

Feeding Hope, Fostering Strength



FOOD ♥ HEALTH ♥ RELIEF

vallartacares.org

Annual Report 2023



Dear Members, Supporters, and Community Partners,

As we gather to reflect on 2023, I am proud to report that Vallarta Cares, formerly known as Vallarta Food Bank, has not only weathered significant challenges but has also continued to evolve and expand its mission to support our community.

A Year of Challenges and Resilience

The year 2023 presented us with unforeseen financial difficulties. A significant loss of donors put immense pressure on our resources, forcing us to reduce our food service from five to three days a week in the latter part of the year. This was a painful decision, but we remained committed to delivering vital aid to those most in need.

Despite these obstacles, Vallarta Cares' core values of compassion, collaboration, and perseverance shone through. Our dedicated volunteers, unwavering partners, and generous community members rallied together, ensuring that we could continue providing essential services.

Milestones and Achievements

Even with the financial strain, Vallarta Cares accomplished a great deal in 2023. Our rapid response to natural disasters like hurricanes Nora, Roslyn, and Lidia showcased our ability to mobilize quickly and provide critical support to affected communities.

We also expanded our services to include hot water shower facilities and enhanced medical and dental care, further demonstrating our commitment to the comprehensive well-being of our beneficiaries.

Our dedication to transparency and integrity was recognized with the Eagle's Wings Foundation award, a testament to our organization's ethical practices and commitment to accountability.



Building a Stronger Foundation

We are aware that financial sustainability is crucial for our long-term success. In response to the challenges we faced in 2023, we are actively working to strengthen our fundraising efforts, diversify revenue streams, and build a more resilient financial model.

Our commitment to our community remains steadfast. We are more than a food bank; we are Vallarta Cares, dedicated to providing comprehensive support that addresses the diverse needs of our community members.

Vision for the Future

As we look to the future, our vision is ambitious. We aim to:

- Expand service coverage: Reach more individuals and families in need throughout our region.
- Enhance program quality: Continuously improve and adapt our services to meet evolving needs.
- Boost engagement: Foster greater involvement from volunteers and the wider community.
- Forge new partnerships: Collaborate with businesses, organizations, and government agencies to maximize our impact.
- Build resilience: Prepare for future challenges, including climate change and natural disasters.

Together We Care

I extend my deepest gratitude to our volunteers, donors, partners, and staff. Your passion, generosity, and dedication are the heart and soul of Vallarta Cares. Together, we are making a tangible difference in the lives of countless individuals and families.

As we embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, I am confident that Vallarta Cares will continue to be a beacon of hope, a catalyst for positive change, and a true embodiment of the spirit of caring in our community.

With heartfelt appreciation,



Frankie Bañuelos President, Vallarta Cares A.C.

Mission:

We are a beacon of hope, nourishing bodies and spirits in Cabo Corrientes, Puerto Vallarta, and Bahía de Banderas. We don't just provide food and healthcare; we empower lives, transforming hardship into resilience. Together, we rise above disasters and poverty, building a future where everyone thrives.

Vision:

Imagine a community where vulnerability transforms into strength. In our vision, every individual in Cabo Corrientes, Puerto Vallarta, and Bahía de Banderas has the resources, skills, and confidence to forge a path toward lasting well-being. We are the catalyst, creating a future where hope flourishes and potential is unleashed.

Values:

- **Compassion:** We approach every individual with empathy, recognizing their inherent dignity and the challenges they face.
- **Empowerment:** We believe in equipping individuals with the tools and knowledge they need to break the cycle of poverty and build a brighter future.
- **Collaboration:** We work hand-in-hand with communities, partners, and volunteers, fostering a spirit of unity and shared purpose.
- **Sustainability:** We are committed to long-term solutions that address the root causes of poverty and food insecurity, ensuring lasting impact.
- **Respect:** We value diversity and treat everyone with fairness and consideration, regardless of their background or circumstances.
- **Integrity:** We uphold the highest ethical standards in all our actions, ensuring transparency and accountability in our work.
- **Innovation:** We constantly seek new and creative ways to improve our services and reach more people in need.
- **Gratitude:** We are deeply thankful for the generosity of our supporters and the resilience of the individuals we serve.

