
IMPACT REPORT 2020-2021



educate • enhance • empower

Abriendo Mentes
Playa Potrero & Brasilito, Guanacaste, Costa Rica



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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Since its inception in 2009, one of the core values of Abriendo Mentes has been to respond to urgent community needs. This has taken shape in different ways over the years as programs ebb and flow to meet changing needs. But never did anyone imagine a global pandemic that would shut down tourism and put the majority of working people in Guanacaste out of jobs. In March 2020, Abriendo Mentes' core value never rang truer. It was hard and humbling to put a halt to programs that took so long to develop. But in the face of extreme need, Abriendo Mentes had to respond. This response was to pivot from traditional education focused programming to a community food distribution program.

There is no doubt that 2020 was a challenging year. As our vulnerable communities and their families faced so many uncertainties, Abriendo Mentes remained committed to serving the communities however possible. I am overwhelmed with gratitude for all the individuals, businesses and foundations that continued to support Abriendo Mentes so we could operate and be a source of light and hope for individuals and families that so desperately needed it. I am proud of the Abriendo Mentes team who remained committed, flexible and hard working, despite the challenges around us. At one point, there were only 3 of us team members, working hard and dreaming of when things would return to 'normal.'

We know by now that the old 'normal' doesn't exist and we are in the process of inventing a new one. But 2021 brought new joys and opportunities as we were able to start running education programs again, tourism re-opened, and many families went back to work. We are still navigating this 'new normal' and are so thankful to have you along for the ride, as we strive to empower communities in Guanacaste, Costa Rica, through innovative education and social programs. I hope you enjoy reading the 2020-2021 Impact Report.



RACHAEL SINE
Executive Director



ABOUT ABRIENDO MENTES



OUR MISSION AND VISION

Abriendo Mentes is a nonprofit organization that delivers education and social programs to rural and underserved communities in Guanacaste, Costa Rica. Since 2009, the organization has been committed to helping children and adults develop the skills they need to seize academic and economic opportunities to enhance their futures. What started as a small, grassroots effort to teach English has grown into a robust non-governmental organization that offers year-round programs strategically designed to meet Guanacaste's most pressing education and social needs.

Mission: To offer socially inclusive education and community development programs to children and adults in Guanacaste, Costa Rica, so they can break cycles of poverty and violence and reach economic stability

Vision: A region of empowered, well-educated communities in Guanacaste that are free from economic and social hardships



WHERE WE WORK

Abriendo Mentes operates in the rural, coastal towns of Playa Potrero and Brasilito, where, despite an economic boom related to tourism and foreign investment, a lack of resources and public services has led to marginalized people, especially women and children, and vulnerable communities. Inadequate public education, unemployment, social exclusion, violence and poverty are restraining people from accessing the economic opportunities that exist in the region.

GUANACASTE



POTRERO & BRASILITO



Local children attend school for 3-4 hours/day on average. No public school in Brasilito since 2012



The region is experiencing a rigorous transition from fishing and farming to tourism



31% of people in Guanacaste live below the poverty line

Through tailored education and community development programs, Abriendo Mentes strives to empower the local communities to achieve academic, social, and professional success. The organization promotes the growth of the individual in order to advance the whole of the community.



OUR RESPONSE TO COVID-19



The Covid-19 pandemic had a devastating effect on communities in Guanacaste where tourism dominates the job market. During the height of the pandemic, many families in Potrero and Brasilito lost their jobs and suddenly found themselves with no income. Those who rely on informal employment—a group that accounts for 50% of Costa Rica's working population—could not access the little government assistance that was being offered. As a result, many families could no longer afford basic goods and were pushed into food insecurity. In just the first few weeks of the pandemic, Abriendo Mentes received over 310 requests for food assistance.

To meet these critical needs, Abriendo Mentes formed a coalition with other local nonprofit organizations to create a community food distribution program. This coalition became "Juntos por Guanacaste," (Together for Guanacaste) and mobilized resources from individuals, businesses and other organizations to distribute critically needed food and hygiene packets. Abriendo Mentes alone delivered packages to more than 530 families within a six month period. Items were sourced from local businesses as much as possible to help keep them afloat, such as baked goods from Maria and Jose's bakery in Brasilito and sustainable distribution bags created by local seamstresses.

