

2023
ANNUAL REPORT

COMUNIDAD MAYA
PIXAN IXIM
REINFORCING OUR ROOTS, LIVING OUR MAYA HERITAGE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3 Mission and Vision
4 A Letter from our Leadership
5 Our Team
6 Board of Directors
7 Maya & Indigenous Human Rights Program: Immigration and Legal Advocacy
8 Maya & Indigenous Human Rights Program: Advocacy and Social Services
9 Human Rights in Maya Territory
10 Maya Health Initiative: Empowered Women, Healthy Families Program
11 Maya Health Initiative: Maya Housing Roots Planning Initiative
12 Maya Education Initiative
13 Maya Arts & Culture: Maya Youth Dance Group
14 Maya Regeneration Project: Maya Regeneration Farm
15 Maya Regeneration Project: Launching Heartland Regional Food Business Center and Maya Community Center Garden of Hope
16 Maya Regeneration Project: Rural Maya Entrepreneurs
17 Indigenous Peoples Summit 2023
18 2022 Donors
19 2022 Finances



OUR MISSION

To improve the health and well-being of Maya people through community development strategies in Omaha, Nebraska, the United States, and Maya Q'anjob'al territory consistent with the Q'anjob'al Maya system of social organization, in honorable relationships with U.S. sovereign tribal nations, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).





OUR VISION

We envision that the Maya Community in Nebraska, the United States, and Maya Q'anjob'al Territory will be prosperous and contribute to the cultural, economic, and social prosperity of our shared world.





A LETTER FROM OUR LEADERSHIP



Skawil he k'ul maqex tx'el q'e yilajoq jun tx'an unej ti. Atoni jantaq ko mulnajil yul jun ab'il ti 2023. A cordial and warm greeting to the general public and donors who have and continue to accompany us with the work of Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim(CMPI).

IQOM AB'ILl! It is one of the four of the Nawales that governs the Maya agricultural/solar Q'anjob'al year. Thank you one, two, three times grandfathers and grandmothers for being with us yesterday, today, and tomorrow. We are pleased to be able to present to the public and to the founders the fruits of our work as Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim during the year 2023.

This year 2023 has been very interesting and historic for our organization Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim, a year of learning that is setting great goals and challenges for the year 2024. Weaving our path in community from our territory of origin Q'anjob'al and in sacred territory "Turtle Island" means unity, solidarity, sisterhood, brotherhood, which undoubtedly strengthens us as indigenous peoples and challenging together the adversities of life as peoples displaced from our territories. Accordingly, Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim is committed to work and serve the Maya community according to our mission and vision.

Undoubtedly, we would like to express our gratitude to the members of the Maya community, to the entire team of Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim, to our partners who have helped us and continue to help us weave this beautiful fabric of five programs of Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim during this year 2023.

The road is long and there is much to do, so we invite you to continue to join us in our efforts for the well-being and healthy living of our Maya community in Omaha, NE, and the United States. Likewise, our special thanks for the trust of the funders, since the grants have made it possible to strengthen the work of Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim.

Sincerely,

LOLA MARINA JUAN

Interim Executive Director &
Director of Cultural & Political Education

OUR TEAM

Lola M. Juan, *Maya Q'anjob'al*
Interim Executive Director, Director of Cultural & Political Education

Lizandra M. Lorenzo, *Maya Q'anjob'al*
Executive Assistant

Domingo Alvaro, *Maya Q'anjob'al*
Program Manager and DOJ Accredited Representative, Maya & Indigenous Human Rights Program

Cindy Toledo, *Maya Q'anjob'al*
Program Manager and DOJ Accredited Representative, Maya & Indigenous Human Rights Program

Lucero Gonzalez Alvarado, *Maya Q'anjob'al*
Program Manager, Maya & Indigenous Human Rights Program

Sandra Alvaro, *Maya Q'anjob'al*
Program Manager, Maya & Indigenous Human Rights Program

Julio Salinas
Executive Assistant, Paralegal, Maya & Indigenous Human Rights Program

