



# Policy plan

## 2024 - 2030



children of  
**Medellín**

# Introduction

Today we are  
changing the  
world

What began 18 years ago with seeing - which is different from looking at - street children in Medellín during a game of soccer, has grown into a beautiful foundation. It wasn't just seeing the weight these children carry, but seeing their potential. The foundation gives children with few opportunities a chance to grow that potential. This way, they aren't made dependent on outside help but can take responsibility for their own futures. I think that's why the children love coming here, to this Paradise in the middle of their own neighborhood, and why so many children and families manage to turn the tide: they are seen here. Seen for who they are and what they have within them. They don't just learn what they need; they learn how to grow, build on, and trust themselves.

For quite some time now, over 500 children have been coming to the various projects with visible joy. The facility is expanded each year with more amenities, and the staff has a solid core group that is growing. In addition to support from abroad, national organizations are also finding us more and more, and we have gained a trusted position in the community. With this growing responsibility to the children and the community, we naturally strive to maintain and strengthen our work. This includes the goal of making the foundation in Colombia increasingly independent from the one in the Netherlands. For this, there are grand plans. Plans that ensure the good work currently being done by the 29 staff members in Colombia can continue. But also plans that will allow the foundation there to build and rely on itself to have an even greater positive impact on the community from this vision.

In my work as a clinical child and youth psychologist in the Netherlands, I am committed to breaking vicious cycles in families and youth here. I am grateful that, in addition, as a board member of Children of Medellín, I can contribute to gradually building opportunities in a part of the world where they are so much more needed. I have been doing this for years because I believe so strongly in the concept of this foundation, which operates from and especially with the community. And it starts where the most potential is: with (the joy of) the children.

We are incredibly grateful for the involvement and support we receive. Together, we move forward with confidence, knowing that our joint efforts will have a lasting impact on the world around us. This document takes you through our vision and plans. I hope it fills you with as much hope and enthusiasm to join us in any way you can.

*Anne Schepers*

President



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# Background of “our” children

Colombia is a country heavily impacted by violence from various criminal groups, including paramilitaries, guerrilla groups, and criminal gangs. This violence causes displacement, particularly from rural areas to major cities, but also within the city limits. Poverty and a lack of job opportunities are additional reasons for people to migrate to the city.

The vast majority of these people end up in poor outskirts or the city center. The city expands, new neighborhoods emerge. In Medellín, they settle in the higher-altitude neighborhoods, leading to the development of areas like Carambolas and Bello Oriente, where the foundation is active.

Life in these neighborhoods is not much better than what people fled from. There is little access to drinking water, electricity, and sewage and waste collection. There is no quality education, and there are poor or no facilities for sports, recreation, and culture. The residents of Carambolas and Bello Oriente are mostly low-skilled, contributing to the lack of opportunities for formal employment. This forces people to seek alternative means of livelihood, such as illegal activities (theft, extortion, drug trafficking).

Informal trade such as street vending or begging is common. Additionally, there is a high level of vulnerability leading to labor exploitation, prostitution, sexual exploitation of children, and recruitment by criminal gangs. This recruitment often happens voluntarily at a very young age, driven by the perception of safety, status, territorial control, and 'easy' income. Minors look up to the leaders of these criminal organizations as role models, with all the associated consequences. Due to psychological trauma and lack of proper education, these patterns persist from generation to generation, trapped in vicious cycles.

The government is scarcely present in these marginalized neighborhoods. Politicians show up every four years with attractive promises to win votes. These votes are often literally 'bought,' but after the elections, no significant changes occur.

People may qualify for state subsidies and/or donations from foundations, but bureaucratic red tape prevents many from accessing them. People have learned to place themselves in a victim role, believing these organizations are obligated to take responsibility for their well-being. The help provided is often deemed insufficient, and dissatisfaction prevails. This passive attitude is passed down from generation to generation and is difficult to change.

### **What are the effects?**

This social, political, and psychological neglect causes many growing children in Caramobolas and Bello Oriente to live below the poverty line and often suffer from chronic malnutrition. Due to a lack of opportunities, young people have no future prospects. Positive role models are absent, resulting in low motivation and encouragement to learn and study. This traps them in a vicious cycle of poverty, informal work and violence.

The children have low self-esteem. The dropout rate and early pregnancies are very high, and drug use among children is common. Even the exceptions—children who do want to study—do not have the means to escape poverty. There is no money for transportation or study materials.



