



Quixote Center

Annual Report 2021

2021 was a year of transition. We continued to provide core program support to international partners, respond to emergency situations, and engage in advocacy and education. But we also said goodbye to some old friends, and welcomed new ones.

We began the year moving from our office in College Park, where the Center had been located since 2011, to a new space in Greenbelt, Maryland. In the fall we transitioned to new leadership: John Marchese moved to New York in September, and we welcomed a new Executive Director, Kim Lamberty, in November. Alexandra Gulden joined the team as our social media and outreach coordinator. Finally, we ended the year with a new mission statement, one more focused on where we want to grow in the future.

The Quixote Center empowers vulnerable families and communities to become the artisans of their own destiny through transforming oppressive systems and structures. Inspired by liberation theology and Catholic Social Teaching, we do this through sustainable development, advocacy, economic justice, environmental, and educational initiatives. Our current focus is on Nicaragua and Haiti, where we support programs to empower impoverished families and communities, and support for migrants in Mexico and Central America, where we work to mitigate the damage of US immigration policies. Together with our partners, we dream of a world more justly loving.

All of the Quixote Center's current programs are rooted in transnational relationships. In Nicaragua we work with the Asociación Roncalí (formerly the Institute of John XXIII). In Haiti, the Jean Marie Vincent Formation Center. In Mexico and Central America, the Franciscan Network on Migration. Through these partnerships we collaborate on community development initiatives and direct service projects, while also engaging in advocacy on US policies that impact the people we work with. We are able to respond to short term crises when called upon, based on the generosity of donors who respond in emergency situations.

In 2021, we received a generous gift from the estate of Dorothy Kelleher. We gratefully acknowledge this gift and a commitment to justice so robust that it extends beyond her lifetime.

Gifts were made in loving memory of the following people this year:

Mercedes Roman
Walt Ratterman
Our Brothers and Sisters that died crossing the border
Bill Callahan
Paul Thompson
Adelina Sariñana
Karel and Hermien Dahmen
Dr. John Judson
Carol Guagliardo Preston
Jeanne Boeri
Edward Joseph Krantz
Gladys Suarez de Flores

Gifts were made in honor of the following people this year:

The Helpers
Dolly Pomerleau
The Immigrants
Nancy Paar
Ti Legliz
Camilo Perez Bustillo
Nnamdi & Zaina Hyacinthe
Leslie Salgado
Marueen Fiedler
John Marchese
Kim Lamberty
Ritza Bloom
Denise Ramos Roman
Sandy Kemp
Israel Yost
Melinda Miles
Dr. Pedro Vilorio Barrera

Partnerships



Seedlings at tree nursery in Bigue

In [Haiti](#), we have worked with the Jean Marie Vincent Formation Center since 1999 on a program rooted in reforestation, agro-ecology and food security. The program was initiated by the community leaders in Gros Morne looking to halt erosion on mountains in the area. The lack of trees was leading to silted riverbeds and mudslides blocking the road during the rainy season. Over the last 22 years, we have planted an estimated 2 million trees; 200,000 of those trees are on the slopes of Tet Mon just outside of Gros Morne, the mountain where the program began. During these 22 years, the program has expanded to include tree planting in all eight of the communal sections in the Gros Morne arrondissement (county). The program also oversees workshops and material support to improve food security for small farmers, assisting with everything from drip irrigation to building and using homemade traps to halt the spread of weevils in sweet potato harvests.

A recent report on the project's reach shows that over the last 5 years an equivalent of 7% of the people living in the Gros Morne arrondissement have been direct beneficiaries of these workshops and training. Including family members as indirect beneficiaries, the number of people reached is closer to 25% of the regional population. This estimate does not include individual beneficiaries of tree planting, which takes place through a network of organizational relationships, including the Peasant Movement of Gros Morne, local schools, and the Catholic Church Caritas network.

During this last year, the bulk of our program resources for Haiti went to support the daily operations and outreach activities of our partner, the Jean Marie Vincent Formation Center in Gros Morne. We spent additional funds to expand reforestation activities in Ti Davi, and to enlarge the forest on Tet Mon. Our work makes rural Haitian families less vulnerable to the flooding and landslides caused by natural disasters, and improves their ability to produce enough food to feed their families. We are currently working toward taking this program to the next level by supporting efforts to improve household and community incomes.

In [Nicaragua](#) we have worked with the Asociación Roncalí (formerly the Institute of John XXIII) since 1984. The program in Nicaragua has gone through many changes over the years. During the early 2000's, the program shifted from humanitarian response toward a community development model centered on "housing first," largely as a response to reconstruction needs in the wake of Hurricane Mitch.

In 2015, the Quixote Center launched a new phase of support for the housing program in Nicaragua. Through the "Homes of Hope" initiative, we delivered \$1.7 million to the Asociacion Roncali to support affordable housing between 2016 and 2021. During this period, 144 homes were built in the communities of San Marcos, Terrabona, and Sebaco, as well as in Managua. We are currently exploring new ways to maintain our commitment of solidarity with Nicaragua's most vulnerable.