2023

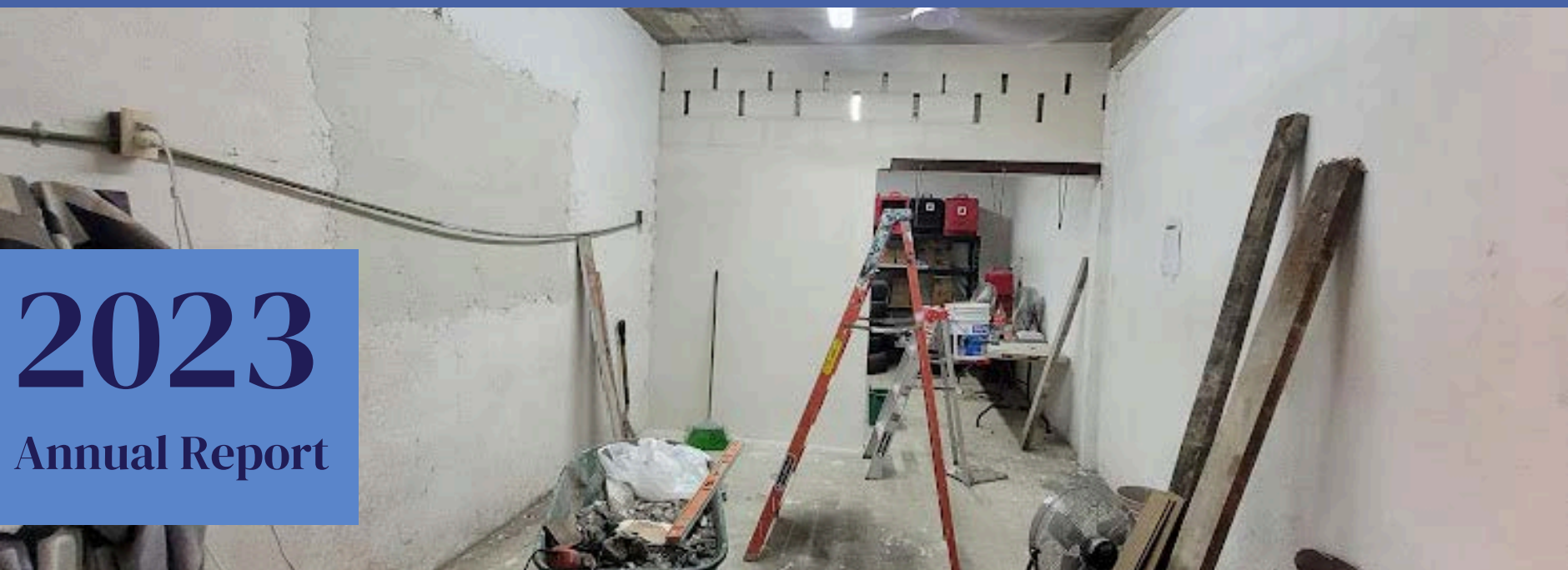
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We revamped our kitchen with top-notch equipment, sleek flooring, stylish wall tiles, and enhanced lighting and fans for an effortless cooking experience!

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Transformed our bodega into a free clinic, complete with a dedicated doctor and dentist for community health care!

2023

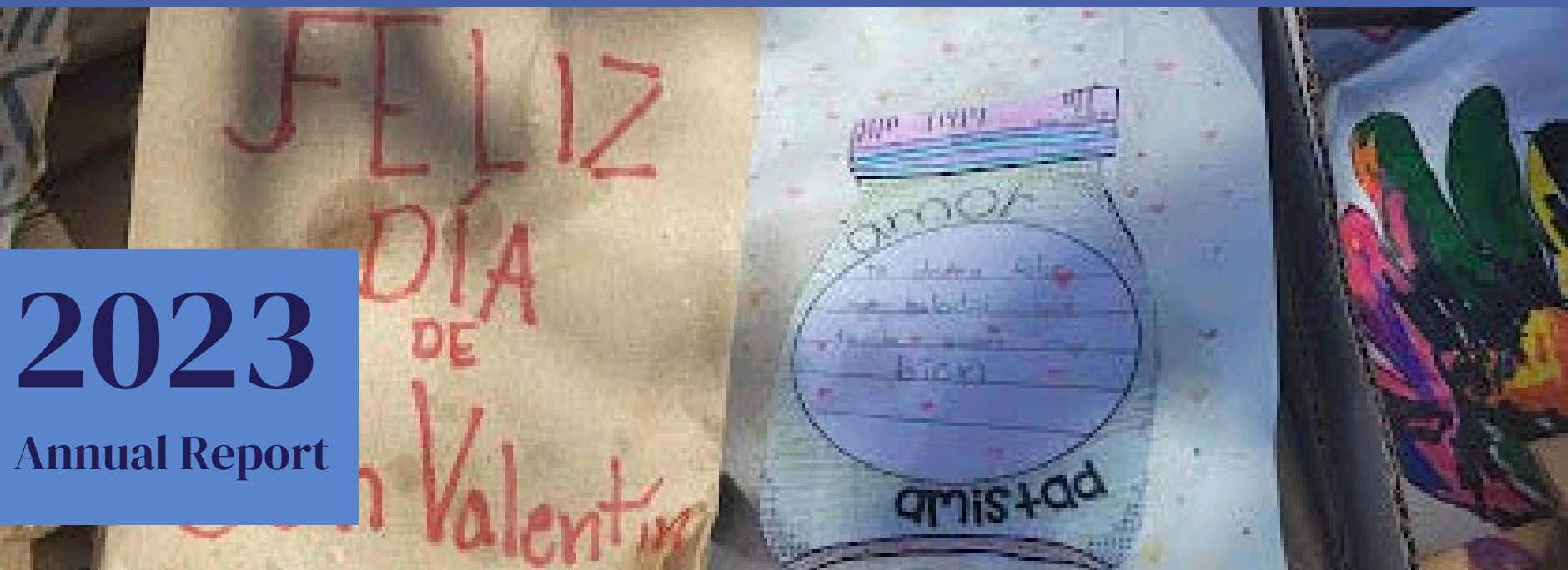
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We extended support to migrant families in Coatante, ensured months of aid for Children with Cancer's families, and reached out to those in remote areas, providing sustained help to individuals and families in need