## **El Paraiso**

The foundation Children of Medellín's facility, 'El Paraiso' (the paradise), is located in the Bello Oriente neighborhood, the highest neighborhood in Medellín, directly next to the Carambolas neighborhood in 'Comuna 3, Manrique,' with a beautiful view over the city. The property consists of two plots separated by a road, with a total area of approximately 5,600 m<sup>2</sup> and 1,600 m<sup>2</sup>.

On the larger plot stands 'El Paraiso,' a 280 m<sup>2</sup> house with a reception area, kitchen, restrooms, play area, reading corner, various storage rooms, a classroom, and a computer room on the ground floor. The first floor has several office spaces and a large hall for activities (such as dance lessons) and events. Surrounding the facility, there is a play area, a recreation room, a sports field, a music room, and vegetable gardens.

### **Current Situation within the Foundation**

The foundation has 29 employees, including two Dutch nationals. Currently, six employees of the foundation have come from our own program. Yisela has graduated in sports and recreation, Yankarlo assists with financial administration, Juanes and Luis are soccer coaches, Sandra is our videographer, and Dahiana works part-time as a receptionist. Other young people have completed their studies with the support of the foundation and have found formal work elsewhere.

More than 500 children actively participate in our activities and receive a piece of fruit three times a week after an activity. Currently, 17 young people are pursuing higher education. These young people receive personal guidance during their studies and in finding formal work, thanks to our growing network of companies and institutions dedicated to offering 'our' youth opportunities.

Many of the children who participate in our activities live in severe poverty and are malnourished. The foundation knows the children and their situations and selects who qualifies for the 'Support a Child' project. These families receive an extensive food package every two months and sometimes other forms of support, depending on their individual needs. Currently, 60 families are supported by the foundation.

After years of working with the children, we see that they gain more self-confidence. The dropout rate has decreased, and more young people are showing interest in pursuing studies after high school. There are positive role models for the children, contributing to these developments. These positive trends ensure that more young people have the opportunity to find formal work and finally break the vicious cycle of poverty, informal work, and violence.

### **Children in the City Center**

At the 'Jardín de Amor' home, the 'Poder Joven' daycare, and 'Sueños y huellas del mañana,' the foundation also organizes weekly activities. This is a remnant of how everything started, and it is gratifying that the foundation still maintains contact with this vulnerable group in the city center. It is our wish to support these children in their future studies and in finding formal work.

# Our Policy



## Mission

We believe that every child should have the opportunity to develop, pursue their dreams, and chart their own future. Unfortunately, this opportunity is not a given for many children. The foundation actively works to support and encourage these children to take responsibility for themselves, ensuring that regardless of their background or circumstances, they receive the opportunities they deserve.

## Vision

We believe that children are the key to a thriving future. We aim to create a future where children not only flourish in their personal development but also serve as a driving force for positive change in their immediate surroundings. By investing in the strength and potential of children, we aspire to inspire a community where they, as essential participants, have a sustainable impact on improving the quality of life and strengthening their own environment.

## Core Values

The following core values define what we stand for as a foundation:

- Dedication
- Transparency
- Engagement
- Responsibility
- Innovation
- Great Care and Attention
- Open and Honest
- Heart for the Cause
- Aware of Our Duty
- Innovative

## General Objective

We offer children a comprehensive program of sports, recreational, cultural, and educational activities, providing personal guidance in collaboration with their families and environment. Through these activities, we help children discover their passions and talents, determine their own futures, and make a sustainable impact on their own environment.



# Our approach

Children are curious, and eager to explore and gain new experiences. They are competent, with unique qualities and numerous possibilities. We strive for equal opportunities for everyone and aim to make a difference in the lives of people in the Carambolas and Bello Oriente neighborhoods, as well as the children in the city center. Our challenge is to show 'our' children that there are alternatives. We encourage and support them to break the cycle by becoming aware of their talents and taking responsibility for their own lives. They learn that they are responsible for their future and that with the foundation's assistance, they can achieve their dreams through hard work.

## Program with Activities

This is accomplished by offering a comprehensive program with activities divided into four categories, each with corresponding projects.

<b>Sport, recreation and culture</b>	La Naranja Mecánica (soccer) Fundancing (dance) CoCo (recreation) Sararé (music) Board games
<b>Education</b>	(Entendámonos) Journalism English lessons Reading and writing lessons Computer science
<b>Guidance</b>	Caminos al Máximo Leadership in my neighborhood Study and work
<b>Family Empowerment</b>	Parent meetings Vegetable gardens Bazaar



## Participation Requirements

To participate in our activities, children must register at the beginning of the year for one or more projects in the categories of 'sports, recreation and culture' and 'education'. We collect all necessary information from the children and their parents/guardians, which is then entered into our database called 'Connect FC'.