29 DISTRIBUTION ROUNDS
1,547 PACKETS OF SUPPLIES
1,624 PEOPLE IMPACTED



The community responded with gratitude and relief. One beneficiary who struggled to support her household of 7 after losing her job told program facilitators that, “Without your help, I would have nothing.” From March 25th to August 13th, Abriendo Mentes completed over 29 distribution rounds, delivering 1,547 packets of supplies to 536 families, reaching a total of 1,624 individuals.

As lockdowns eased, Abriendo Mentes launched programs to support community reactivation, including trainings to promote women’s economic and social well-being. Abriendo Mentes offered entrepreneurial workshops to eight local women thanks to the coordination of our volunteer, Valerie. Participants learned how to make various crafts and market them for sale, including lamps from recycled driftwood and bags made with reused plastic bottles. In addition, Abriendo Mentes and Valerie sponsored a local Indigenous Huetar woman to teach participants how to weave traditional baskets.

During this period, Abriendo Mentes also organized various community service programs, including a community beautification project that engaged 18 families to help remove trash and other waste from beaches and public spaces.

Abriendo Mentes is grateful to Reserva Conchal, Beach Community Church, ADI Tamarindo, Las Catalinas, Juntos Por Guanacaste, SoulGives as well as to the many other donors, businesses and volunteers that supported the organization’s COVID-19 response and relief efforts



OUR PROGRAMS

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Our after school programs for children facilitate academic and social development through creative activities, classes and clubs, focused on conversational English instruction, reading and writing, mathematics, life skills and values education. The program promotes inclusivity, non-violence, and critical thinking skills.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As a community-based non-profit, Abriendo Mentes is committed to fostering a strong relationship with the communities we serve. We engage through events and celebrations, workshops, environmental initiatives, disaster relief and serve as a bridge between government agencies and resources and the local communities.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Our women's programs seek to eliminate gender-based violence and discrimination through empowering and socially inclusive programs. Health and wellness, food security, professional trainings, economic opportunities and development are some of the program focus areas.

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult education includes vocational and conversational English classes, computer classes, and vocational trainings. Adult programs are aimed at building skills needed to participate in the growing tourism economy and are offered free of charge, so everyone has access to educational opportunities.



2020-2021

OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS

PROGRAMS IN POTRERO & BRASILITO

2,427

Hours of Programs

892

Total 2020
Participants

350

Total 2021
Participants

68

Activities Offered

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

1,364

Program
Hours

154

2020
Participants

200

2021
Participants

27

Activities

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

636

2020
Participants

67

2021
Participants

31

Activities

677

Program
Hours

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

280

Program
Hours

54

2020
Participants

60

2021
Participants

16

Activities

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

106

Program
Hours

48

2020
Participants

23

2021
Participants

4

Activities



OUR NEW CAMPUS: A HIGHLIGHT OF 2021



Miguel and Lezlie Poyastro generously remodeled and donated a property they own in Potrero that now serves as the Abriendo Mentos' headquarters, campus and community center! The property is outfitted with administrative offices, a future computer lab, a community kitchen, meeting areas and classroom space. It is also home to Potrero's very first playground, donated and installed by a volunteer group from **Kids Around the World!**

With added capacity, the organization can launch new programs and increase the number of participants enrolled and program hours offered. Abriendo Mentos will utilize the new property to provide a safe and welcoming space for the community.



Abriendo Mentos could not be more grateful for the Poyastro Family for this incredible gift!



2020 & 2021 PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

ENGLISH CLASSES

To prevent learning losses during the Covid-19 pandemic, Abriendo Mentes delivered virtual English classes to local school children in Potrero and Brasilito. Facilitators printed and delivered educational packets to students on a monthly basis accompanied by videos explaining the various tasks. These virtual classes were provided in lieu of Abriendo Mentes' traditional in-person English classes.

In 2021, 178 children participated in the Abriendo Mentes English program.



2020

179 PARTICIPANTS

71 HOURS OF CLASSES

2021

178 PARTICIPANTS

386 HOURS OF CLASSES



ABRIENDO MENTES

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Due to the pandemic, public schools closed and classes moved online. Students had the option to attend online classes or independently complete a packet of educational material each month at home. Many students struggled to access either opportunity due to a lack of wifi, electronic devices, printers, and/or academic support. 90% of Abriendo Mentes participants do not have access to a computer or wifi.

