

Tewecado Trust, Inc.

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IRS 501(C)(3) Charitable Corporation



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Greetings from Sister Martha



We send you our sincerest wishes for a blessed and happy Easter. We take this occasion to thank you for your support, which has enabled us to continue our mission here in Cerocahui. Currently we have 100 indigenous girls in the boarding school and 335 students in the primary school. We are working hard to improve achievement levels and the quality of education as well as teach the children the importance of valuing their community. Recently, for example, when a fire destroyed the house and belongings of a classmate, everyone came together -- the children, the Sisters and the teachers -- to provide aid for this family in need.

Thanks also to your assistance, our children's diet has improved, and as a direct result, so has their academic performance. May God bless you and generously reward you! Please accept our gratitude and prayers during this holy season.

Creative education

How do you motivate 100 little girls to do their best? The sisters and staff at the Tewecado Mission School have been busy all year planning pageants, competitions and festivals to help the children develop their social and educational skills. Most notably, the "Reading Festival" has encouraged the girls to take advantage of the resources in the library funded and stocked by Tewecado Trust donors. The goal, says Sister Martha, is to have all of them reading five additional books per school year -- even the pre-schoolers! Another event is designed to help overcome shyness and develop social competence: during the "Language Celebration" students will practice public speaking (to a receptive group of parents). The youngest will just recite their names and ages while the older girls will give full-fledged talks.



Qualifying teachers

For 10 years, the Tewecado Trust has provided scholarships for teachers to improve their educational qualifications and obtain certification. The program is based in Creel, and because it is taught on weekends, the teachers commit to a grueling schedule of travel and study for eight semesters. Currently working on their degrees are pre-school teacher Silvia Janet Parra, and primary school teachers Cruz Esperanza Félix and Katia Pérez Aguirre. It costs about \$800 per semester per teacher to cover their expenses. If you would like to help out, indicate "teacher scholarships" on your donation check.

Who are we?

The Tewecado Trust was founded in 2002 by several past employees of a private train company in Tucson, Arizona. Noting that many of their passengers who visited the Tewecado Santa María de Guadalupe wanted to stay connected and perhaps provide continued financial assistance,



Jim Moline and Ann Brehm-Moline formed a US non-profit corporation, with Tom Giannini and Bill Pickeral as founding board members. Today, the board consists of nine members, including the original four. As a 501(c)(3), the Trust enables interested donors and friends to support the school with tax-deductible donations and at the same time provide a stable source of income for the Sisters. The Trust has no employees and minimal expenses, so approximately 98.5% of your donation goes to feed, clothe, shelter and educate the children at the school. As part of the Trust's IRS requirements, board representatives must visit the school at least once a year to verify that the donated funds are being used as intended. And, by the way, the Sisters have proven to be amazing money managers, stretching our donors' dollars to the max!

Patio progress

At the Tewecado School, if it's not one thing, it's another - and another and another, it seems. Last summer the Trust provided funds to upgrade the plumbing in the communal bathroom and replace the patio in front of the girls' dormitory. Seemed like a simple project, until Don Ramon discovered the underlying drainage system was completely corroded, leaking sewage into the area beneath the patio. The entire system needed replacing, which has finally been completed. Now, on to the patio surface ...

THANK YOU! We can't do this without your support. Please remember "our girls" with a generous donation to the Tewecado Trust.



Donations

In Memory

- Mayer N. Zald by Joan K. Zald
- Cecilia Puppo by Mary Ellen Corrado
- Peggy Hershberger by Gene Hershberger
- Molly Beth by Dennis & Suzy Martinek
- Trisha Pedroia by Martha Rowley

In Honor

- Bob & Marilyn Katrein by Michael Katrein
- George Masek by the McGinnis Family
- Robert Katrein by Linda Barba
- Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Levine by Susan Floore
- Ms. Diane Doe by Susan Floore



Children's School @ Mexico's Copper Canyon