It is very important to us that the children attend school, and we expect that their school results are shared with us. If a child is not attending school or if their school performance declines, we take this as a signal to contact the child's parents/guardians.

All children participating in the various projects are required to attend the monthly meetings of the 'Caminos al Máximo' project. This project focuses on encouraging the children to make independent choices about their futures and to determine their own life paths.



## Personal Guidance

We place great importance on personal guidance in all our activities. Our teachers act as mentors and are the first point of contact for the children. Our professional team of staff is dedicated and always open to learning from each other, from others, and from the children themselves.

If needed, psychological support is available for the children. In cases of complex problems requiring long-term assistance, we support the child and their family in finding suitable organizations for professional help.

We involve parents and guardians in our activities whenever possible because we understand that the children's situations cannot improve in the long term without their involvement—and we wouldn't want it any other way.

The children we work with are often not encouraged in their personal development at home. Many rarely leave their own neighborhood and live in a limited world. Through our 'Caminos al Máximo' program, we aim to change this. During these workshops, children learn various basic skills, such as recognizing emotions and setting boundaries. They also explore their own identities, discover their talents, explore different professions, and learn how to shape their futures and what they need to do to achieve their goals.

Young people who have been participating in our activities for a significant amount of time are invited to join the 'Leadership in My Neighborhood' project. Those who show positive development can participate in the 'Study and Work' project. We guide them after completing high school in their further education and help them find formal employment.





## **Empowerment of Families and Community**

Through our 'Empowerment of Families and Community' projects, we involve families and the broader community as they are crucial factors in the development of the child. The community's input is represented by a 'parent committee' that maintains close contact with the foundation.

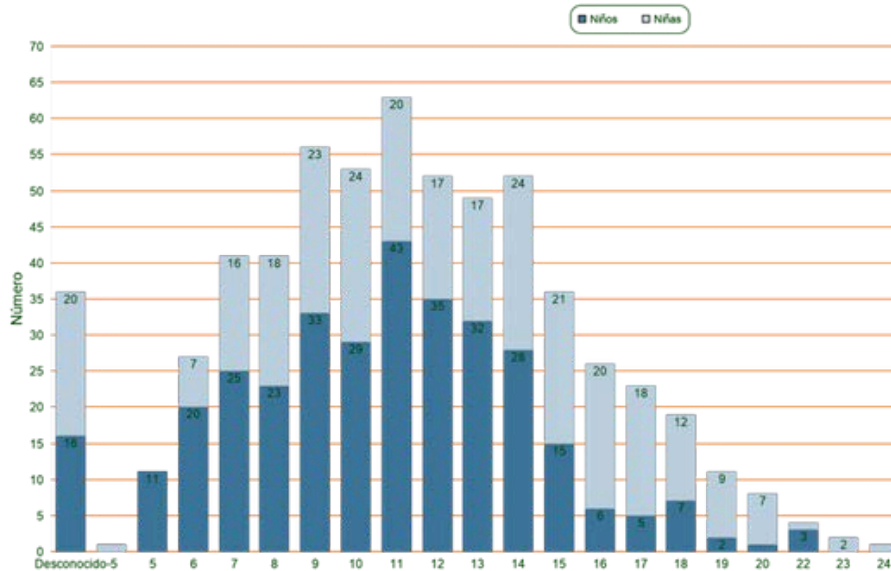
Many families in the Bello Oriente and Carambolas neighborhoods have limited financial resources. As a foundation, we regularly receive donations such as clothing from various sources. Sometimes we distribute these directly to families in need, but usually, we save them for our bazaar. This bazaar is held three times a year and provides families with the opportunity to buy clothing, shoes, and other necessities at very affordable prices. Additionally, young people sell food and drinks, and various activities are organized, increasing the community's involvement in the foundation's work.

Four times a year, the foundation organizes meetings for the parents and guardians of the children. These meetings cover a range of topics, such as drug use among youths, depression, and domestic violence. The topics are chosen in consultation between the psychologist and the community.