Adaluz Garcia, *Maya Q'anjob'al*
Director I, Human Rights in Maya Territory

Anixh Ana Maria Pablo Tercero, *Maya Q'anjob'al*
Director II, Human Rights in Maya Territory

Leah Vinton
Director of Strategic Partnerships

Jenny E. Fimbres-Gonzalez
Community Support & Social Services Manager

Martha F. González (Flory), *Maya Q'anjob'al*
Project Coordinator– Rural Maya Entrepreneurs

Sergio Sosa
Regional Indigenous Food Business Program Manager



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Darlyn Davila-Carrera
President,
Maya Q'anjob'al Nation member

Eulalia Pedro
Vice-President,
Maya Q'anjob'al Nation member

Jean Hanson
Treasurer

John R. Stone, MD, PhD
Secretary

Lorenzo Pedro Lucas
Board Member at Large,
Maya Q'anjob'al Nation member

Caya Simonsen

Cristina Fernandez, MD

Maria Gaspar
Maya Akateko Nation member

Eladio Mateo Toledo (B'alam)
Maya Q'anjob'al Nation member

Ilse Ramirez Palin
Maya Q'anjob'al Nation member

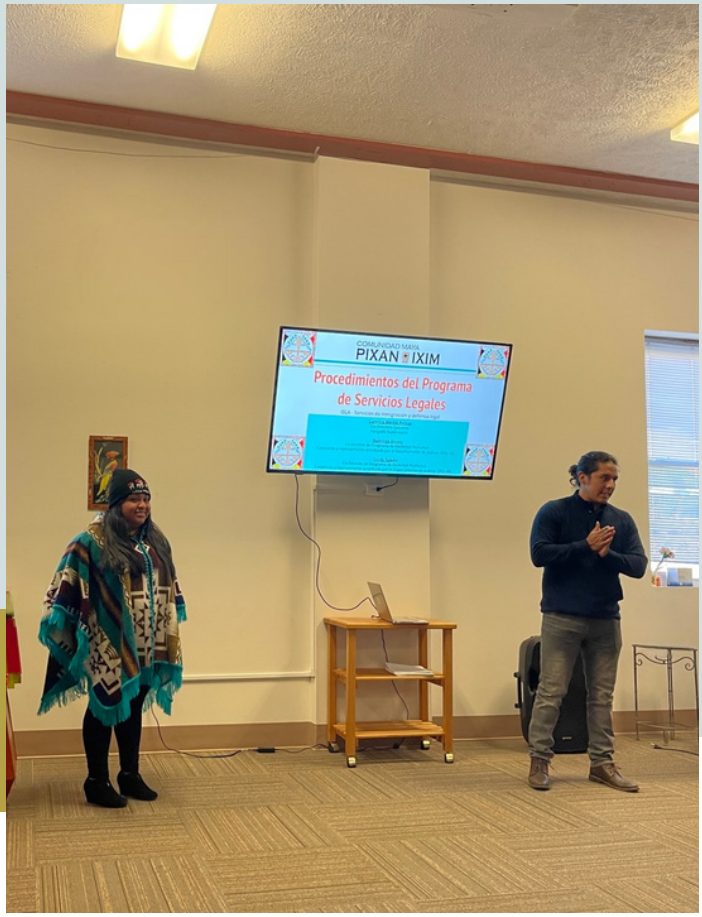
Maria Antonio Gaspar
Maya Q'anjob'al Nation member

David Manzanares
Chinanteco Nation Member (Oaxaca)



