga MAC and its mandate to deliver educational services to underprivileged kids in the San Jose del Cabo area? It is because the road to Elva's educational success did not come easy. She has walked in the shoes of the children she is trying to help. Elva was a gifted student but like so many Mexican families there was not enough money to attend anything but public school and certainly no after school programs. Fortunately Elva had strong support from her parents together with some mentors along the way to attend private high school and to ultimately go to university. It wasn't easy, with many hurdles along the way but Elva persevered. And through it all, she learned many things. Elva understands the value of an education and the importance of a support system and in being a role model for those in need.

With each successful graduation, Elva and Liga MAC are breaking the cycle of poverty one student at a time.

Ways to Help

Without you none of the work done by Liga MAC is possible. Here are a variety of ways you can contribute:

Financial Support

- ★ One time gift
- ★ Monthly, quarterly or annual financial gifts
- ★ Endowments and Estate Planning

Non-financial contributions

- ★ used computers in good working condition
- ★ student clothing - clean or new grades 7 - 12
- ★ household goods (gently used)

Please contact Elva Haro at elva@ligamac.org and drop off at the Donation Centre on the corner of Paseo de Los Marineros and Calle del Kayac, San Jose del Cabo

Volunteer Opportunities

- ★ fundraising events
- ★ donation centre
- ★ ESL teaching
- ★ Liga MAC Organic Market booths
- ★ committee and Board member

What your financial gifts support

- ★ Annual operating costs of \$300,000 USD including student support programs, student uniforms, school tuition fees, family support
- ★ Learning Centre needs (one time expenditures)
 - Furnishings (includes 105 student chairs, 5 teacher's tables, computer lab tables, library shelves, classroom cubbies) - \$35,000 USD
 - Kitchen appliances & work tables (2 commercial refrigerators, 2 stoves, 2 kitchen hoods, propane grill 3 stainless steel work tables, microwave) - \$15,000 USD - **PLEDGED**
 - Counselling/meeting rooms (2 swivel chairs, coffee table & rug for therapy room, table, 6 chairs, 4 reading chairs, rug and side tables for library, chairs for kitchen tables) - \$16,000 USD - **PLEDGED**
 - Data and voice (internal phone system & internet access) - \$30,000 USD
 - Audio/visual system (classroom & multifunction room) - \$30,000 USD
 - CCTV & controlled access (security) - \$8,000 USD
 - Computers for lab - \$8,000 USD

How to Donate

How to donate and receive a tax receipt:

US residents: Baja Community Foundation
(bajacommunityfoundation.org)

Canadian residents: Monarca Canada Foundation (monarcafoundation.ca)

*Please indicate your donation is for Liga MAC and advise Liga MAC of your donation by email to elva@ligamac.org

Mexican citizens: Liga MAC, A.C.
(ligamac.org)



Liga MAC contact information:

Website: ligamac.org

Come visit!! The Liga MAC Learning Centre: corner of Margarito Sandez and Luis Castro Streets, Zacatal,
San Jose del Cabo, Mexico

The Donation Centre (in season): corner of Paseo de Los Marineros and Calle del Kayac, San Jose del
Cabo, Mexico

Call us! + 52 624 120-1060

Email: info@ligamac.org

Liga MAC staff:

Executive Director:	Elva Haro
Co-ordinator of Social Services:	Consuelo Espinosa
Educational Support Coordinator:	Karen Castro
Education Co-ordinator:	Maggie Martinez

Liga MAC Board of Directors:

President	Maria Lindenberg	
Directors	Tadd Chapman	Fernando Romero Meza
	Susan Cornelius	Julian Ponton
	Lina Gonzalez	Nancy Wayne