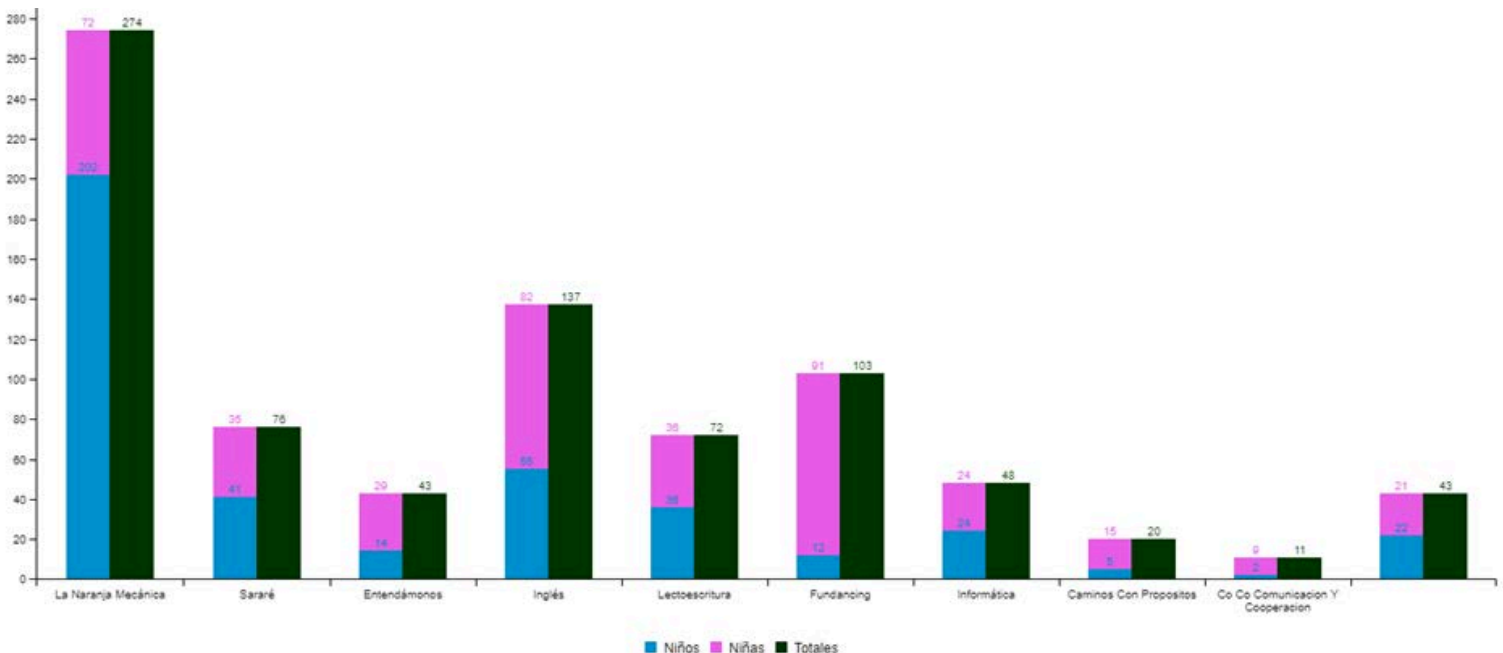
In the backyard of the foundation, there is a large sloping area where we have created terraced vegetable gardens. Here, children and community members, in collaboration with the foundation, can grow their own vegetables and fruit or learn about gardening. This initiative contributes to increasing their self-sufficiency.

## Digital Administration

The foundation uses the digital administration system 'Connect FC'. This comprehensive database system provides us with clear insights into the foundation's performance. We can closely monitor the attendance of children at activities and their school results. In cases of unauthorized absences or declining school performance, we contact the family to discuss how we can address the issue together. The collected data allows us to conduct thorough analyses and identify areas of success as well as areas needing attention.



Graph: 2023 Enrollment Statistics | In 2023, a total of 537 children were enrolled in our programs. Above is a breakdown by age and gender.



Graph: 2023 Enrollment Statistics by Project | Above is a breakdown of enrollment per project along with the gender.

# Our Objectives

The foundation aims to offer a comprehensive program of activities so that children from vulnerable environments can develop into self-reliant individuals capable of determining their own futures and caring for their families. Additionally, it is essential for the foundation to create the right conditions to ensure the continuity of its work, involving the community itself, thereby achieving a sustainable impact on improving the quality of life and strengthening their own living environment.

The objectives, both short-term and long-term, can be divided into 'activity objectives' of the foundation and 'organizational objectives' (from the present until the year 2030).

## Activity Objectives

It is important that the children enjoy the activities; this is a prerequisite for learning. Additionally, we aim to stimulate the child's development by providing activities with meaningful content. The focus is on the following objectives:

### Encourage Adherence to Values and Norms

During the activities, we establish behavioral rules with the children based on respect for each other and everyone's individuality. By following these rules, we promote a positive atmosphere where children can build positive relationships and develop their moral compass.