The [Franciscan Network](#) on Migration is our newest international collaboration. The Network provides a space for collaboration among shelters that offer services to migrants in Central America and Mexico. In 2019 we became the US fiscal sponsor for the network. Through this relationship we have delivered funds to shelters, and offer regular updates about conditions in the shelters. In 2021 we collaborated with the Network to disseminate press releases and reports in English on conditions migrants faced in Mexico. This work is part of our larger effort focused on impacting US border policies in order to protect the rights and dignity of migrants.

Emergency Response

Two category 5 hurricanes struck the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua within two weeks of each other, and

landed just 13 miles apart in November of 2020. Fortunately, the area was not densely populated, and the government was able to evacuate most people prior to the storms' landing. As a result, there was very little loss of life compared to neighboring Honduras. There was, however, widespread flooding that impacted food supplies. In January of 2021 we provided funds for food support and sanitary supplies through the Nicaraguan Red Cross (*not to be confused* with the American or International Red Cross!) for delivery to the Atlantic Coast.

A series of earthquakes struck the southern peninsula of Haiti in August of 2021. Though not an area where we normally work, we were able to partner with folks in the Haiti Response Coalition to ensure the delivery of direct cash payments to people in the impacted area. We also provided emergency funds to the *Kolektif pou Lakay* and the *Fondasyon Mapou* for delivery of emergency medical and food supplies in the weeks immediately following the earthquake.

Education and Advocacy

The principal focus of our advocacy efforts over the last year was pushing back against the ongoing war against asylum seekers. Our work has addressed

halting the removal of people to Haiti specifically, and also ending the enforcement of "Title 42" policies. Title 42 is a public health directive that uses the pandemic as an excuse to expel migrants without the due process required under US and international law.

The Biden administration has deported close to 20,000 Haitians since taking office - 17,000 since September 19, 2021. Despite the fact that members of the Biden administration are well aware of the dangers facing people expelled to Haiti, they continue to expel Haitians at an alarming rate, including thousands of families with children. Some members of the administration have in fact resigned over this policy, and some members of Congress have called for a halt. Nevertheless, the expulsions continue.

The majority of these expulsions consist of individuals and families that would be seeking asylum if they were permitted the option. Under Title 42, however, most are denied access to the asylum process. In May of this year we published a report with the Haitian Bridge Alliance and UnDocuBlack about the impact of Title 42 expulsions on Haitians. The report was given exclusive coverage in *The Guardian*, and has been used for advocacy in the months since as we continue to call for a halt of these removals.

International Partnerships and Programs 2021



Asociación Roncali
Core program support for "housing first" initiatives, Managua, Matagalpa, Sebaco and San Marcos

Jean Marie Vincent Formation Center, Gros Morne, Haiti
Core program support for reforestation and agro-ecology initiatives

Earthquake relief

Kolektif pou Lakay
Emergency food and sanitary supplies, Les Cayes area

Fondasyon Mapou
Medical supplies to Baraderes

Haiti Response Coalition, Direct cash payments to families in earthquake impacted area, and funds to support mobilization teams.



Noupapdoui
Emergency response funds to support people in shelters in Martissant, displaced by gang violence over summer 2021

Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2021*

Income and Expenses FY 2021

Income	
<i>Contributions</i>	\$ 408,866
<i>Bequests</i>	\$ 600,000
<i>Publication Sales</i>	\$ 1,670
<i>Investment Income</i>	\$ 1,540
<i>Other Revenue</i>	\$ 4,743
Total Income	\$ 1,016,819
Expenses	
<i>Program Services</i>	\$ 218,803
<i>Administration</i>	\$ 125,540
<i>Fundraising</i>	\$ 35,937
Total Expenses	\$ 380,280
Net Income	\$ 636,539

Balance Sheet

Current Assets	
<i>Cash and Cash Equivalents</i>	\$ 654,839
<i>Contribution receivable</i>	\$ 94,128
<i>Prepaid expenses</i>	\$ 1,793
<i>Property & Equipment- net</i>	\$ 1,438
<i>Other Assets</i>	\$ 72,299
Total Assets	\$ 824,497
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 55,197
Total Net Assets	\$ 769,300

*FY 2021 represents audited figures for the period **July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021**. The Quixote Center's IRS filing, form 990, is available online at quixote.org.

Other ways to Make a Financial Impact

Bequests

When you include the Center in your will, your work for justice lives on. You can designate a specific sum of money, or an asset such as stock, or a percentage of your estate to the Quixote Center.

Gifts of Stock

When you donate stocks, you may deduct the total current value of the stock as a charitable donation and you avoid the capital gains tax.

Donor-Advised Fund

If you have contributed to a donor-advised fund, the Center is eligible to receive such gifts. Consider designating a distribution to the Quixote Center.

Monthly Giving

We invite you to become a monthly giver! This growing group of supporters helps ensure that the Quixote Center has a steady source of funding needed to keep tilting at windmills.

Board of Directors

Frank DeBernardo
Serge Hyacinthe
Deborah Manley
Brother Francis O'Donnell, SM
Sari Pascoe
Dolly Pomerleau
Nancy Sulfridge (Chair)

Staff in 2021

Marianne Baldwin
Alexandra Gulden
Kim Lamberty
John Marchese
Tom Ricker

Volunteers

Mercy Coogan
Cheryl Nichols
Armando Flores



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Youtube: Quixote Center; **TikTok:** @quixotecenter