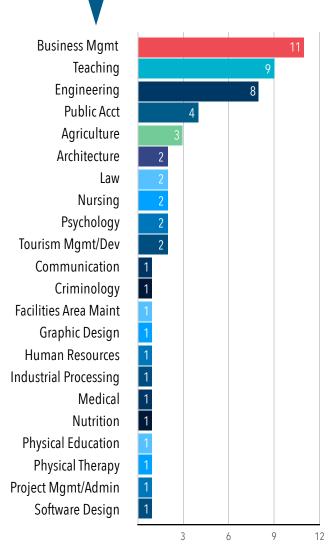
# 2020-21

Generous donors provided \$62,700 USD for 57 women to attend college in these fields of study





At about age 78 Doña Julia graduated from Haute Couture technical college in San Miguel de Allende with Mujeres en Cambio assistance. She is sharing her story with Pakina Fernandez (right) a founder of MeC at the May 2021 beca distribution.

> The education of girls ranks #6 of 100 solutions to climate change!

> > Our Charity.
> > Our Community.



mujeresencambio.org



Empowering Girls in Rural Mexico Through Education Since 1995



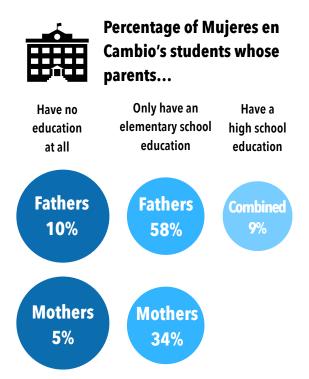
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### **About Mujeres en Cambio**

Mujeres en Cambio is an all-volunteer run charity established 25 years ago to assist women from poor rural communities around San Miguel de Allende. As an all-volunteer organization, our overhead is low – over 90% of all donations go directly to scholarships.

#### **Our Mission**

To provide financial assistance to help academically promising girls from rural communities around San Miguel de Allende continue in school.



#### **Our Vision**

Mujeres en Cambio, Women in Change, envisions a better future for the young women we assist; a future that provides them and their families a route out of poverty; starts them on a radically different life path from that of their parents; and sets an example in their community. We want to recognize, honor and empower these girls and young women.

The development of a scholarship program in 1996 allowed MeC founding members to identify qualified students who would not be able to continue their studies without assistance. School is not free in Mexico past elementary school. Beyond that, students must pay for fees, books, school supplies, exams, transportation, school uniforms and shoes. Many families cannot afford these costs and, often, the girls drop out of school to help out at home or get a job. A MeC scholarship is designed to provide enough assistance to persuade the family to keep their daughter in school. Once in our program in the 8th grade, many go on to graduate university, a tenyear commitment from MeC.

Nearly 25 years ago, 7 girls joined the first MeC scholarship program. Since then we have helped 918 girls.

In the 2020-21 school year MeC assisted 169 girls from 43 different villages around San Miguel de Allende. We provided approximately 1,861,600 MXN, \$94,000 USD, \$120,000 CAD in scholarships.



Erika Paloma is from Banda, one of San Miguel de Allende's poorer villages. She is 13 years old and in 8th grade. Her father is a farmer, her mother a maid. Erika is interested in studying natural sciences. She represents the class of 2024 and another Mujeres en Cambio scholarship recipient who is the future of Mexico.

## **Scholarship Assistance**

**Titulos** (university certification and final year) vary in cost from 2,000 pesos to as much as 23,500 pesos (\$100 USD - \$1300 USD, \$125CAD - \$1,500 CAD) depending on the field of study.

**University** is 20,500 MXN (approximately \$1,100 USD, \$1,300 CAD) per year.

**Secundaria** (junior high school) and **prepa** (high school) amounts to 5,500 MXN (approximately \$300 USD, \$350 CAD) per year.