- ➡ The child can establish behavioral rules that promote respect for each other and everyone's individuality.
- ➡ The child can contribute to a positive atmosphere and build positive relationships.
- ➡ The child can determine what is right and wrong.

### Promote Knowledge Acquisition and Personal Growth

The activities focus on developing knowledge of the world, as this is essential for understanding the world around us. A broad knowledge base forms the foundation of further educational and personal growth and, ultimately, success in school and life.

During the activities, we encourage children to be curious and motivated to learn so they can ask and answer meaningful questions. The goal is to create an environment where education is central, and children are encouraged to continually learn and develop as individuals.

- ➡ The child learns to better understand the world around them.
- ➡ The child is curious and motivated to learn.
- ➡ The child asks (themselves) meaningful questions and seeks the answers.

## Encouraging Collaboration

During the activities, children learn to make decisions together and listen to others. They respect each other's qualities but also recognize their own strengths.

- ➔ The child learns to respect their own boundaries and dares to say no when necessary.
- ➔ The child understands and appreciates diversity in opinions and lifestyles, thereby increasing their empathy.
- ➔ The child understands that by working together, better results can be achieved.

## Encouraging Discovery of Hobbies, Passions, and Talents

During the activities, we help children discover their passions and talents, as this stimulates intrinsic motivation. They can then develop and maximize their potential. By offering activities that challenge them and require perseverance and determination, we encourage children to overcome obstacles and persevere in difficulties. Thus, they not only learn to discover their passions and talents but also the resilience and determination needed to develop and utilize them.

- ➔ The child learns to discover their passions and talents.
- ➔ The child is challenged and learns to persevere and be determined to overcome obstacles.
- ➔ The child learns what they can excel in.

## Encouraging Autonomy

During the activities, children are encouraged to develop autonomy by making their own choices and taking responsibility. They learn that every choice affects their life and future, and they can learn from both success and setbacks. By discovering their own strengths and trusting in their abilities, they grow in self-confidence and are encouraged to take initiative and inspire others.

- ➔ The child can independently make decisions based on their own considerations, values, and goals, and can assess the impact on their life and future.
- ➔ The child discovers their own strengths.
- ➔ The child learns from both success and setbacks.
- ➔ The child dares to show initiative and takes responsibility for their actions.
- ➔ The child seeks help and support when needed but still retains control over their own life.
- ➔ The child has a strong sense of self-worth and is not overly dependent on the opinions of others.
- ➔ The child can inspire others.

## Encouraging Self-Reflection

During the activities, children are encouraged to engage in self-reflection. They learn to critically assess themselves and think about their choices, actions, and experiences. This helps them become more self-aware and develop self-insight and self-awareness. Children learn to evaluate their thoughts, feelings, and behaviors and adjust them if necessary. We emphasize the importance of positive self-reflection, where children focus on what is going well rather than dwelling on shortcomings.

- ➔ The child learns to think critically about themselves, their choices, actions, and experiences.
- ➔ The child is capable of self-reflection and can evaluate their own thoughts, feelings, and behaviors and adjust them if necessary.
- ➔ The child emphasizes what is going well rather than focusing on shortcomings and takes into account their own pitfalls.

## Promoting Health

During the activities, we encourage children to embrace a healthy lifestyle, including conscious healthy eating and regular physical activity. Exercise promotes health by strengthening bones, joints, and muscles, improving coordination, and increasing endurance. Additionally, it promotes mental health and resilience.

- ➔ The child learns what a healthy lifestyle entails and what they should do and avoid to live healthily (conscious healthy eating, exercise, rest).
- ➔ The child is aware of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.
- ➔ The child learns to grow vegetables and fruits.



## Organizational Objectives

The following pages describe three strategic objectives that our foundation aims to achieve in the future. Below each strategic objective, operational objectives are listed to indicate how we intend to achieve these strategic goals. These objectives will be made measurable through indicators and will be developed from the short term (the current year) to the long term (up to 2030).

### Strategic Objective:

By 2030, at least 50 students will successfully complete a vocational training program each year, and we will support them in finding suitable formal employment.

### Operational Objectives:

1. We offer children a comprehensive program with sports, recreational, cultural, and educational projects.

#### Indicators

➔ From 2024, at least 500 children are actively involved in one or more projects each year.

