

Dear Friends of El Pozo de Vida,

So much has happened for us in 2022! We want to take this moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support and continue to engage with you throughout 2023. We want to share with you some key highlights as the year comes to a close:

Our prevention programs conducted 245 activities, reaching 18,456 individuals with education and awareness content

Invention programs held 40 outreaches, reaching 963 beneficiaries in red-light districts

El Pozo de Vida's restoration programs served 36 young girls in our safe and transition homes

And our campaign to eradicate forced child begging in Mexico reached 7,021,535 people

Another big win for us this year, along with the campaign to eradicate forced child begging, was the law reform we have been working on with the senator who chairs the committee on youth and children. On November 9th, the law reform passed the Senate and now we are awaiting for Congress to vote so the reform can be formalized.

Many of you may have heard that during the pandemic we have been searching for a new location for our community center in La Merced. We have great news! This fall we inaugurated our new community center and signed a 5 year lease! In addition to that someone donated to cover the entire 5 years of rent!

As our projects have grown, so has our staff. We have grown about 10% throughout this year. And with all of the post-pandemic inflation, we have given out raises across the board to help cover the rise in prices for food, transportation and rent.

As we look forward to 2023, we have a strong sense of increased authority to fight human trafficking in Mexico and the Central American region. Recently, we have been given special access by the federal government into a municipality where most of the human-traffickers originate. Currently, we are developing strategies to help build intrinsic value and worth within the community so that people will make their own choice to stop trafficking people.

With that, our focus word for this coming year is "intuit" -to know sense, work or understand by intuition. We believe that sometimes the most logical or strategic solutions are the not the always the most effective. We need the guidance of the Holy Spirit to give us supernatural wisdom and knowledge to be applied against the issue of human trafficking.

Beyond your prayers and continual donations, this coming year we are looking to provide more grocery assistance for our 45 member staff, which would cost us approximately \$14,000/year. In addition to that, we are looking to purchase one more vehicle for staff that are working on the field doing trainings, field studies and monitoring for potential trafficking victims in high transit areas.

We are so grateful for your belief in our mission and for the time, energy, and resources you have invested in us. Your contributions have allowed us to make significant progress and achieve important milestones, and we could not have done it without you.

We are deeply grateful for your partnership and look forward to continuing to work together in the coming year.

Benny and Janice Yu

