



ONE EQUAL HEART
FOUNDATION

YOUR 2018-2019 GRATITUDE REPORT

**Thank you for igniting hope and
opportunity in Chiapas!**

This report highlights some of the ways your generosity catalyzed change and improved wellbeing for Indigenous women and their communities in 2018-2019.



Growing Food & Incomes:

71 Caretakers of Mother Earth are teaching and applying strategies to grow and raise more food ecologically on family farms.



Advancing Rights of Women & Children:

54 MILPA coordinators and promoters are advancing rights of women and increasing their participation in community decision-making.



Elevating Indigenous Voices:

468 radio programs on topics like agroecology, health, and women's rights and leadership were broadcast to over 30,000 people.



**Honoring indigenous roots,
nurturing community growth!**

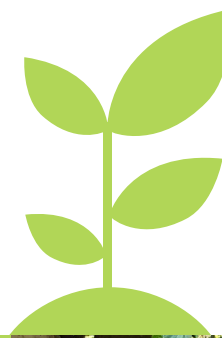
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GROWING FOOD & INCOMES

Agroecology Project



Indigenous families in Chiapas hunger for food and opportunities.

Families frequently report food scarcity between harvests, changing climate conditions that ruin crops, limited access to markets, and shortage of cash to pay medical expenses and school fees.

Your support equips women and their families with skills to:

- Grow and raise more food ecologically
- Earn income by selling products in local markets
- Manage earnings through savings and credit cooperatives



IN 2018-2019 your donations catalyzed change by:

- **Activating** 42 new Caretakers of Mother Earth (agroecology promoters) to apply what they learned on their family farms
- **Engaging** 86 Caretakers of Mother Earth (including 73 women) in 4 savings and credit cooperatives, where they met their savings goals and supported each other with low-interest loans
- **Training** 29 graduates from the agroecology certificate program to serve as teacher-facilitators and give workshops at various community agroecology training centers in the region
- **Supporting** 16 women Caretakers of Mother Earth to lead groups of 10-15 women in their communities to grow vegetables, sell produce and bread, and manage earnings
- **Broadcasting** 16 programs on agroecology to over 30,000 people through “Ach’ Lequilc’op” Indigenous community radio

IN 2019-2020 your support will build on these successes to engage more Indigenous women to grow food ecologically and **increase productivity on their family farms**; support women-led family and group projects to **increase incomes and decision-making power**; and facilitate savings and credit cooperatives to provide access to **low-interest loans to fuel economic initiatives**.



“Thanks to the participation of my community, we have been able to keep growing corn, beans and vegetables. What we earn from the sale of these products we have poured into our savings and credit cooperative and into building permanent beds for vegetable gardens.”

– Jerónima López, Agroecology Promoter, Campo Bolontina)



ADVANCING RIGHTS OF WOMEN & CHILDREN

MILPA Project



Indigenous women in Chiapas face high rates of violence. This violence is fueled by alcoholism and generations of social inequities, serious obstacles to women who seek full participation in family and community life.

Your generous support of the MILPA Project confronts these challenges by equipping Indigenous women with skills to advocate for their rights, represent women in cases of violence, and serve as leaders in community government.

IN 2018-2019 your generosity changed the equation in Chiapas by:

- **Training** 31 women rights promoters to advance rights of women and increase their participation in community life
- **Facilitating** 23 women coordinators to participate in regional assemblies to promote the rights of women
- **Producing** twice-monthly know-your-rights radio shows to a listening audience of over 30,000
- **Supporting** 6 women representatives serving in community councils in two rural municipalities
- **Establishing** 7 committees of women conflict mediators to represent and attend to women who have suffered violence

2019-2020 your donations will deepen this work, fueling projects focused on engaging **Indigenous women as promoters, mediators and community representatives** to advance rights of women, build **communities free from violence**, and support **emotional and psychological healing** of women and girls.

"Traditionally, men occupy leadership and positions of authority in communities, and they don't encourage women to participate. That's why our work to support women as leaders in community government is important."

Sebastiana "Xapy" Aguilar, MILPA Project Coordinator, CEDIAC





ELEVATING INDIGENOUS VOICES

Radio Ach' Lequic'op Project

Voices of Indigenous Peoples, especially Indigenous women, are rarely heard in the media and contribute to loss of Indigenous languages and cultures.

Your generosity supports Indigenous community radio to **strengthen the cultures and languages of Chiapas' Original Peoples**, providing information and news to **engage and encourage civic participation**.

"Thanks to the support we've received, the radio has developed content that is informative, educational, and raises awareness in communities."

Amalia Hernández, Radio Project Coordinator, Ach' Lequic'op



IN 2018-2019 your donations elevated and amplified Indigenous voices by:

- **Broadcasting** 468 programs on relevant topics such as agroecology, health, and women's rights and leadership
- **Training** 20 volunteers to conduct interviews, gather stories and produce radio broadcasts in outlying villages
- **Strengthening** culture and tradition through programs featuring elders who shared fables, histories and regional recipes
- **Organizing** communication strategies to coordinate educational, news and cultural programming for social change
- **Equipping** 17 volunteers with skills to collect and manage documents in the library to protect Indigenous knowledge

IN 2019-2020 your donations will continue to support Indigenous community radio, a powerful vehicle for education and collective participation. A special focus of this work will be to engage youth as volunteer *radialistas* to gather local news and cultural history by interviewing community elders.

EXCITING NEWS!



In February 2019, we welcomed Karin Columba as our new Executive Director!

With a Master's of Science in Planning and Environment and over 20 years of deep experience working alongside Indigenous and rural communities all over Latin America, Karin is passionate about collaborating with Indigenous communities in Chiapas to realize their vision of living well and sustainably on their ancestral lands.

"I am truly excited about serving as Director of One Equal Heart because I want to work with Indigenous leaders and communities to build their own development based on their cultural values."

Karin Columba, Executive Director