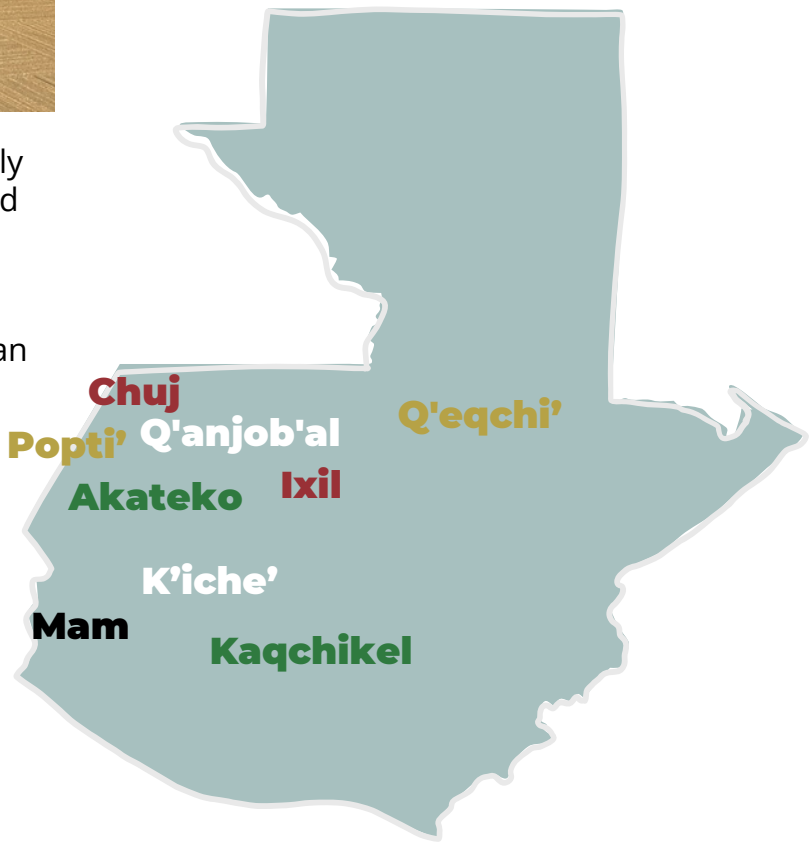
MAYA & INDIGENOUS HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM (MIHRP)

Immigration Services & Legal Advocacy (ISLA)



In January 2023, Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim became the first-ever Maya led immigration legal services organization to be Department of Justice (DOJ) fully accredited in the United States. Our two DOJ accredited representatives are Maya Q'anjob'al advocates with extensive experience in the immigration field, making them eligible to represent clients before USCIS, immigration courts, and the Board of Immigration Appeals. CMPI has used its newfound accredited status to provide legal services and advocate for Indigenous families and communities across the U.S. Our legal advocates use their Indigenous background to bridge the gap between Western legal systems and Indigenous customs and traditions.

Through our partnership with Seneca Family of Agencies we supported families impacted by the Trump Administration family separation policies. With our support, over 100 people filed their Employment Authorization Document applications and an additional 100 people began their humanitarian parole applications with the International Organization for Migration.



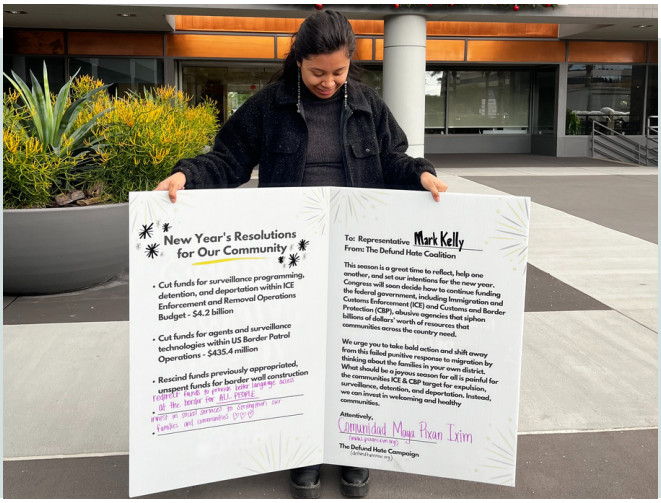
"The work that we are doing is very important. I think that we are able to reach a lot of individuals who may not know they have resources available to them. I also think it's important that we are able to reach them in a language they understand."

- Julio Salinas
Executive Assistant, Paralegal

MAYA & INDIGENOUS HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM, *continued*

Advocacy

MIHRP engages in Human Rights Advocacy work to raise awareness about the heightened difficulties faced by Indigenous immigrants at the border due to existing policies. We dedicate its efforts to collectively advocating for accessibility to Indigenous languages at the border and during legal proceedings.