2. We provide all children with personalized guidance.

#### Indicators:

- ➔ All children participate in the monthly activities of 'Caminos al Máximo,' a program focused on personal growth.
- ➔ At least 8 youths participate in the activities of 'Leadership in My Community.' At the end of the year, they present their 'project' aimed at improving their own community.
- ➔ In 2024, at least 60 children and their families are helped through the 'Support a Child' program. The foundation provides a psychologist and at least 2 social workers.
- ➔ The digital administration system offers a comprehensive tracking system and facilitates personal communication between the foundation and the child regarding attendance at activities and school results.

3. By 2027, the foundation will have its own educational center with integrated facilities for childcare.

#### Indicators:

- ➔ In 2024, the plans for the educational center and childcare are completed.
- ➔ In 2025, the legalization of the foundation's property is finalized.
- ➔ In 2025, funding for the educational center and childcare is secured.
- ➔ In 2026, construction of the educational center and childcare begins.
- ➔ In 2027, the educational center with 2 classrooms and childcare facilities is completed.
- ➔ In 2028, the first students begin studying at the educational center.
- ➔ From 2030, at least 50 students graduate from the educational center each year.
- ➔ From 2030, at least 50 youths are supported in finding formal employment each year.

### Strategic Objective:

By 2030, the foundation will generate at least 75% of its income locally, aiming to increase self-sufficiency.

### Operational Objectives:

1. The foundation will invest in its own team of staff to secure local donations.\*\*

#### Indicators:

- ➔ In 2024, a team of 4 people will be appointed to achieve local impact.
- ➔ By 2024, at least 20% of total income will be generated locally (within Colombia).

2. The foundation will establish partnerships with local and international organizations.

#### Indicators:

- ➔ By 2024, the foundation will have long-term partnerships with at least 5 major local organizations that provide annual material and/or immaterial support.

3. With the establishment of an educational center, childcare, and a hotel/restaurant, the foundation will organize activities to generate income.

#### Indicators:

- ➔ By 2028, Spanish lessons will be offered to foreigners.
- ➔ By 2028, cooking classes will be offered.
- ➔ By 2028, the 4 hotel rooms will have an occupancy rate of 70% and will not operate at a loss.

### Strategic Objective:

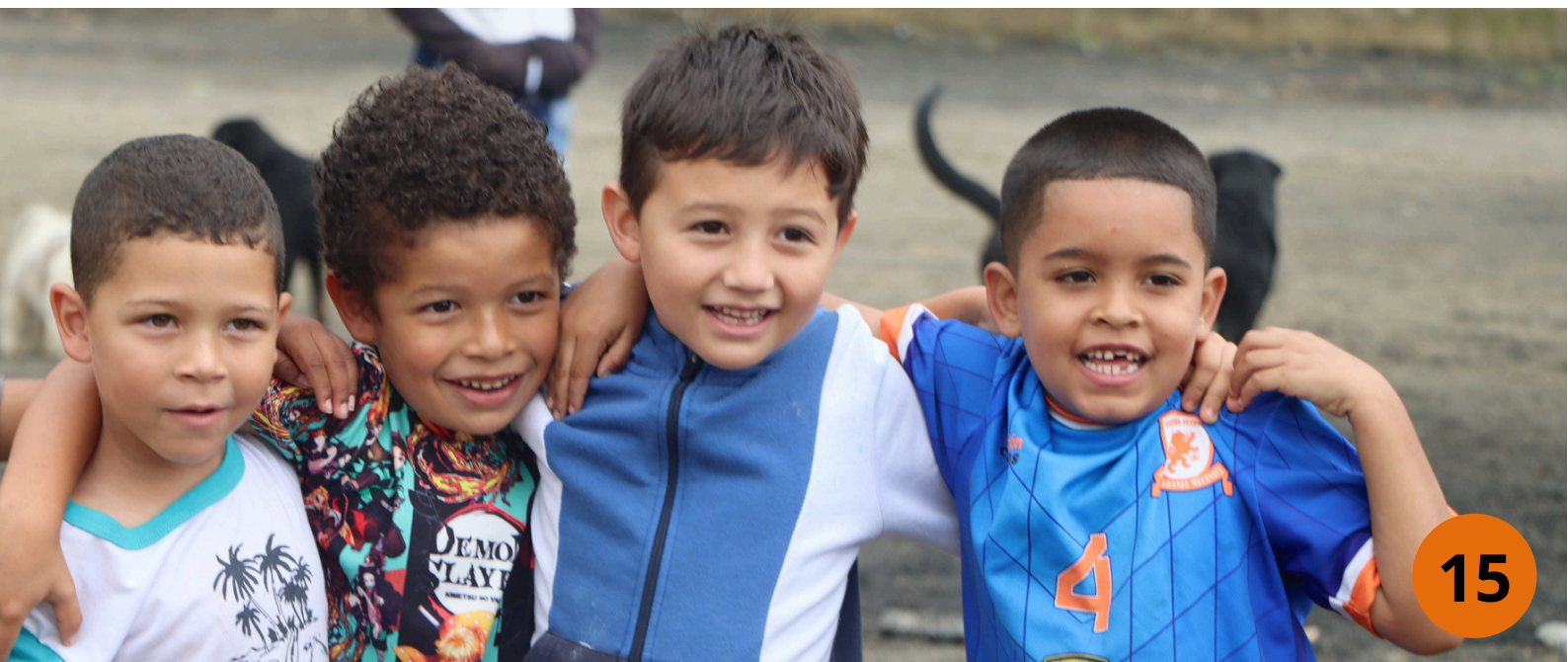
By 2030, the policy of 'Fundación Caminos' will be fully shaped by and operating within the same community.

