# Community-based care organizations in Latin America

**ENGLISH** A mapping in Mexico, Uruguay, and Colombia









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### Introduction

#### **Context**

In 2021, Canada's **International Development** Research Centre (IDRC) and the Soros Economic **Development Fund (SEDF)** at the Open Society Foundations (OSF) launched the 'Transforming the Care **Economy through Impact** Investing' (TCEII) program to generate knowledge and evidence to direct investment into social and for-profit care economy enterprises. Under this flagship program, Kore Global led a research consortium to assess market opportunity in the care sector in select countries across Latin America, sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. The Care Economy Knowledge Hub, a key outcome of this program, is the first comprehensive resource offering systematically presented data about the role of the private sector in the care economy, collected and analyzed by Kore Global, Intellecap, Busara, and CoreWoman.

This mapping, which is part of TCEII Phase II, seeks to help recognize the essential role that community-based organizations - whether NGOs or other non-profit civil society organizations, cooperatives or associations - play in addressing local care **needs.** For this, we mapped 30 communitybased organizations (CBOs) in Uruguay, Colombia and Mexico. As such, it is not a representative study. However, the mapping unveils important CBO care innovations, as well as their challenges and needs. The study, therefore, also informs and provides the foundation for the next phase of our work, which is to pilot an initiative to provide much-needed financial and organizational development support to a cohort of community-based care organizations in Colombia.

This mapping also responds to the growing engagement of local governments in Latin America in the provision of care services. Many local governments are actively working to create connections with CBOs, recognizing that these organizations provide specific services, sometimes filling gaps in municipal offerings, such as care for care workers themselves.

The unequal organization of the care economy is both a root cause of systemic gender inequality and a critical structural barrier that cuts across multiple sectors and stakeholder interests. For investors, businesses, and other ecosystem actors, carerelated challenges affect everything from labor force participation, productivity, and talent retention to inclusive economic growth, social cohesion, and long-term value creation. Care shapes outcomes across domains typically siloed in public, private, and philanthropic decision-making, and addressing it requires coordinated responses that transcend sectoral boundaries. This makes the role of local organizations addressing care not just socially important but strategically relevant. These organizations are already playing an essential role in building more just and resilient care systems.



While many of these initiatives may not yet fit traditional investment models, they are nonetheless central to the broader objectives of gender-lens investing (GLI). Understanding how care shapes economic opportunity and gender outcomes is foundational to GLI, even if not all interventions are immediately investible. Beyond impact investors, foundations, bilateral donors, and philanthropic actors are increasingly interested in supporting community-based care organizations, whether through grants, technical support, or enabling policy frameworks. Private sector actors are also recognizing the material risks and missed opportunities associated with inadequate care systems, particularly in regards to workforce participation and the recruitment, development, and retention of diverse talent. Strategic partnerships with local care providers can help businesses strengthen human capital while contributing to broader ecosystem resilience.

#### **Objectives**

The aim of this study was to better understand the needs, contributions, and challenges of community-based care organizations in Latin America that are making significant contributions to reducing, rewarding, recognizing, and redistributing unpaid care work. In the context of this mapping, we focus on community-based care organizations that are involved in providing care services for vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and people living with disabilities or a chronic illness. While many CBOs also offer other essential services such as shelter or food security, these areas were outside the scope of this study. Mapped organizations may vary in structure, ranging from informal groups to formally registered entities, and they often rely on community engagement and local leadership to carry out their mission.

Thirty organizations were selected across Colombia, Mexico, and Uruguay for indepth analysis. The study mapped the types of care services these CBOs provide, identified innovative practices, and examined their operating models and core challenges, with the goal of increasing the visibility of community-based care solutions. The three countries were chosen to reflect a diversity of care system development stages, demographic profiles — including high proportions of Indigenous and aging populations — and geographic contexts across the region.

Methodology

The research process involved a number of steps, including an outreach strategy to identify organizations that might qualify for the study. As many CBOs do not have a digital presence, over 50 meetings were held with key stakeholders, including government officials, community leaders, and Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) contacts, which helped to identify over 500 organizations across the three countries. A careful screening of these organizations yielded a shortlist of selected organizations that were contacted to inform them of the study and ask them to complete the questionnaire. The questionnaire, from which this data is drawn, was also shared widely on social media and through WhatsApp groups in order to reach as many organizations as possible.

A total of 85 questionnaires were submitted: 57 in Colombia, 20 in Mexico, and 8 in Uruguay. A scoring tool was developed and applied to assess organizations. Based on the scoring and a careful reassessment of the questionnaire responses in terms of the care services offered, a total of 30 organizations were selected for profiling: 12 from Colombia, 12 from Mexico, and 6 from Uruguay. The team employed a thematic mixed-method analysis approach to surface insights and key findings.