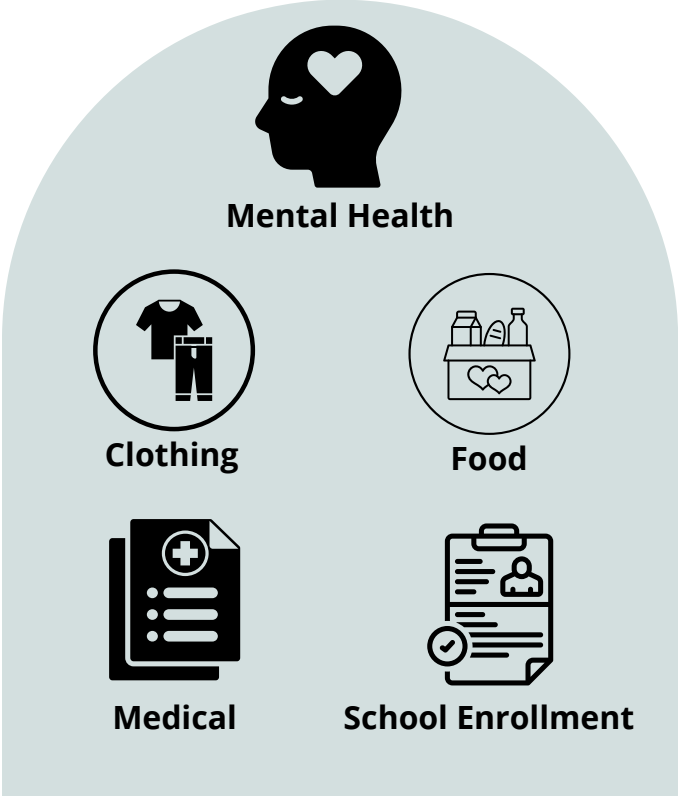
This year, we

- Worked directly with the Department of Homeland Security's Office for Civil Rights and Indigenous organizations on a plan for Indigenous Languages, ensuring language-appropriate services for Maya migrants.
- Contributed to Hispanics in Philanthropy's report, "Healing and Migration," addressing the specific needs and trauma of Indigenous migrants.
- Advocated for inclusive practices, policies, and media representations for indigenous populations and asylum seekers with Welcome With Dignity Advisory Committee.
- Signed a #WelcomeWithDignity statement alongside 27 additional organizations denouncing any and all funding proposals that aimed to trade off asylum.

Social Services

Our Social Services program is led by two Maya advocates with a background in social work dedicated to providing specialized support and advocacy directly to Maya and Indigenous families. A significant aspect of our work involves the formal management of family reunification efforts through our partnership with Seneca Family of Agencies, extending across the United States. We actively engaged with families who have experienced separation at the U.S.-Mexico border, enduring severe human and civil rights violations under the Zero Tolerance Policy.

During this process, we provided crucial assistance in coordinating essential services, including:



We actively participated in meetings, emphasizing culturally appropriate care for Indigenous peoples in response to the urgent needs arising from the high number of cases involving Maya and Indigenous migrant families.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN MAYA TERRITORY

From January to August 2023, CMPI staff in Maya Territory protected the human rights of Maya Indigenous peoples, promoted Maya culture, advanced Maya Indigenous voices in local community solutions, and highlighted the challenges Maya communities face with local organizations and governments. Maya Territory staff accompanied people at Plurinational Ancestral Government (GAP) coordination meetings to discuss challenges Maya people face, the displacement of people in Maya Territory, and strengthened coordination between Q'anjob'al, Chuj and Akateko ancestral authorities. Staff also supported the setup of an ancestral authorities' office to support their activities.

Staff helped the ACDIME Association in their work to strengthen Maya relatives' organizations in Maya territory that provide health services. Maya staff also advocated for the end of racism and prejudice towards Maya communities since they are often considered only valuable for their domestic and agricultural labor.



