

"YOU DON'T JUST DONATE A BOOK
¡YOU SUPPORT OUR DREAMS!"

Libros
para Pueblos



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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MISSION AND VISION

MISSION

Our objective is to develop lifelong readers and learners, capable of making positive contributions to society, by providing books and effective reading programs that inspire and motivate children and adults in underserved communities.

VISION

To create a more educated world by providing a methodology for reading promotion that can be adjusted culturally and geographically to inspire and guide other organizations globally.

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS



On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank the donors and supporters of Libros Para Pueblos and congratulate the staff on a successful year as we emerged from COVID restrictions and suspension of operation in many network libraries. It is a testimony to LPP donors and the leadership of Executive Director José Luis Zárate, our staff, regional coordinators, and Board members that LPP not only weathered the difficulties, but succeeded in strengthening our network of 60 libraries through online training, book delivery, inauguration of two new partner libraries, and the launching of a dynamic puppetry project for reading promotion.

In the message from Executive Director José Luis Zárate and the “Achievements” sections of this Annual Report, you will find more detailed information on the remarkable accomplishments during 2022.

More than twenty years ago, two expats decided to provide books to a school library, and thus began the idea of Libros Para Pueblos. Since then, the dedication and continued financial commitment of donors has sustained the organization and made possible its growth and increased impact. As we look to years ahead, we want to ensure the future of this project which benefits thousands of children and families in Oaxaca by encouraging existing and new donors to consider an ongoing financial commitment.

In collaboration with a professional accounting company in Oaxaca, LPP continues to manage its financial operations with diligence, ensuring that it is in full compliance with all Mexican legal regulations and that donors’ designations of funds are followed.

We look forward to 2023 as a year in which we will not only return fully to pre-pandemic levels of operation but will also achieve even greater impact. Our newsletters and updated website will keep you informed of these exciting developments.

Again, thank you for your support! Together, we nurture the joy of reading, strengthen the commitment to education, and open the doors of possibilities for the children of Oaxaca.

Enid Lynn, President

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We're coming back stronger!

Looking back on 2022 from the perspective of early 2023, I am very happy to say that Libros Para Pueblos not only survived the pandemic, but we have also emerged as a more robust, resilient and creative organization. I can say with great emotion that, despite the pandemic's disastrous effects on many families, including my own, it gave us an invaluable opportunity to learn and innovate. I am proud of the many ways LPP staff, regional coordinators, librarians, volunteers, and donors rose to the challenge in 2022 and made us stronger.

But going into 2022, this was by no means a certain outcome. At the start of the year, almost all our network libraries were operating only on an intermittent basis, in accordance with government regulations and community circumstances. In spite of this, many found innovative ways to get books into the hands of children, whether through home delivery, read-aloud programs in open spaces, or "mobile-library" book carts equipped with bullhorns announcing book loans available.

Thanks to sponsor donations, we had purchased the more than 7,000 books needed to provide the annual book supplement of 100+ books to each of the libraries. As in 2021, the library manager and municipal authority from each library came to the Oaxaca office by appointment to get their books, sign agreements of collaboration, and update LPP on library usage. These face-to-face meetings gave me the chance to learn what was occurring in each library and to hear the library managers speak about their future plans and challenges with which LPP might help.

For the second year in a row, we could not hold an in-person Annual Conference which gives representatives of all libraries a chance to gather, exchange ideas, and attend in-person workshops. Instead, we provided online training workshops for those libraries with stable internet connectivity.

In the fall, we launched the “Reading Promotion Through Puppetry” pilot project, which is now our core program from which other strategies and techniques will develop. Master puppeteers perform entertaining shows that demonstrate the fun and benefits of reading. In addition, they lead library staff in puppet-making workshops so the staff can continue to use puppets with young people in ways that bring stories alive, deepen children’s engagement with books, and promote further reading.

In November we resumed visits to libraries which gave sponsors and new supporters a first-hand look at the impact of LPP’s partnership with libraries. Children read with LPP tour participants, and the library staff explained the important role of the library in the life of the community. Thanks to the experience of the visits, several new visitors became library sponsors or donors to LPP.