### Operational Objectives:

1. Parents/guardians and the community will be involved in the foundation's work.

#### Indicators:

- ➔ The foundation will organize a parent meeting four times a year.
- ➔ There will be bi-monthly contact between the foundation and a formed parent committee.
- ➔ By 2030, at least 75% of our staff will be from the local community where we are active.







**Our future dreams**



## Educational Center and Childcare

In recent years, our 'Study and Work' project has successfully helped several youths to complete their further education and secure formal employment after high school. Currently, we have young individuals striving for the same goal, engaging in their studies with the support of a tailored activity program based on our past experiences with this demographic.

An increasing number of youths wish to pursue higher education after high school, but high costs, especially for transportation, present significant obstacles. Consequently, we are forced to make difficult decisions about who can afford to study.

Having spent years in close contact with the community, we have developed a strong bond with the residents of the neighborhood and surrounding areas. The severe poverty that many endure is heartbreaking. Both economic and mental poverty lead to numerous problems. For us, education is the key to transforming this situation.

We believe that everyone has the right to an opportunity. Therefore, it is our deep desire that everyone in the community has the chance to take a course or training, increasing their prospects for formal and decent work with fair pay. Currently, many families cannot pursue education for various reasons: lack of money for transport, study costs, materials, and no time for long commutes to the city center. Thus, we have conceived an ambitious plan to build an educational center on a large plot of land, approximately 1600 square meters, next to our premises.

In collaboration with local government organizations like SENA, we can offer a wide range of official courses and training for all residents of the marginalized neighborhoods near our location. This initiative will significantly enhance students' chances of finding formal employment and building a stable future for themselves and their families.

Additionally, the inclusion of a childcare facility within the educational center will enable (young) mothers to pursue their studies. This will provide a safe environment where their children can be cared for and encouraged in social interaction and learning.



## Hotel

Our foundation welcomes many tourists who are extremely enthusiastic about our work. Colombia is increasingly being discovered as a vacation destination, and Medellín is high on the list for most tourists.

The foundation sees an opportunity to build a hotel alongside the educational center, offering tourists a unique experience by staying in a suburb of Medellín. Guests can participate in a wide range of activities, such as Spanish lessons, dance classes, and preparing local dishes, all facilitated by the local community. This allows them to witness firsthand the immense strength and perseverance of the local population.



# Our organization

The Dutch foundation Children of Medellín was established in January 2008. A year later, in 2009, the Colombian foundation Fundación Caminos was founded. In 2022, Straatkinderen Medellín changed its name to Children of Medellín and now works closely with Fundación Caminos. Both organizations share a similar logo, the same objectives, and a joint financial administration. There are direct lines of communication between the staff in Medellín and the board, advisors, and volunteers in the Netherlands, ensuring clarity and efficient collaboration.

## Board of the Foundation Children of Medellín

The board of the foundation is responsible for governance, policy, financial management, and internal and external communication. The foundation is led by a board consisting of three members: a chairperson, a secretary, and a treasurer. These board members do not receive remuneration for their work but are entitled to reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. New board members are appointed by the current board members, and their appointments are for an indefinite period.

President:	Anne Schepers
Secretary:	Pepijn Pinkse
Treasurer:	Emma Rotman

The board is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the foundation and ensures the implementation of board decisions. Integrity is of utmost importance to the board.