MAYA HEALTH INITIATIVE

Empowered Women, Healthy Families

With support from the City of Omaha and the Omaha Community Foundation with funding from the American Rescue Plan, our Empowered Women, Healthy Families program takes a multi-pronged approach to support information gathering, education and recovery of Maya families from domestic violence that was made worse by COVID-19. In Summer 2023 we hosted two Gathering of Native Americans (GONA), four-day long workshops for adults and youth alongside GONA facilitation experts and our program design and evaluation partners, One Fire Associates. The GONA framework supports community connectedness, mobilization and healing from historical and intergenerational trauma. More than 100 adults and youth have been impacted by this programming.

In November 2023, we welcomed Jenny Fimbres-Gonzalez, Community Support & Social Services Manager with nearly two decades' expertise in supporting survivors of domestic violence and assault. Jenny's arrival marks a new chapter in the mental health care and social services support CMPI can offer the Maya Q'anjob'al community in Omaha, NE. We are proud to partner with female Indigenous-led organizations One Fire Associates and Morningstar Counseling on this initiative.

"From the community meetings (GONA) with adults and youth, among other community activities, we have identified the need to implement the program of Domestic Violence and Mental Health with cultural pertinence. For us it is important to break the silence of oppression, aggression, and violence that afflict indigenous families. The paradigms and stereotypes are the product of historical discrimination and racism, as well as the result of forced displacement from our territories of origin to North American territory. To this effect, our commitment as CMPI is to collaborate with indigenous families to live in harmony, peace and social justice."

- Lola M. Juan
Interim Executive Director,
Director of Cultural & Political Education