To address the extreme need for academic support, especially in reading, writing and math, Abriendo Mentes began providing support classes to students in Potrero and Brasilito in conjunction with regular programs. Using funds donated by Las Catalinas, Abriendo Mentes hired a local teacher to launch the organization's first ever academic support program. The program helped students make up learning losses in key subject areas. 79 students participated in the program.

“

Classes have helped me with homework and everything at school. i have learned to write better and how to read.

-Santiago, 3rd grade

”

399

HOURS OF CLASSES
OFFERED

79

STUDENTS



FIELD TRIP TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY PARK

Abriendo Mentres organized a field trip for local children to the Environmental Technology Park in Santa Cruz in collaboration with the Municipality of Santa Cruz, the Environmental Department and the Department of the Socially Vulnerable. The park is a waste treatment center for the region of Guanacaste. The students toured the center and learned about the treatment of garbage, including recycling and composting processes. Participants were also led on a hike through the forest reserve where they learned about national flora and fauna and engaged in a collaborative discussion on environmental stewardship. 21 children participated in the field trip.



FIELD TRIP TO DIRIA NATIONAL PARK

Abriendo Mentres led 28 participants on a field trip to Diria Park in Santa Cruz to learn about the area's biodiversity. Diria Park is a protected national park, home to biologically important plants and animals. Participants took part in a guided mountain hike where they learned about the medicinal properties of local plants and animal life cycles. They also participated in an art workshop in which they were asked to draw pictures of their relationship to nature's elements and reflect on their roles as stewards of the planet.





ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Bandera Azul is a national program and certificate awarded to communities whose beaches meet strict standards. Abriendo Mentes has been part of the Bandera Azul committee since 2012. As part of the organization's continued environmental education program and participation, Abriendo Mentes recruited local students to help with beach clean ups, tree planting and beautification projects around the community.

YOUTH ART CLASSES



In January 2021, volunteers Molly and Matt taught a series of children's art workshops in collaboration with Abriendo Mentes participants. Children learned about art concepts, like the color spectrum, and created their own watercolor, acrylic and oil paintings.

UKELELE CLASSES

Craig Thatcher, a renowned jazz musician and performer at the Costa Rica Blues Festival, taught ukulele workshop to ten Abriendo Mentes participants. Thanks to a donation from Martin Guitars and Dan Sine, Abriendo Mentes was able to purchase 10 ukuleles to continue offering classes.



NEW MASCULINITIES WORKSHOP

In December of 2020, Abriendo Mentes partnered with the University of Costa Rica to hold a series of workshops on "new masculinities" for youth 12-17 years old. Over the course of the month, 12 young men and women participated in discussions on women's empowerment, sexual harassment, gender-based violence, bullying and managing emotions with trained UCR facilitators.



ADULT EDUCATION

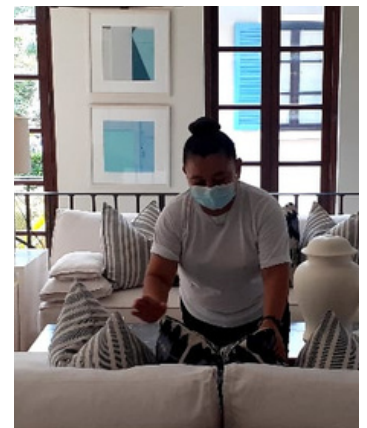
VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Abriendo Mentos offered two vocational training courses to the communities of Potrero and Brasilito in 2021 to help locals secure formal employment in the tourism industry. In response to mutual demand from workers and employers, the courses provided training in housekeeping for hotels and restaurant kitchen cooks. Abriendo Mentos partnered with a number of local businesses, including Hotel Bahia del Sol, Potrero Grill and Las Catalinas, to deliver trainings in customer service, workplace ethics and responsibilities, technical skills and workplace English skills. There was a wait list of over 80 people for the courses. Due to limited space, preference was given to participants living in Potrero and Brasilito and those with full availability. Abriendo Mentos promotes social inclusivity and there are no prerequisites for enrollment in programs.



"It was an excellent course. Thanks to them, many people now have jobs and are putting into practice everything they learned."

—Yesenia



"Abriendo Mentos is an institution that helps so much with both work and personal life...It is never too late to start new things and learn new ideas, and thrive."

—Damaris



ABRIENDO MENTOS

ADULT ENGLISH CLASSES

Abriendo Mentres offered virtual Adult English classes at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. Volunteers Sarah Kittell, Tyra Mohammad and Kristen Collins taught the English classes from their homes in the US. 48 community members participated in a total of 30 hours of classes.

