



friends of
Batahola
Annual Report 2022



***I learned about my rights
and learned to exercise them
in my life's journey.***

It was in 2015, when Julio Ricardo Delgado Ulloa was 10 years old and decided to enter the Center to study the guitar and drawing course. He began loving music because of his grandfather, who taught him to sing boleros.

In 2017, after finishing the guitar course he decided to join the Angel Torrellas Choir where he musically accompanied the Sunday masses.

"Sundays were nice for being a new experience because the mass was different by interpreting the Nicaraguan mass and the peasant mass. What I love most about the Center are its spaces for us to develop in music."

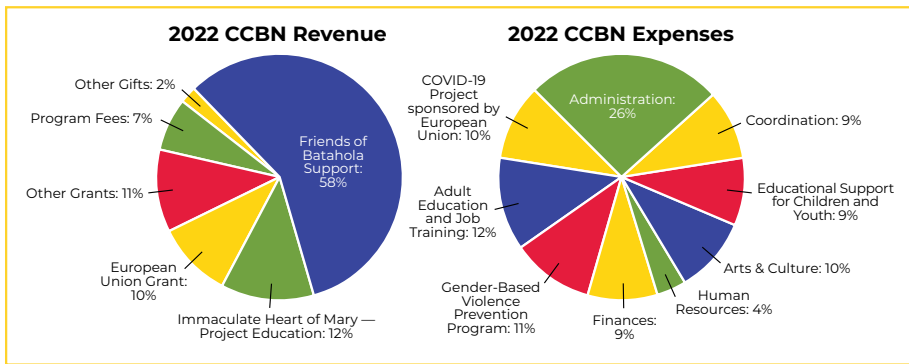
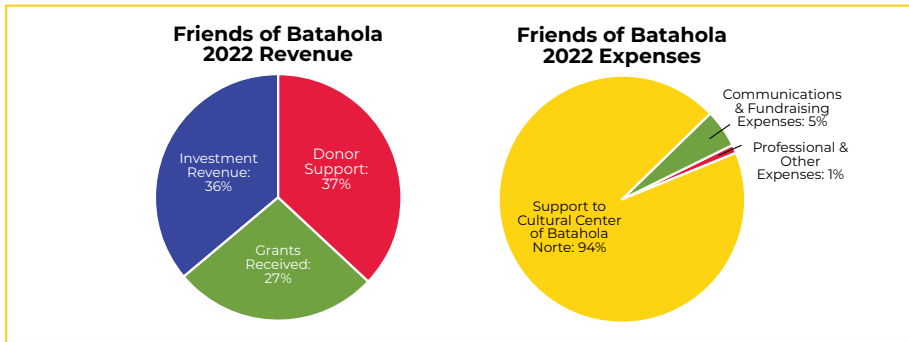
Julio Delgado says that the Center has changed his life because in this space he has received love and understanding. He also mentions some of the difficulties he encountered on his way to completing his music course.

"For example, with school assignments sometimes I had long assignments and I had music rehearsals at the same time or sometimes I felt discouraged with my voice because it was not well developed and I wanted to sing with a thick voice but my voice was white."

Julio Delgado, has found in the Center the necessary spaces to grow in music, he can currently play marimba, guitar, flute, piano and viola. At some point he was also learning drum lessons and proudly says he knows the solfeos lessons well.

He is a talented, outgoing and intelligent guy, he considers himself quite understanding especially when it comes to listening to others and accompanying people. He is very grateful for three things that he will always remember about the Center: its history, the help they give to the community and music.

We use the professional services of a CPA to prepare our 990 tax report. Ninety-six percent of donations go to the direct support of the Cultural Center of Batahola Norte. All board members are volunteers, and there is no paid staff.