MAYA HEALTH INITIATIVE, *continued*

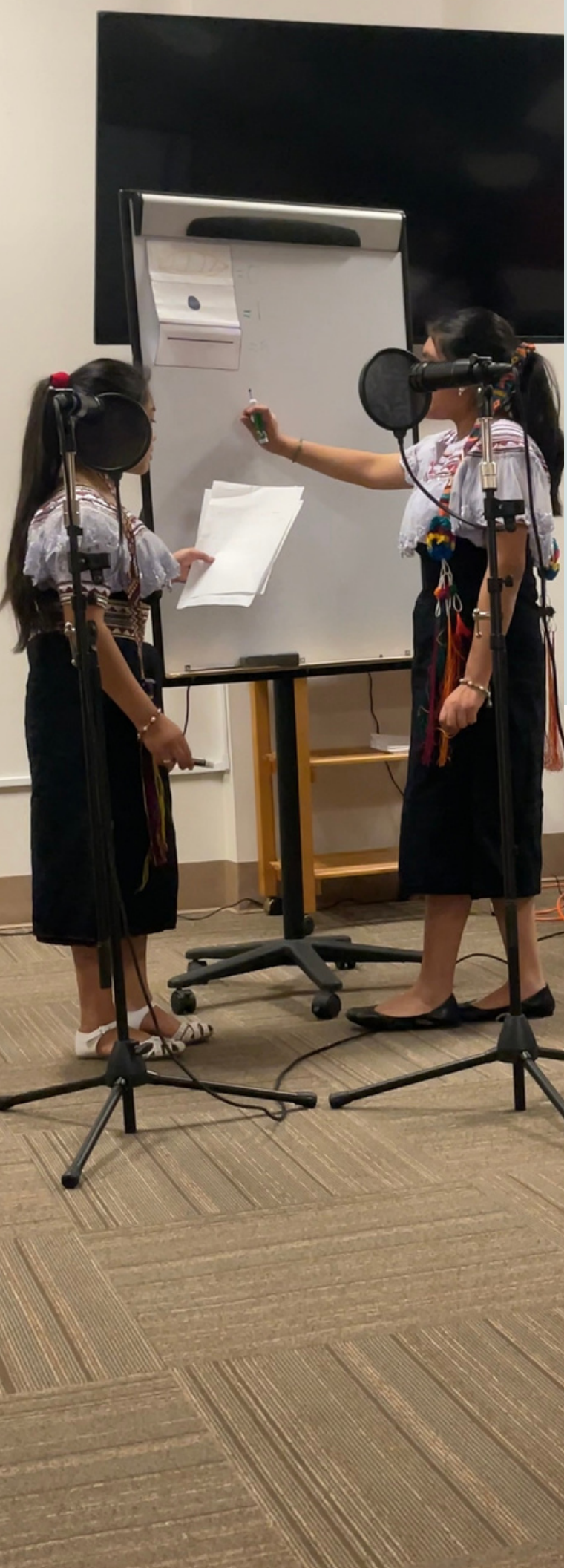
Maya Housing Roots Planning Initiative

Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim was honored to be selected as one of 16 local organizations to receive funding from Front Porch Investments to better understand the housing needs of the Maya community in Omaha.



In Fall 2023 we launched our study alongside local experts, Category One Consulting, and a committee of Maya Q'anjob'al community members. This grant directly funds our community study to better understand the needs, gaps, and dreams of our Maya community for affordable and safe housing. It also allows us to work with experts in affordable housing on important areas of learning for us including financing, design/architecture, and compliance.

We look forward to sharing more about the study's progress in 2024!



MAYA EDUCATION INITIATIVE

CMPI and the Maya Q'anjob'al community aim to support and nurture our future generations growing up in the U.S. By offering Maya Youth opportunities to experience and learn about their culture, practice speaking Q'anjob'al, and learn and develop leadership skills, we are ensuring the future of our culture and community.



This year, Maya Youth got to visit:



The Sandhill cranes with The Nature Conservancy



MAYA: The Exhibition at Union Station in Kansas city



The Omaha Children's Museum exhibit "A Generation of Hope: Indigenous Peoples of the Heartland"

MAYA ARTS & CULTURE

Maya Youth Dance Group

The Maya Arts and Culture Program is dedicated to nurturing the revival of the Maya civilization and healing historical trauma through the transformative power of the arts.



This year our Maya Youth worked hard to learn and practice some of our traditional dances including La danza del maíz, El baile del barrilete, and El baile del pañuelo y del mono (performed together) to represent Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim at the local celebrations during Hispanic Heritage Month in Omaha and Council Bluffs.

The Maya Youth, parents, and community members helped to fashion traditional costumes, create barriletes (traditional kites created for All Saints Day) and other props for the show. We are proud of our Ach'ej, Q'opoj (youth in Q'anjob'al) and their passion and dedication to sharing our culture with our wider community!





MAYA REGENERATION PROJECT



The Maya Regeneration Project connects the profound wisdom of the Maya Q'anjob'al people with regenerative agriculture and aims to uplift the Maya community by establishing a sustainable food production system despite economic and systemic challenges.

Maya Regeneration Farm

This summer brought exciting news about the Maya Regeneration Farm. We were part of a winning application, in collaboration with Agrarian Trust, for the USDA's first-ever Land Access Capital grant which will provide us with significant funds to purchase a farm in Nebraska for the Maya community. More to come in 2024!



Launching Heartland Regional Food Business Center

CMPI is honored to represent the Maya community in Nebraska and throughout the Heartland as a lead organization for the Heartland Regional Food Business Center, a USDA funded project. We are working with dozens of organizations in the region to bring Spanish and Maya language-friendly services and access to land, training, resources, and capital to support food and agriculture projects and businesses in our community.

Learn more here:
https://heartlandfoodbusiness.org/





Maya Community Center Garden of Hope

The Maya Community Center Garden of Hope grew 18 different types of vegetables, herbs, and medicinal plants, including milpa, this summer and harvested 257 pounds of food. CMPI also collaborated with Omaha Permaculture to provide urban land access and promote food sovereignty and we look forward to working with them next year.

MAYA REGENERATION PROJECT, *continued*

Rural Maya Entrepreneurs

With the generous support of the Jobs for the Future - Rural Immigrant Success Exchange program, the Rural Maya Entrepreneur program is providing Maya Q'anjob'al and other Indigenous immigrants with the language access, training, tools, and resources they need to start or grow their small businesses.