To communicate with supporters, we produced two newsletters with information on current activities and future plans. Additionally, we updated our website with current information, improved navigation, and announcements of upcoming tours and events.

By the end of 2022, 95% of the libraries had returned to their normal operations. We are working with the remaining 5% to help them return to pre-pandemic levels of activities. Despite the challenges of the year, we were able to inaugurate two new libraries in areas of high social and economic vulnerability.

I would like to close my message by thanking our incredible family of sponsors and donors. Without your assistance, none of this would have been possible – your financial and moral support sustained the programs and allowed us to overcome the challenges of the pandemic. We want to assure you that the resources you have chosen to invest in LPP have been used diligently and responsibly, with the objective of achieving the greatest possible impact for the benefit of Oaxacan youth and, by extension, their entire communities.

Thank you sincerely,

Jose Luis Zarate, Executive Director

WHAT WE DO

To fulfill its mission, *Libros Para Pueblos* collaborates with library managers, municipal authorities, and community educators in economically and socially disadvantaged regions of Oaxaca State to enhance children's libraries and promote the joy of reading. This support includes an annual donation of high-quality children's books to all libraries in our network. Without these donations, many children would have severely limited access to books. LPP policy ensures that all libraries in our network allow—indeed, encourage—children to take books home so that siblings and parents also become involved in enjoyable reading activities.

LPP also provides training to library staff so they can engage children in reading, deepen the children's experience with stories, and strengthen skills that will support continued education. Training for library managers includes library management, storytelling, puppetry, and the use of activity guides to create a rich and dynamic environment for the children. In addition, LPP holds an Annual Conference which brings together library managers and municipal authorities from all libraries for workshops and to share best practices with others in the network.



LPP has developed programs that have specific learning objectives and that require dedicated funds for each program. Some of these programs are:

Reading Promotion through Puppetry

The puppet theater has become an effective tool to promote reading and to attract more children to libraries. Approximately 15 libraries are visited each year.



Annual Conference

The managers of libraries and their authorities (school or municipal) participate in the annual conference with the aim of learning new strategies for reading promotion. It is also an opportunity to motivate the authorities to continue providing support to the project that also contributes to the cognitive and emotional development of children.



Regional Workshops

The regional workshops are held with the purpose of providing guidance and conducting monitoring and evaluation of the libraries in the network- They are spaces for learning and dialogue in which libraries share their experiences and best practices.





Rutas Literarias

A “Ruta Literaria” (literary route) designates a “roadmap” of books in the library based on a topic and provides ideas and techniques for related multi-media activities. The goal is to provide the children with a multi-dimensional experience, reinforcing the joy of reading and developing creativity, understanding and curiosity.



Storytelling

LPP is implementing training and presentations of storytelling in libraries. This will engage young readers in participatory, playful, and critical-thinking activities to complement their reading of books



ACHIEVEMENTS

As discussed in our Executive Director’s Message, although the pandemic continued to have a significant impact on our operations in 2022 (especially early in the year), Libros Para Pueblos entered 2023 as a robust organization, well-equipped to continue fulfilling its mission and vision.

5,400 CHILDREN AND YOUTH

participated in library visits and reading-promotion activities

100 BOOKS

Each library partner received more than 100 books.

2 NEW LIBRARIES

We qualified and inaugurated two new libraries into the LPP network.

7,800 BOOKS

LPP purchased 7,800 high-quality books for distribution to library partners

170 ACTIVITIES

Libraries conducted some 170 reading-promotion activities.

PUPPETRY PROGRAM

Master puppeteers presented puppetry shows and puppet-making workshops at five libraries in the pilot phase of LPP’s “Reading Promotion Through Puppetry” project.

Our Executive Director and staff held **6 online and in-person meetings** with our Regional Coordinators, strengthening ties and determining strategies to deal with challenges.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Every **library sponsor** received a report on the status of the specific library they sponsor.

To keep our donors up to date on LPP's activities, we produced **2 newsletters and the 2021 Annual Report**, and updated our website.

We hired a highly qualified new **Assistant Director, Adriana Girón Velázquez**.

