

"Helping to build sustainable communities"



THE
WAYUU TAYA
FOUNDATION

A close-up photograph of three children of diverse backgrounds looking intently at a book held by the child on the left. The child in the middle is wearing a red and white striped shirt with a logo that includes the letters 'FVVF'. The child on the right is wearing a white shirt. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting with green foliage.

The Wayuu Taya Foundation End of Year Report 2023

Over the past two decades, the Wayuu Taya Foundation has dedicated itself to improving the living conditions of Latin American indigenous communities. Our commitment to sustainable solutions in food security, healthcare, clean water, and education has been made possible through partnerships and donor support. In 2023, we continued our journey towards sustainability and celebrated our 20th Anniversary Gala. This report details our achievements, challenges, and future goals of the Wayuu Taya Foundation (U.S.) and La Fundación Wayuu Taya (Venezuela).

As a reminder, both foundations, the Wayuu Taya Foundation and la Fundación Wayuu Taya operate independently while sharing a common goal of improving the lives of Latin American indigenous communities. The Wayuu Taya Foundation, based in the United States, plays a crucial role in fundraising, coordinating partnerships, and overseeing the organization's broader vision. Simultaneously, La Fundación Wayuu Taya (Venezuela) focuses on implementing programs and distributing aid within the local communities. This collaborative synergy between the two foundations allows for efficient and impactful assistance, ensuring the resources and support reach those in need.

I. Humanitarian Aid

In 2023, our ACCESO food program distributed essential resources to 35 communities, 62 schools, 55 institutions, and NGOs, totaling 189,159 kilograms of food and providing 626,299 meals. The combined efforts of Mediterranea de Alimentos and ACCESO programs provided weekly meals to over 12,000 children, benefiting more than 15,887 people.



II. Health

Throughout 2023, we remained committed to health, hygiene, and personal care. 109,126 people received hygiene kits and personal care items thanks to Colgate Venezuela. We expanded our reach to 271 institutions nationwide. The in-kind donations from Direct Relief reached nearly Twelve million dollars, supporting 191 institutions and benefiting 55,157 people. Children Treated for Malnutrition: 54 children received specialized treatment.



III. Water for All

In 2023, our “Water for All” program distributed 1,171,800 liters of water at no cost, targeting hospitals, schools, health centers, elderly centers, and NGOs, ensuring clean water for 47,487 people. We acquired a third water truck and installed 30 new handwashing stations, promoting hygiene and health practices.



IV. Agroecology

Our goal of sustainable agriculture continued on Mirabello and Apuna farms. We treated 12 hectares of land, making it more fertile and productive. This resulted in the cultivation of 69,025 plants and the harvest of 17,733 kilograms of vegetables, grains, and fruits sold in the local market and a portion allocated to local communities. The program also played a crucial role in employment creation, offering direct employment to 45 people, focusing on indigenous women, and indirectly employing 90 people.

V. Education

Over 450 children are enrolled at the Tepishi Talashi school. We enhanced infrastructure, including school bathrooms, classrooms, furniture, painting, and the recreation park, elevating the educational experience. Our Language Program, offering 8 courses to 472 students, promotes linguistic diversity, with dedicated language teachers ensuring Spanish and Wayuunaiki language acquisition.



VI. Intercultural Orchestra Program Rhythm of Creativity Fiore Project



Our Music Program benefitted 467 students, including 87 in the newly formed Wayuu Taya Orchestra. Eleven teachers underwent musical training. Orchestra students showcased their talents in 8 concerts throughout the year, supported by the acquisition of 274 musical instruments.



VII. Grants

We are incredibly grateful to the organizations that funded our programs in 2023:

- Center for Disaster Philanthropy, who funded our COVID-19 prevention and relief efforts, and our ongoing clean water initiatives. In 2023, we refurbished two wells, acquired an additional water truck, donated 938,800 liters of clean water to 42,954 people, and installed 30 new portable handwashing stations which exceeded our initial target by 14%.
- CORE (Community Organized Relief Effort), whose generous support bolstered our operational capacities in all program areas to scale our reach and impact.
- World Central Kitchen, who funded our food transport efforts. In 2023, we completed over 200 successful deliveries of produce, sourced in Colombia and donated by Acceso, to support indigenous children and families in Venezuela.





VIII. Partnerships

We could not have covered the ground we did in 2023 if not for the support of our incredible partners.

