



FRIENDS OF  
**COLOMBIA**

# ANNUAL REPORT | 2022



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# President's Letter



Dear Friends of Colombia members,

2022 was a year of exciting updates for Friends of Colombia. Colombia, like many countries around the world, began to open its doors once more after a challenging two years. International and intercultural exchanges resumed. And Peace Corps welcomed back its first volunteers since the start of the pandemic, including in Colombia.

The world is still facing immense challenges, but leaders throughout Colombia are working with their communities to develop solutions. Friends of Colombia continued our mission to support community-based projects and organizations committed to the peace and prosperity of Colombia. Thanks to the support, generosity, and creativity of our volunteers, donors, and Colombian partners, this year FOC:

- Continued support of our longstanding partners, including The Colombia Project, The Marina Orth Foundation, Paso a Paso, Colombia GLOW, and The Magdalena Foundation.
- Successfully completed our third annual small grants competition and select five worthy organizations across the country to receive a small grants of \$2,000 or less.
- Hosted virtual and in-person get-togethers, where RPCVs, Colombians, and other friends of Colombia could share knowledge and experiences.

As we embark on our annual fundraising campaign, we aim to raise a total of \$10,000, to advance the meaningful work of our longstanding partners and support future local organizations.

With FOC's donation, these organizations will continue to provide educational and economic opportunities to our friends in Colombia. Please help us reach our annual fundraising goal by contributing to FOC online (<https://friendsofcolombia.org/donate-now/>) or by sending your tax-deductible contribution to:

**Friends of Colombia**  
**PO Box 15292**  
**Chevy Chase, MD 20825**

Thank you for your continued support and happy holidays. As always, we are deeply grateful to all our wonderful friends and contributors for bringing FOC and our Colombian partners this far—which is very far indeed!

Sincerely,  
**Alyssa Galik (RPCV Colombia 2016–2018) and Jenna Glickman (RPCV Colombia 2012–2015)**



# 2022 Small Grant Program

FOC is pleased to announce that we awarded five grants, totaling \$7,500 USD to inspiring Colombian community-based groups. Congratulations to our grant competition winners! Learn more about each winner and their projects below.

## Fun Tayrona

Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Magdalena  
\$1,500 USD

From July to October, FOC funds supported ongoing training of indigenous Wiwa women learning their ancestral practice of harvesting dye for use in mochila textiles. This provides the women with a sustainable way to earn income.



# The Stories of Love Movement

María La Baja, Bolívar  
\$1,500 USD

Thus far, four workshops have been given to community leaders and children. They are also organizing the first conference that will focus on keeping their communities clean. They are also piloting a program in a community where a motocarro will go door-to-door once a week to collect recycling. You can view a video of one of the workshops [here](#).



# Las Fuertes

Isla Fuerte, Bolívar  
\$1,500 USD

Provided menstrual education for girls and adolescents (ages 9 to 13 in a remote island. Adult women and mothers of the adolescents also participated in the educational activities. They've also expanded their reach to other rural communities including: Dibulla en La Guajira; Moñitos, Cordoba; barrio Olaya Herrera en Cartagena; y la localidad Mártires en Bogotá. They've been able to develop professional materials to use in their curriculum because of the support from FOC.



# Rehabilitando Corazones

Vereda Potrerillo, Caldas, Antioquia, Colombia  
\$1,500 USD

Promoted the rehabilitation and social reintegration of adults through teaching organic and sustainable agriculture skills at a farm. A video update can be found [here](#).

# Plastic Free Project

Cartagena, Bolívar  
\$1,500 USD

Eugenia Morelo, an English teacher at the public school, Institución Etnoeducativa Antonia Santos, in Cartagena, completed the PLASTIC FREE project by teaching the students environmental education through interactive workshops. A water filter was installed at the school's drinking fountains and reusable water bottles were distributed to students.



# Social Events

## *¿Por qué importan las aves? Screening*

In 2021, grant competition winner Los Otros Yumbeños created an audiovisual micro-documentary about the diverse species of bird in the Yumbo region. The audiovisual documentary, named "Por qué importan las aves," ("Why birds matter" in English) is used as an educational tool to teach students about the local birds and habitat in Yumbo.



Friends of Colombia organized a virtual screening on June 16th of the micro-documentary and a Q&A with the filmmaker, Mauricio Medina! You can view the recording on our Youtube page here: <https://youtu.be/TiYFTkJPg1s>



## *December Gathering*

On December 3, Colombia RPCVs in the DC-area gathered at Hotel Washington to talk about our favorite topic—Colombia! Current FOC members were joined by more recently returned RPCVs and former Peace Corps Colombia staff that had moved to the DC area in the past year. FOC hopes to host a similar event in the future with Colombian catering in order to continue to bring newer and older RPCVs in the DC area together.

# Financial Report

During 2022, thanks to **92** separate contributions, FOC supported community-based projects as well as long-standing partners, donating a total of **\$20,400**.

## 2022 Financials (as of 12/22, including year-end donations)

Revenues	Amount	Expenses	Amount
Membership & Donations	\$20,396.0	Programs & Grants	\$25,920.00
Other Revenue	\$163.70	Administration	\$3,110.37
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$20,559.7</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$29,030.37</b>

2022 Continuing Partner Donations	Amount
Marina Orth Foundation	\$2,000.00
TCP Global	\$1,500.00
Paso a Paso Donation	\$6,500.00
Magdalena Foundation	\$2,000.00
Camp GLOW	\$1,500.00
AU Community Archives	\$1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$14,500.00</b>



# Board Members



President  
**Alyssa Galik**  
2016–2018, CII-8,  
Education  
Manzanillo Del Mar,  
Bolívar



Treasurer  
**Jenna Glickman**  
2012–2015, CII-4,  
Education  
Barranquilla,  
Atlántico



NPCA Liaison  
**Pat Wand**  
1962–1965, CI-8,  
Buesaco, Nariño

FOC needs your support! Our work is entirely funded by your generous gifts. Your donations make all of our programs possible. There are many ways you can support FOC:

- Make an online donation here: <https://friendsofcolombia.org/donations/> or send your gift to PO Box 15292, Chevy Chase, MD 20825.
- Select Friends of Colombia Corporation as your charity on <https://smile.amazon.com/>
- Join an FOC committee
- Write a story for our website.
- Tell your friends about FOC and share this report with them.
- Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

Thank you to everyone – members, donors, leadership teams, and partners in the field – who has helped us in our pursuit of bringing the people closest to the pain closer to the power.

## Contact info:

[president.friendsofcolombia@gmail.com](mailto:president.friendsofcolombia@gmail.com)

## Address:

Friends of Colombia  
PO Box 15292  
Chevy Chase, MD 20825



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