



fundación
tejedores
de sueños

Narrative Report 2025

Scholarships programme

Of the 150 students we started the year with, 11 graduated. Unfortunately, 25 others left the programme without graduating. Most of these just left or did not comply with the Community work; five of them were excluded because of altered invoices or notes.

Some of our students still need to pass one or two repeat exams to be able to stay in the programme for 2026. We are very proud to mention that former scholarship beneficiaries volunteered to help each scholar that needs help for those repeat exams.

ADAL programme

The ADAL programme aims at helping students of the last two school years to make informed decisions for their future. We have provided a workshop on how to redact a CV and prepare for work interview. Students were then invited to send a CV and received feedback on it. They also were invited for an online trial work interview. Both the workshop and trials were conducted by Human Resources professionals of the company Cecropia.

This year we were not able to give the workshop on how to seek scholarships for advanced studies and/or which short courses are available, as the person who was supposed to give it, pulled out at last moment. We expect to retake this in 2026.

For 2026 we also expect a more personalized follow-up for students who indicated specific plans in their annual essay. E.g.: one girl, who wants to study architecture in South Korea, will be put in contact with a lady who already studied in South Korea. This should allow students to obtain valuable information as for the feasibility of their plans.

Congress 2025

The theme of this year's congress was "Safe Schools".

The theme was chosen in view of the worrying increase of violence in Costa Rica (murder rate went up with 50%, with now almost 900 homicides per year, compared to around 600 before) – whereby various deaths were collateral victims and underage persons. There have also been several incidents near and in schools.

Apart from physical safety, the congress also referred to a psychologically safe environment. For several years already, Costa Rica is the country with worst school bullying rates in the world, increasing the likelihood of teenagers leaving school, especially in vulnerable neighbourhoods, and joining drug gangs.

The congress was held in the Radisson hotel, same place as the year before. We had 150 participants, mostly teachers.

Juntas al Bachi

We have been struggling with Juntas al Bachi, mainly because of delays with subject information on the programme. Before making publicity again for the programme, we need:

- Expansion to all years of secondary school, as many mothers cannot start Bachillerato level since they need to pass 7th to 9th first.
- Progress tests in all subjects. Those tests must allow the mothers to have an idea about their dominion of the matter but would also allow us to see whether and how much progress is made, so we can adjust where needed. E.g.: if too many mothers fail a test, a different approach may be needed. Or if they get to the latest levels, we can provide extra motivation for the exams.

It is our hope and faith that the expansion will be finished before June 2026.

City rally

In June we held a city rally "Tras las huellas de Cartago" (in the footprints of Cartago). The idea was for participants to go in teams through the former capital, finding iconic and historical places and solving questions at each place, so they could learn some of the history of the city.

Those who did participate were enthusiastic (as were we), however very little teams did participate, so it was no success.

Other

- Our website was for 15 years hosted on a server paid by the former webmaster. We have now transferred it to a server paid by the Foundation, so we are no longer dependent on the webmaster. The transfer is still ongoing.
- Upon suggestion of Néstor López, speaker at our 2024 congress, in September we started a photo contest for teenagers in which they could show positive moments on our social networks. Due to lack of interest, we stopped it in week 4 (of 8).

Looking forward to 2026

Main working points for 2026 are:

- Continue personalization of work with our scholars
- Closer collaboration with new ally SOS Aldeas (a shelter for youth taken away from their parents)
- Debates cycle with teenagers on topics of their interest, collaboration with Consejo de la Persona Joven
- Project "Aquí Estoy" (I am here) for support to teenagers in difficult situations, in collaboration with Teen Clinics
- Congress 2026 in August
- Closer contact between scholars and former scholars
- Finishing the boardgame
- More active website
- Walk for education
- Infographics on the issues we work around, both for students (avoiding teenage pregnancies; study methods; use of social networks; safe use of chatbots,...) as for parents (recognizing drug use in your children; safe to school; non-violent education,...).