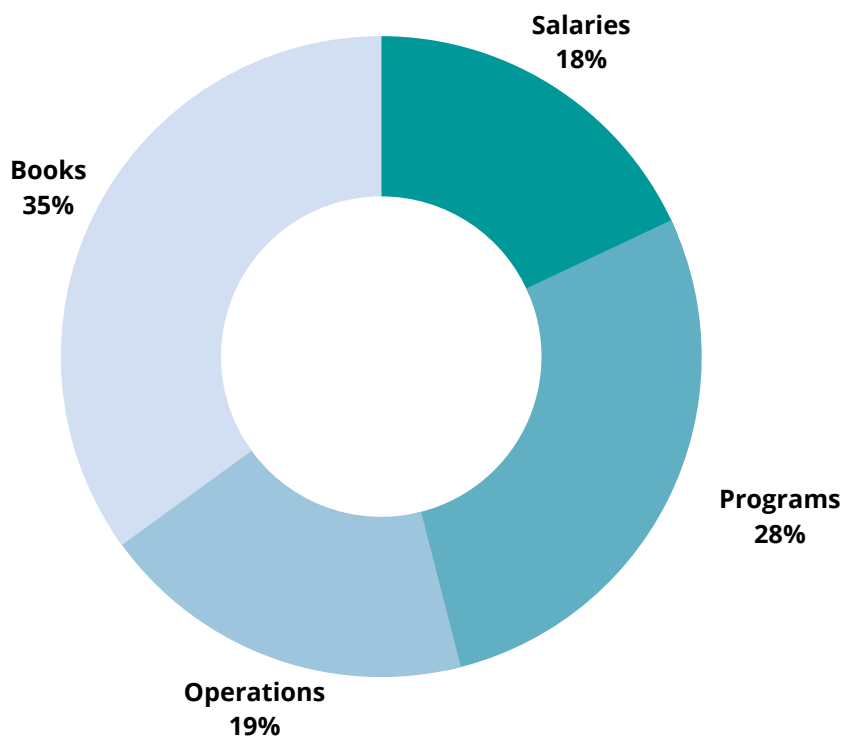
(Biography at <https://www.librospapueblos.org/leadership>)

After the pandemic pause, we re-launched our popular **library visits**, with a total of 64 participants (many now donors) visiting 4 of our network libraries.

We welcomed four **new talented members to our Board of Directors**: Cairn Verhulst, Deborah Gitlitz, Mimi Merchev and Mike Bronn, joining Board President Enid Lynn.

(Biographies at <https://www.librospapueblos.org/leadership>)





FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Donations from individuals, couples, groups and organizations provide the entirety of LPP’s funding. Donations fall into several categories: “Library Sponsors” make annual donations over several years to support a specific library in the LPP network. Donations from “Sponsors at Large” cover expenses that pertain to programs for the entire network and staff. Other sponsors make financial commitments to specific reading-promotion programs; still other donors make donations to the general fund which are used for the operation of the organization. No matter how donations are designated, overall, they all go a long way in helping to put books in the hands of children and to enhance the joy of reading.

SPONSORS AND DONORS

DONATIONS RECEIVED THROUGH FRIENDS OF LIBROS PARA PUEBLOS (FLPP)

Sponsors at Large

Dora Harnett
Elisa and Robert Hufnagel

Bob and Joan Anyon
Kenneth Baum and Efrat Livy
Marianne Benforado and David
Lawrence
Carolyn Beron
Mike Bronn
Judy and Patrick Buckley
John Burch and Carl Owens
Kay Burch
Roberta Christie
Maria Christina Franke
Bryan Fritz and Elizabeth
Templeton
Alan Goodman and Kathy Mazzetti
Doug and Joan Harmon
David Haskin and Mary Michal
Hereld Kane
Jerry Kelch and Enid Lynn
Peter McCallion
Hunter Moorman and Leslie Gray

Donors

*Denotes Library or Program Sponsor

Robert Adler and Jo Ann Wexler *
Christina Danielle Allen*
Anonymous
Derek Apfel
Kenneth Apfel and Caroline Hadley*

