

I am very grateful to the Franciscan Sisters and the team. Thanks to them I have the opportunity to continue my studies and achieve my dreams of having a career while growing as a person and growing closer to God.



We Need Your help!

Being Chair of the Board has been transformative in my understanding of the issues facing women, not only in Mexico, but in many areas of our world. As the father of my daughter, when I see each of these young women I ask myself, "What wouldn't I be willing to give to provide a better opportunity for each of them as an individual?"

The evidence is overwhelming, the best way to reverse the cycle of poverty, disease and death is to provide better opportunities for education of young women. In my experience, Casa Franciscana is a safe environment, rich in values. It is community based with great adult guides, while plugged into 21st century technology to afford every opportunity available

Be a Partner!

Amigos de Las Franciscanas (ALF) was incorporated in the State of Minnesota in March 2014 and is a tax exempt, public charity under section 501(3)(c) of the Internal Revenue code.

We are excited to work with you to assist with the education of young women in Mexico.

By supporting Amigos de Las Franciscanas you are becoming a part of a unique initiative that helps families achieve a dream for their daughters to receive an education in a safe and supportive community of learners. We are grateful for your prayers and donations, and we welcome you to become a part of Amigos de Las Franciscanas community.

Our sole purpose is to raise funds and resources in the United States to support the education and advancement of women in Mexico through the work of Hermanas Franciscanas en Mexico.

Join us with your prayers and donations.

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In Mexico, women are three times more likely than young men to be non-educated and nonemployed.

(Education at a Glance: OECD report, Mexico 2012)



You can make a difference by partnering with Amigos de Las Franciscanas!

Amigos de las Franciscanas.



Amigos de Las Franciscanas (ALF) was formed to support the work of Hermanas Franciscana en Mexico AC (HFEM). Together they provide an opportunity for the education of young women who live in a poor, rural area: Casa Franciscana, San Rafael de Galeana, Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

Sisters and Residents of Casa Franciscana are waiting for you to form a partnership to change the world.



History

Four Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls began a misión in San Rafael in 2003. Initially their outreach was to provide pastoral and spiritual care to the small city and 54 villages that make up the Parish of San Rafael.

As they traveled to the villages and built relationships they realized the lack of education, especially for women and girls. The only high school is in the city of San Rafael which, due to poverty and lack of transportation, is beyond the reach of most girls in the outlying villages.

The sisters began inviting young women to live in community at the convent so they could go to school. Each year a few more young women came. In 2008 a missionary complex, Casa Franciscana, was built to house the sisters and the students. Hermanas Franciscanas en Mexico, AC is the entity, a civil association established under Mexican law that operates like a non-profit in the US, which allows the Franciscan sisters to conduct business in Mexico.

You can start now!

When girls are educated, their families are healthier, they have fewer children, they wed later, and they have more opportunities to generate income. One extra year of primary school boosts a girl's future wage 10 to 20 percent and an extra year of secondary school increases that earning potential by 15 to 25 percent. Education also helps women as mothers, provide better care for their children. According to the World Bank (PDF), each additional year of female education reduces child mortality by 18 per thousand births. (Educate Girls, Develop Nations, Carla Koppell, Senior Coordinator, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment 4/18/2013)