48

PARTICIPANTS

30

HOURS OF CLASS
PROVIDED

ENGLISH FOR TOURIST POLICE

Abriendo Mentres partnered with the Tourist Police in the neighboring town of Flamingo to offer English classes to ten of the community's police officers. Flamingo is an international tourist destination that attracts thousands of visitors per year, most of whom speak English. As such, having a basic understanding of English helps local officers more effectively carry out their work.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

CELEBRATING SENIOR CITIZENS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

To celebrate the National Day of the Senior Citizen in October of 2021, the Abriendo Mentes team organized visits to more than 100 local seniors in Potrero and Brasilito. Due to the pandemic, many senior citizens had not interacted with fellow community members for nearly a year and a half. This was a special occasion to spend time with and honor local senior citizens who, throughout the pandemic, have been some of the most vulnerable to isolation and loneliness.



HOLIDAY PARADE

For Christmas 2020, in lieu of the usual end of year closing festivities with students and families, Abriendo Mentes teamed up with Santa to hold a Christmas parade through Playa Potrero and Brasilito. The team went house to house, delivering a bag of candies and cookies to each child. ¡Feliz Navidad!



EMERGENCY RELIEF DUE TO FLOODING

During Costa Rica's rainy season in October 2020, Potrero experienced torrential rains and flash flooding. The floods destroyed people's homes and essential items such as clothes, mattresses and food supplies. Abriendo Mentes surveyed the community to ask which items were most needed and facilitated the delivery of furniture and supplies, such as mattresses, to impacted families.



CELEBRATING INDEPENDENCE DAY AS A COMMUNITY

To celebrate the 200th anniversary of Costa Rica's independence, Abriendo Mentes organized a COVID-19 friendly community parade and civil ceremony. Children prepared traditional lanterns in their homes to parade around the plaza with.



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

During the height of the pandemic, women were disproportionately affected more than other population. A large amount of women in our communities are heads of households, and when schools closed and jobs let employees go, women were looking for other ways to put food on the table.

Artisan classes and trainings taught 25 women how to turn their creative skills into a profit. Another group of 15 women participated in a series of empowerment workshops, which included community service hours in exchange for a basic food and hygiene packet.



60 women participants

16 activities offered



DONOR SPOTLIGHT: KATHIE AND DAVID CROCKETT

Involved with Abriendo Mentos since its beginning, Kathie and David Crockett are two of Abriendo Mentos' longest and most passionate supporters.

Kathie and David first heard about Abriendo Mentos shortly after settling into Potrero in 2008. Originally from Louisiana, having visited for just a week, they fell in love with the area and bought a house after David's retirement.

They first met Abriendo Mentos founders, Drew and Meradith, coincidentally in town and then again a couple of days later at Sol y Mar. It was Meradith and Drew's second-ever English class at the local restaurant. Kathie recalls of these early classes that each had a table seated with 2-3 children, a whiteboard and some dry erase markers, teaching out of the open-air restaurant on slow afternoons. Every week they saw the classes grow bigger and bigger as more families learned of the classes and began sending their children. Witnessing the need for these classes and learning more about the work that Meradith and Drew were doing inspired them to ask, "What can we do to help?"

Longstanding financial contributors to Abriendo Mentos, their support has also taken a variety of forms throughout the years. For the first couple of years, every time they traveled back to Costa Rica, they brought back teaching supplies with them—stickers, markers, construction paper and flashcards in English. When Abriendo Mentos expanded to accept



“
What can we do to help?”

interns and volunteers, Kathie and David became the de-facto Abriendo Mentos parents, welcoming each new volunteer as well as hosting bi-annual cookouts and Thanksgiving at their house for the entire team.

Kathie says that what inspired her to continue to support Abriendo Mentos is that, “Even though Abriendo Mentos started 13 years ago, the goal of the organization has never changed. It is still the same organization with the same pure mission. They still ask; what is it that we can do for Potrero that can help it/s core strengths? What does it need to make a stronger community? What do the children need to become community leaders? Whatever the community has needed—Abriendo Mentos has sought to give. They have always done what they thought was best to shape a stronger, more tight-knit community”. Thank you Kathie and David for their many years of invaluable support!