Ark Bookstore*
Chris Bell and Toyan Copeland *
Kathryn Bertelli *
Pam Bixter
Linda Boback
Diane and Richard Brainerd*
Breedlove Family *
Helen Bronk *
John Burch and Carl Owens
Karen Carter*
Christine Charneski*
Ann and Tim Collins *
Bud Combs *
Alan and Nancy Condit
Bert Cornick and Helen Honse *
Janie Cravens and the Word Wasps
Linda Danter
Virginia Darvill*
Jevne Diaz and Peter French *
Peter Dollard and Merle Westbrook *
Louis Eby *
Brigid Finucane and William
Hornsby, Jr.
Larry and Lynn Foster *
Katherine Gibson *
Gitlitz Family and Friends *
Sally Godard and Ron Olisar *
Bernie Goldray *
Gregory Grinley *
Siobhan Grogan *
Linda Grogh
Ty Hardin
Doug and Joan Harmon*

SPONSORS AND DONORS

Dora Hartnett *
Vivian Harvey
John and Patricia Hemann *
Henderson County Reads
Lynn Hensel and Lawrence Kemaya*
Diane and William Hiatt *
Portia Iversen
Trintje Jansen *
Judith Gosnell Kempe *
Mary Jo Kirschman and Baltimore
Books and Chocolate Group *
Karen Kramer *
Richard Krohn and Anne Walker *
Carlos and Penelope Landa*
Hans and Linda Landig *
Francine and Paul LaPorte *
Kristina Lindborg
Theo Mace and Lorna Stone *
Mary Marchev
Carolyn and Peter Martin *
John and Laura Marshall *
Timothy Matheson
Bricia Matus *
Joseph McDonald *
Richard Michaels and Tracy Roach *
Eliza Migdal and Michael Popper
Allison Mitchell and Andrew Upton *
Ann and Heather Mitchell *
Christy and Frank Monahan *
Martha Moses *
Susan and Thomas Mounkhall *
Cait Murphy *
Nan Newell *

Evelyn Oehler *
Pelham Middle School Spanish Club
Sue Petersen *
Ellen, Mackenzie and Taylor Phillips *
Mary and William Phillips *
Irene Porges *
Christina Ragle *
David and Mila Raphael*
Charles and Susan Willows Raznikov *
Retired Peace Corps Volunteers of
Madison, WI
Jane Robison *
Gilda Roncari *
Dave and Jan Rooney *
Ellen Roth *
Paula Rosen *
Saint Bernard School *
Imelda Schaefer *
Scott Shane and Francie Weeks *
Mary Stecher *
George and Madelyne Stevens *
Marcia Stone *
William Stone *
Kenneth Templeton
Genevieve Tietjen*
Carol Turkenik and Ron Waterbury *
Liduina Van Ness *
Maxine Van Slyke *
Mary Kay Vaughn *
Marilyn Waterman *
Henry and Peggy Wilson
Gordon Wing and Janice Zeppa *
Cicely and Marcus Winter
Lenore and Michael Wolf *
Karen Wuebbens *

SPONSORS AND DONORS

DONATIONS RECEIVED THROUGH CANADIAN FRIENDS OF OAXACA (CANFRO)

Donors

*Denotes Library or Program Sponsor

Anonymous

Davis Bakhurst and Christine Sypnowich *

Virginia Bartley *

Lynn Butler

Karen Brennan *

Hanna Caplan

Cassandra Cardozo - Richardson

Robin Cardozo and Jeff Richardson *

Carolyn Corcoran *

Maureen De West *

Sheila Du Toit

Bonnie Livingstone

Larry Loeb and Family *

Joanne Long *

Don Northey *

Steven Page *

Rosy Pellarin

Ed Pomeroy *

Wendy Robbins

Michael Rouse *

Lynda Wilde *

SPONSORS AND DONORS

DONATIONS RECEIVED THROUGH LIBROS PARA PUEBLOS (LPP)

Donors

*Denotes Library or Program Sponsor

Terri Bierdman
Linda Danter
Cherri George
Barri Jones
Hereld Kane *
Cecilia Martínez Leal *
Kathleen McCabe
Barbara Murphy
Bill Pumphrey *

In memory

In memory of Robert Stewart - FLPP
Carl Owens and John Burch



Libros 
para Pueblos

www.librospapueblos.org
Pino Suárez #519, Centro,
Oaxaca, Oaxaca.
info@librospapueblos.org