On the photo: Emma Rotman, Anne Schepers and Pepijn Pinkse.

## Local Organization in Colombia

The board of the foundation 'Fundación Caminos' in Medellín consists of three members. These board members do not receive any compensation for their work, while the employees do receive a salary.

Presidente (president)	Eddy Veldhuisen
Vice presidente (vice president)	Mónica Trujillo Valencia
Secretaria (secretary)	Adriana Maria Trujillo Valencia

## Volunteers

Stichting Children of Medellín thrives on the support of volunteers and always welcomes new faces with open arms. Volunteers are deeply involved in various activities, with some taking on specific responsibilities.

Guus Montenegro  
Nico Verbeek

In Colombia, volunteers from different countries come to Medellín annually to support the foundation. Depending on their availability, Spanish proficiency, interests, and motivation, we work together to determine how they can best contribute.

## Advisors

The foundation is ambitious and values advice from experts. We are grateful for the dedicated individuals who are willing to help us advance our mission.

Ferry Brands  
René Hartman  
Ton en Wilma Leukel



# Our income

Stichting Children of Medellín relies on occasional or periodic donations from individuals and organizations.

## **Friends of the Foundation**

Everyone who supports the foundation is considered a friend of the foundation. All friends receive our monthly digital newsletter featuring inspiring stories and videos about "our" children, keeping them informed about the latest developments within the foundation. The foundation has ANBI status, making donations potentially tax-deductible. Donations committed for at least five years and made periodically (at least annually) are fully deductible from taxable income.

## **Support a Child**

Some children in our projects face more significant challenges than others. That's why we started the 'Support a Child' program in 2019 to provide extra support to these children and their families.

This support is invaluable for the families involved. We determine which children need extra help in consultation with the trainer/teacher and the psychologist. We document their personal stories and maintain contact between the supporters and the families receiving support.

Thanks to this support, a child and their family receive a comprehensive food package every two months. Twice a year, the family can choose between an additional food package or other necessities they may need.

## **Study and Work - Support a Child in Their Studies**

Through the 'Study and Work' project, young people have the opportunity to pursue further education after high school. The foundation selects suitable candidates for this program. It is possible to support one or more of these young people with a donation to cover their study expenses.

## **Sponsor a Team**

Children participating in the 'La Naranja Mecánica' (soccer) and 'Fundancing' (dancing) projects wear uniforms during training, matches, and performances. By sponsoring, the sponsor's name appears on the shirts, they receive a group photo, and are regularly updated on the team's achievements.

## Product Sales

The foundation sells several products, with all proceeds going to support its mission.

- CD 'Amor bonito' (2014): This CD features seven songs written and composed by the children in collaboration with music teacher Dario Eraso.
- Book 'Vrijdag komt mijn droom uit' (2014): This book takes readers on a journey through Colombia's modern history, featuring stories about the foundation and the children.
- Book 'The highest neighborhood of Medellín' (2022): This book contains 20 stories, each highlighting the past and present of a child from the foundation and their family.
- T-shirt and Coffee Mug, Both items feature the foundation's unique design, 'Hoy estamos cambiando el mundo' (Today we are changing the world).

## Local Income Fundación Caminos

Fundación Caminos aims to secure as many local donations as possible. Local activities, such as bazaars held three times a year and an annual lottery where children sell tickets in the neighborhood, are essential for raising awareness within the community about their role in the foundation's welfare.

The foundation receives food donations twice a month from the local organization Saciar, which are distributed to the families in the community most in need.

Monthly, the foundation can shop at MAKRO for up to 2 million Colombian pesos. Common purchases include cleaning supplies, plastic chairs, prizes for the local lottery, printing paper, and food.

Thanks to a monthly donation from Go Bananas, the foundation can also distribute fruit to all children three times a week.



# Contact



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Ten name van Children of Medellín  
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If you would like to learn more about the work of the foundation, become part of our efforts, receive our newsletter, or get more information about our projects, please feel free to contact us at [info@childrenofmedellin.com](mailto:info@childrenofmedellin.com).

We will respond to your inquiries as soon as possible. Additionally, we welcome any questions or comments you may have.



A young boy in a dark jacket with yellow accents is smiling and giving a thumbs up. He is sitting at a desk with papers on it. In the background, another boy is sitting at a desk, looking down at a book. The background is a bright green wall.

Today we are  
changing the  
world

On behalf of “our” children:  
¡Muchas Gracias!

A close-up shot of a person's legs wearing blue denim jeans with frayed hems, sitting on an orange chair.