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FY 2020

Revenue

Campaigns & Annual Fund	\$56,271
Special Events	\$3,723
Earned Income	\$541
Restricted Funds	\$41,271

Total Revenue \$101,806

FY 2020

Expenses

Program Development	\$87,937
Occupancy, Utilities & Maintenance	\$6,974
Admin Support	\$11,866
Fundraising Expenses	\$1,575

Total Expenses \$108,352

FY 2021

Revenue

Campaigns & Annual Fund	\$74,482
Special Events	\$1,088
Earned Income	\$151
Restricted Funds	\$12,523

Total Revenue \$88,244

FY 2021

Expenses

Program Development	\$65,766
Occupancy, Utilities & Maintenance	\$6,074
Admin Support	\$10,570
Fundraising Expenses	\$1,092

Total Expenses \$83,512



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS WHO MAKE OUR WORK POSSIBLE!

OUR GENEROUS 2020-2021 SUPPORTERS

ADI Brasilito	Denton Ragland	Krain Real Estate Clients	Nancy Wells
ADI Tamarindo	Diane and Doug Goulden	Krista Mansfield	Norma Carrillo
Advanced Biotech	Diane McGrath	Laraine Altun	Paraclete Security
Adventure Inn Hotel	Diane Taylor	Las Catalinas	Peter Roth
Alex Mayer	Dorothy Miller	LATA Foundation	Rebecca Rotella
Alfaco Company	Drew Ragland	Laura DeCerio	Rebekah Sine
Andrea Johnson	EJ Avery	Lauren Morun	Renze Nesbit
Angela	Emily Gilinger	Lawrence Burden	Reserva Conchal
Ann Cederle	Emily Hric	Lawrence Schmidlapp	Richard & Abigail Julian
Anne Darby	Erin Darlow	Leonard Robinson	Robert Snyder
Art Hernandez	Evertex Inc.	Lex Klees & Tiffany Olsen	Robyn Savage
Arsenio Ruiz	Fadila Kibsgaard	Linda Ainsworth	RRI Design
Augustine Isernia	Fernando Cubillos	Linda Michaud	Ruben Ortiz
Beach Community Church	Gail Ghery	Lindsay Losasso	Sarah Littlefield
Bill & Cristina Willis	Gary Stennett	Linnea and John Hauser	Shruti Bhat
Birgitte Maarup	Gea Boussauw	Lizzie Sampson	Stephan Hall
Bob Dashbach	Hipskind Family Foundation	Lori Heino-Royer	Stephanie Balkwill
Brenda Carey	Hotel Sugar Beach	Lydia Sine	Stephanie Regagnon
Brian O'Leary	Ivan Diaz	Magdalena Lichtarska	Susan Keller
Bryan Rayner	Jackie & Gil Leebrick	Maggie Cherry	Suzie Keylor
Byron Peyster	James Craft	Mardi Gras Committee	Tajo Zapotal
Carol Chipman	James McGrath	Margaret Pease	Tanisha Smith
Caroline Scott	James Stockdale	Marilyn Bratti	Tanya Costa
Casa del Sol	Jane Adams	Mark Barrett	Teri McKeever
Chelsea Ragland	Janet Jacobs	Mark Nerczuk	Terry Romanow
Christine Parrott	Janice Saner	Mark Sabath	Tessa Judge
Colegio Europeo	Jennifer Leal	Mark Tomlison	Thomas Hall & Family
Constina	Jennifer Portillo	Mary Jane Frank	Todd & Kate Neckers
Costa Rica Blues Festival	Jessica Nehrbass	McKenzie Borin	Tom & Kay Bingham
Courtney Hall	Jillian Buckley	Megan Moran	Tom O'Brien
Craig Coles	Joe Rudolph	Mel & Ray Gertz	Tracey Mihelic
Cristine & Mike	John Kloninger	Melissa Chellemi	US Embassy San Jose
Daniel Sine	Julian Ottley	Meradith Leebrick	Victoria Schwarz
Darja Budanov	Juntos por Guanacaste	Michael O'Brien	Will Blomfield
Dave & T Garber	Justin Zelikovitz	Miguel & Lezlie Poyastro	YYES Co
David Harvis	Kathie & David Crockett	Miguel Sanchez	
David Sager	Kieren Eblett	Mike Fusi	
Debbie Eliezer	Kind Traveler	Molly Naughton	
Deborah Hearn	Kip Ladd	Morgan Behrens	



FOUNDATIONS AND CORPORATE SPONSORS



MEET OUR TEAM



RACHAEL SINE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Rachael has been serving as Executive Director since August 2016, though she has been a part of the team since 2012. Rachael has been successfully leading the organization through important transitions, each year solidifying administrative and programatic processes in order to be more efficient, cost effective and have the greatest impact possible. Rachael is proud of the team of professional Costa Rican employees she has built who are hyper-focused on Abriendo Mentes' mission and committed to delivering quality programs to the communities. Rachael's background is in fundraising and communications. She holds a degree in Communication Studies from Eastern University. Originally from Philadelphia, USA, she lives in Playa Potrero with her husband and son.