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UNIVERSIDAD DE GUADALAJARA
CENTRO UNIVERSITARIO DE LA COSTA



Forged partnerships with schools to boost awareness of our mission and to inspire volunteerism

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For months, we delivered clean water and provided tinacos to neighborhoods lacking water services

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We collaborated with civil protection to combat the forest fire in Tuito. Providing essential equipment and communications

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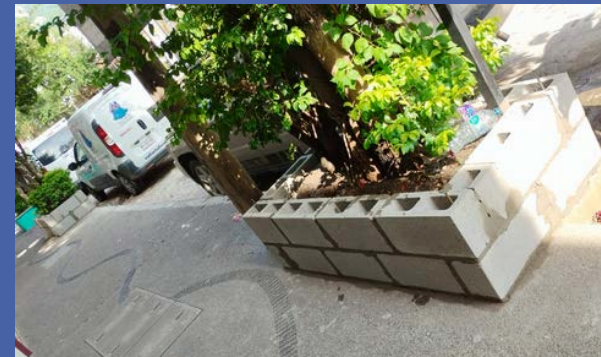
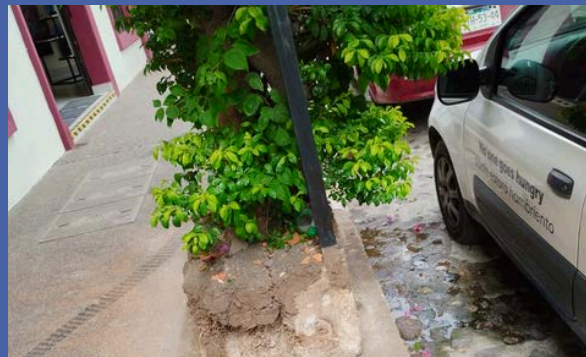


Before, during, and after Hurricane Lidia, we were actively involved in setting up shelters, facilitating crucial communication with authorities, clearing roads, and providing essentials like clean water, food, medicine, and clothing

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Formed a partnership with the Garden Club, who initially funded a community shower. Together, we've embarked on projects like enhancing the Los Mangos Library and beautifying Basilio Badillo Street

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To replenish our pantry, we established alliances with Pickleball Puerto Vallarta and CPS Media, who organized a charity race to support our cause

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We secured a grant from Eagle Wing's Foundation for an additional vehicle and were honored with their award for transparency and integrity

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We aided rural communities in Cabo Corrientes, where internet access is not available, by bringing internet and enrolling children in government programs that require online registration

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We teamed up with animal associations like PEACE and Sociedad Animal to host a sterilization clinic at our facility and presented a puppet show to educate young children on preventing animal abuse.

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Our greatest achievement includes obtaining the DONATARIA AUTORIZADA status, the highest recognition for non-profits in Mexico. Additionally, we are committed to ongoing training and professional development

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We established partnerships with La Comer, Artisan Bakery, Carl's Jr., the food bank network in Mexico, and the Nayarit food bank, all aimed at reducing food waste



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We're dedicated to more than just food assistance. We've initiated a social club for the elderly to support their mental health and social skills, and we've also supplied school materials to children in low-income areas

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We were awarded a grant from YachtAid Global, enabling us to remodel our outdoor area with concrete, install solar panels, equip our emergency response brigade, and sustain our soup kitchen operations

Your Compassion Fuels Change

We extend our deepest gratitude to every donor and volunteer who has joined us on this journey of transformation. Your generosity of spirit and unwavering commitment make our work possible.

Because of you:

Families are nourished.
Lives are healed.
Hope is ignited.

We couldn't do it without you. But our work is far from over. The need for compassion and support continues to grow.

Your continued support is essential. Please consider becoming a monthly donor to provide a steady stream of resources for those who rely on us. Together, we can create a brighter future for everyone in our community.

Donate today and become a beacon of hope.

<https://vallartacares.org/>