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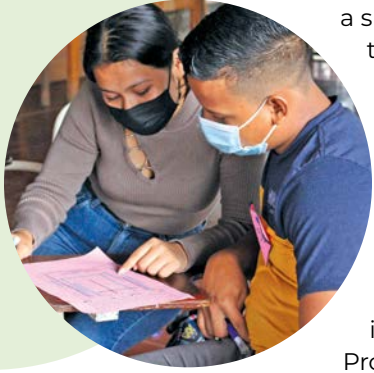
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A YEAR OF RESILIENCE AND SELF-CARE

Scholarship Program

During the year 2022, the Education Program was able to provide economic stipends to 73 children, adolescents and young people in order to complete their primary, secondary and university studies. In addition, the families found in the Center a space of emotional support to share their stories through sessions of good treatment, alternative therapies and participated in the preparation of a nutritious school snack.



For José Julián, who is in the 4th grade of elementary school, this year was his first experience as a scholarship recipient in the Education Program

"I am very grateful to the Center because it has been a great help for my studies, my mother is a single mother and I have an older brother. I love participating in the activities because I feel accompanied."



Community Library: Right to Recreation!

The Center has a community library that serves the community of Batahola Norte and surrounding areas so that they can research subjects, complete academic tasks as well as enjoy recreational space to promote fun, imagination and love of reading

This year, a story room, game marathons, children's movie presentations and attention in the room were held so that children and adolescents can enjoy a healthy coexistence.

"Enjoy a moment of distraction and animation among them, because in this way we help them to unload their emotions, strengthen the bonds of friendship and self-care."

— Gretchen Martínez, Head of Scholarships



Technical & Vocational Courses

This year, 273 people, including adolescents, young people and adults of both sexes, successfully completed at least one empowerment course, learning practical techniques for their personal and professional development. It is worth mentioning that the courses aimed at women focus more on economic empowerment to promote participation and decision-making in their families.



Auxiliadora Siero, a student of 56 shared: ***"This year I finished my baking course to start a new business at home, where I bought a mixer to make my first cakes. The Center offers many opportunities, since in other places it is too expensive to study baking. I also thank the Friends of Batahola for their collaboration in supporting women who have decided to change their lives with access to technical education and training."***



Basic Education for Youth and Adults

This year, 32 people learned to read and write, successfully completing their primary education, where 81% were women and 19% were men. Writing their names for the first time represents a great achievement. They also came to recognize themselves as subjects of rights to fulfill their life projects.



Ramona Pérez, 30 years old, attends primary school at the Center. She says that her dream is to work in the gastronomy field because she loves to cook.

"At the Center I feel relaxed. Before I did not like to study, but now I am motivated because the psychologist tells us that we have to fulfill our dreams and as long as we have life, hope prevails."



Arts and Culture Program

For the Art and Culture Program, this year meant continuing to promote safe spaces for sharing, accompanying and listening to the feelings of children and adolescents. Each activity carried out in this Program was planned from the best interest of children and adolescents.

143 children and adolescents were able to develop and project their artistic skills through scenic projections such as a gastronomic fair, a peasant mass concert, a concert in honor of Margarita Navarro and the cultural closing days.



Mental, Physical and Moral Well-Being Program

Through this violence prevention strategy, the Center promoted personal development and empowerment processes with families. This program worked on the psychosocial accompaniment of 38 women to promote security and confidence, allowing them to recognize their qualities, strategic interests and establish limits in the face of situations of violence in their homes.

In addition, 15 girls and adolescents completed their self-concept workshops, in which they said they learned to value themselves, connect with others and believe in themselves.

For 14-year-old Samantha Reyes, she considers it a beautiful experience to have participated in the spaces with girls and adolescents for two years.

"I liked it a lot, because several of us girls had low self-esteem and these workshops taught us to respect ourselves. I also got to know more friends and we had a lot of fun."

The program also worked with 24 children on emotional management techniques, progressive relaxation, playful techniques such as handicrafts, meditation and cooperative games.



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These are donors who have remembered the Friends of Batahola in their estate planning. If you have remembered us in your estate plans, please let us know so we can add your name to this circle. If you would like more information please contact us.

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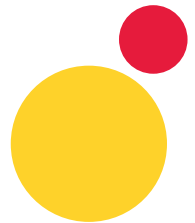
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