GRETTEL ESQUIVEL GARITA
PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Grettel joined the team in July 2021. A psychologist and sociologist, she has extensive experience promoting and defending human rights in a wide variety of contexts. She has vast professional experience working in indigenous territories, urban spaces, national and international organizations, NGOs and government agencies. She is passionate about empowering vulnerable populations and is dedicated to the fulfillment of the rights of youth. Her favorite part of the Program Director role is the opportunity and responsibility to richly and positively impact the lives of girls and boys. Grettel loves seeing their smiles and firmly believes that children are a spark that ignites life!



KAREN CERDAS AGUILAR
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Karen has worked for Abriendo Mentes since 2016 but shares a longer history with the organization. She and her daughter were one of the first collaborators and students in 2009. After moving away from the area and then returning, she officially joined the team in 2016, bringing a wealth of more than twenty years experience as a social worker and on corporate social responsibility programs and community outreach programs, including programs for children, youth and adults. In her role, she is passionate about providing help and giving tools that can assist people to improve their quality of life.





ERIKA ARAYA
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FACILITATOR

Erika joined the team in 2018. Given her background in English instruction and early childhood learning, the perfect opportunity arose when a Youth English teacher position became available at Abriendo Mentes. Her favorite part of the role is seeing the children light up with excitement at their favorite activities and getting to work with the community.

She is most proud when parents mention the progress they notice in their child; Erika loves seeing the growth of her students and colleagues. She is most excited to put into practice Abriendo Mentes' new vision.



MARITZA ABARCA UGARTE
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FACILITATOR

As a Potrero native, Maritza has seen the tremendous growth in the area in terms of tourism and infrastructure, as well as a persistent need for educational support. Maritza was inspired to join the team in 2021 due to her desire to help the children in her community and a recognition that Abriendo Mentes was conceived from community needs. She has a background in tourism, business administration and teaching, and has previously served as an Abriendo Mentes program participant and board member. She is most excited to get to see our students go on to further study and become professionals.

INTERNS, VOLUNTEERS & TEAM MEMBERS 2020-2021

Ananda Young
Beyond Sports
Bonnie Bradshaw
Camila Viquez Alpizar
Camile Carreras
Candice Booth
Carlos Sousa
Christian Porras
Christine Nguyen
Cindy Kokesh
Claire Asselot Vittini
Courtney Hall

Cristhian Soto
Cristina and Mike
EJ Avery
Elizabeth Lorenz
Franco Olaso
Hazel Calderon
Karol Chaves
Kathleen Rupert
Kirsti Tasala
Kristen Collins
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Mandy

Maria José Méndez
Mariana Zumbado Solano
Matt Vander Zanden
Michael Fusi
Molly Zornow
Nicola Carreras
Olman Ovaes
Rachel Harris
Sarah Kittel
Sharon Urbina Duarte
Silvia Salgado
Sofia Ovaes

Sydney Nankervis
Tammy Walker
Tyra Muhammad
Valerie Scheirman
Victoria Bonilla
Yamil Navarro Bustos
Kids Around the World



MEET OUR FOUNDERS



MERADITH LEEBRICK



DREW RAGLAND

MEET OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

COSTA RICA BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2020-2021)

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MICHAEL GARCÍA

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LEZLIE POYASTRO (2022)
CRAIG THATCHER (2022)



OUR PARTNERS



ABRIENDO MENTES

We thank you for your ongoing support and contributions to Abriendo Mentes



Acknowledgements

Thank you to Kathie Crockett and my colleagues at Abriendo Mentes for their contributions and collaboration.

Design, content and coordination by Ananda Young under the guidance of Rachael Sine, with edits by Amarica Rafanelli.



Abriendo Mentes

200 Meters North of the Catholic Church

Playa Potrero, Santa Cruz

Guanacaste, Costa Rica

+506 8496 9760

abriendomentes.org

info@abriendomentes.org

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