Acceso

Mediterranea de Alimentos

Colgate Venezuela

Direct Relief

Music Heals International

El Sistema

National System of Youth and Children's Orchestra and Choirs of Venezuela

Municipal Institute of Gaita Ricardo Aguirre (IMGRA)

Empresas Bavaria

Fundación Hijos de La Guajira (AFA)

Cevaz Zulia

Iglesia Santísimo Sacramento

International Freedom Council

Fundación Mayacuchas

Libreria Europa

Asociación de Damas de Maracaibo

Wolfgang Antonio Chourio

Cota Estudio de Arquitectura

Sketchbook

Argenis Angulo

Fatt Bellucci

Roberto Bardi

Funda Meraki

Neuro Arenas



GOALS FOR 2024



IX. Goals for 2024

In 2024, our short-term goals include providing essential resources, enhancing literacy through education initiatives, expanding healthcare services, promoting economic empowerment through vocational training, and fostering community-building activities. These objectives aim to alleviate immediate challenges faced by the communities we serve, laying the foundation for sustainable development.

In the long term, we envision a more sustainable and thriving future for these communities, promoting sustainable practices, advancing education opportunities, ensuring sustainable healthcare access, fostering economic growth, preserving cultural heritage, and expanding our global reach to assist more communities in need.

Our specific goals for 2024 include:

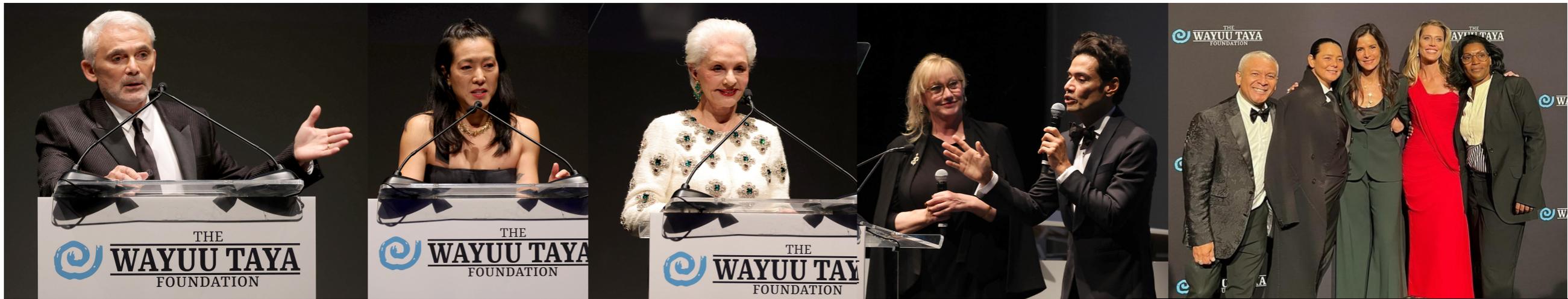
- Successfully completing the Grape Farming.
- Ensuring the operation of four wells.
- Continuing the expansion of our orchestra system program.
- Restarting the Shukumajaya's women's program.
- Hiring essential personnel to strengthen the Wayuu Taya team.
- Implementing a streamlined system for real-time metrics and indicators.
- Exploring adopting a more efficient financial system to reduce reliance on multiple third-party transfers and payment methods.



A photograph of three young boys walking from left to right in front of a chain-link fence. Behind the fence, the trunk and part of the body of an elephant are visible. The boy on the left is wearing a blue t-shirt and camouflage shorts. The boy in the middle is wearing a green t-shirt and a blue backpack. The boy on the right is wearing a yellow t-shirt and dark blue pants. The ground is dirt.

Wayuu Taya U.S.

Our primary goal for The Wayuu Taya Foundation U.S. in 2024 is to strengthen existing partnerships, forge new alliances, secure additional funding from grants and corporate sponsors, and encourage longer-term commitments from our supporters.



Events U.S.

The 20th Anniversary of the Wayuu Taya Foundation was celebrated with a gala held in New York City on October 30th at Donna Karan's Stephen Wise Studio at Urban Zen. It gathered over 250 people who have been integral to the organization since its inception.

Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton started the night with a captivating talk with President and Founder of Wayuu Taya, Patricia Velasquez, discussing everything from immigration, poverty, and youth to how we can come together as a community to create progress and healing. Honorees included the Venezuelan fashion pioneer and longtime supporter of the foundation, Carolina Herrera, Ann Lee of CORE, and Frank Giustra of the Giustra Foundation, all of whom have played crucial roles as partners of the organization.

The night's entertainment featured Quatrist Jorge Glem, soprano Larisa Martinez, and world-famous violinist Joshua Bell. The lineup also included performances by Sting, Micah and a surprise appearance by Sarah McLachlan.





In summary, the Wayuu Taya Foundation's dedication to improving the lives of Latin American indigenous communities led to significant achievements in 2023. We appreciate everyone involved for your consistent support and guidance, which has benefited over one million people in Venezuela. Looking ahead to 2024, we hope for your collaboration to further our mission of sustainability and positive change for the communities we serve. GRACIAS!



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