Since April 2023:

16 aspiring Maya entrepreneurs attended classes

13 small business classes provided for Maya entrepreneurs

3 LLCs launched by Maya entrepreneurs since August 2023





Classes were held in Schuyler and Columbus, Nebraska, both home to significant Maya communities, covering small business topics like business planning, marketing, and other entrepreneurial topics. We are grateful to partner with UNL's Rural Prosperity and Centro Hispano on this important project to bring opportunity to our Maya brothers and sisters in rural Nebraska. In 2024 we will launch a Fondo Semilla which will provide seed funding to 10 Rural Maya entrepreneurs.

Sectors of interest for Rural Maya Entrepreneurs:



Consumer Goods



Traditional Clothing



Construction



Agriculture



Real Estate

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES SUMMIT 2023

CMPI was honored to co-host the Indigenous Peoples Summit on August 8-11, 2023 in Omaha, Nebraska, the ancestral homeland of Umo^{n}ho^{n} Nation.

This year's IPS themes were:

INDIGENOUS WOMANHOOD, SEEDKEEPING, AND REMATRIATION



The summit featured performances, presentations in multiple languages, music, interactive panels, meals from Indigenous chefs, a sacred Water Ceremony, and endless opportunities for attendees and leaders alike to meet one another and interact face to face. We were honored to have nearly 150 relatives, community members, and people from around the world join us as we honor Indigenous wisdom, build Indigenous power, and fight for the rights of Mother Earth and all our relatives.





2022 DONORS

$300,000 & Above

FWD US Education Fund
NEO Philanthropy
Seneca Family of Agencies
The Sherwood Foundation

$200,000 & Above

Amalgamated Charitable Fund
City of Omaha (Federal Award Number SLFRP0230)

$100,000 & Above

Tides Foundation
Weitz Family Foundation

$50,000 & Above

Anonymous

$25,000 & Above

Claire M. Hubbard Foundation
Hispanics in Philanthropy
Oatly
WRAPS Project

$10,000 & Above

Common Counsel Foundation
Immigrant Legal Resource Center
Matthew 6:3
Regenerative Agriculture Foundation
The Nature Conservancy
Jill and Tony Wells

$500 & Above

American Civil Liberties Union
Anonymous
Anthropocene Alliance
Creighton University
Mary Johnson
Sally Kinoshita
Physicians for Human Rights
Matt and Natalia Plooste
John and Janet Stone
The Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights
Women's Refugee Commission
Perry Worden

$300 & Below

Activate Care
Viridiana Almanza
AmazonSmile
Amber Balk
Jody Beatty
Ann Bock
Jamie Bowen
City Sprouts, Inc.
Meredith Fuller
Sofia Gavia
Dcn David Graef
Rachel Grossman
Julia Hindmarsh
Sarah LeFebre
Luis Marcos
Tom May
Anne Meysenburg
Natalia Moonier
Dave Pantos
Grace L. Pawol
Michael Poulin
Donald Preister
Mindy Rush Chipman
Nancy Scott
Caya Simonsen
April Smith
Rebekkah Smith
Ben Stallings
Christopher & Barbara Stratman
Ellen Struve
Katherine L. Townsend
Leah Vinton
Victoria Vinton
Sam Warren
Eva Wingren
Brianne Wolf
Kirby Zicafoose

We *Thank You* for your continued support!

2022 FINANCES

Year ended Dec. 31, 2022 and Dec. 31, 2021

	2022	2021
Revenue		
Contributions, grants, and other revenue	$2,292,887	$311,218
Expenses		
Salaries	$633,058	$120,598
Other Expenses	$561,692	$190,087
Total Expenses	$1,194,750	$310,685
Excess of Revenue Over Expenses	$1,098,137	$533
Total Assets	$1,113,791	$19,388
Total Liabilities	$789	$4,523
Net Assets at End of Year	$1,113,002	$14,865

Contact Us!

Address
4913 S 25th St., Suite #1, Omaha, NE 68107

Telephone
(402) 625 - 3031

Email
info@pixanixim.org





COMUNIDAD MAYA

PIXAN IXIM

REINFORCING OUR ROOTS, LIVING OUR MAYA HERITAGE

To learn more about CMPI's work, visit www.pixanixim.org.

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