As the data available for this brief comes from self-reported questionnaire responses, it inherently presents certain limitations. As participants provided information based on their own interpretation of the questions

and personal recall, there may be gaps or inconsistencies in the dataset. Additionally, since the research teams were working across English and Spanish, some nuances or meanings may have been affected during the translation processes. These aspects of self-reported data and language translation should be considered when reviewing the findings and conclusions presented in this brief, with the understanding that findings are exploratory in nature and based on a carefully selected subset of organizations and therefore should not be generalized to all community-based care organizations in the three countries.

# Policy context: Care systems in Latin America

Building on the growing recognition of care as a right and the challenges faced by community-based initiatives across Latin America, this section examines how the regional policy landscape is evolving and highlights the increasingly central role of CBOs in developing comprehensive care and support systems.

Across Latin America, care systems are increasingly recognized as essential components of social protection and foundational to achieving gender equality.<sup>1</sup>

The region is undergoing a profound paradigm shift — from viewing care as an individual or family obligation to acknowledging it as a public good that requires co-responsibility between the state, communities, families, and the market. This redefinition has been codified in regional agreements such as the Buenos Aires Commitment (2022), where governments pledged to build comprehensive care systems grounded in human rights, gender equity, interculturality, and intersectionality. The UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean's (ECLAC) call for a "care society" envisions systems that quarantee the right to care across the life cycle while valuing and redistributing unpaid care work — a critical step toward closing structural gender gaps and enabling women's economic autonomy. Within this agenda, CBOs are increasingly visible as indispensable actors.



In fact, CBOs have long played a de facto role in service delivery across Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), particularly in underserved rural, Indigenous, and conflictaffected areas. Their involvement has been most prominent where public infrastructure is weak or centralized models of care fail to reach marginalized populations. In Colombia, for example, the absence of state services in rural zones due to decades of armed conflict led to the emergence of grassroots care initiatives to meet urgent needs.4 Communityled programs have also been integrated into post-conflict peacebuilding strategies, such as those supported by UN Women and UNICEF, which use care models to promote social reintegration and inclusion for ex-combatants and vulnerable groups.5

Meanwhile, some governments are institutionalizing care and formally incorporating local organizations into system-building efforts. In Colombia, Bogotá's District System of Care (SDC) - also known as Care Blocks involves households, communities, the private sector, and the government in the provision of care. Led by the Secretaría Distrital de la Mujer (SDM), the SDC coordinates child care, health,

education, and other services from thirteen district entities to support caregivers and those needing care, including children under 12, senior citizens, and people with disabilities. In Uruguay, the Sistema Nacional Integrado de Cuidados (SNIC) explicitly partners with community and family networks to expand access to early childhood and elder care through a coordinated, rightsbased approach.<sup>7,8</sup> This model emphasizes support for caregivers and service delivery in vulnerable communities, including via mobile services and targeted subsidy programs.9 Mexico is also taking steps to institutionalize care through the development of a National Care System (SNC), supported by tools such as the Mapa de Cuidados, which helps identify service gaps and inform policy design. 10,11

However, challenges remain in bridging disparities between urban and rural areas across the region, where Indigenous and Afro-descendant populations face significant infrastructure, cultural, and linguistic barriers to care access. In these contexts, CBOs are essential not only for service delivery but for ensuring that national systems reflect local knowledge and respect collective rights.

Despite growing policy attention, most CBOs in LAC continue to operate with limited funding, precarious staffing, and little formal recognition. Integration into national systems is often ad hoc, driven by local champions or donor projects rather than institutionalized channels. As countries work toward comprehensive, intersectional, and intercultural care systems, a critical task ahead is to create mechanisms for sustainable collaboration with CBOs, including public financing, capacity building, and inclusion in governance structures.

Ultimately, building a caring society in Latin America will depend not only on macro-level policy reform but also on empowering the frontline organizations already anchoring care in communities. These organizations bring critical expertise, legitimacy, and resilience to the care ecosystem — and should be treated not as stopgaps, but as core partners in the future of inclusive social protection.

### Part I: Findings synthesis

## Findings by thematic area

The community-based care organizations profiled in this study deliver a wide range of services, including elder care (both in facilities and at home), support for the chronically ill and disabled, accompaniment to medical appointments, and before- and after-school child care. Notably, 30% also provide services for caregivers themselves.

At the heart of this paper lies a close examination of the practices, values, and operational realities of 30 community-based care organizations across Latin America. The sections below present the most critical insights from our research across four thematic areas: innovations, care providers, operating models, and common challenges. Moving beyond policy frameworks and systemic trends, this analysis focuses on the day-to-day practices through which care is provided, mutual support is fostered, and caregivers themselves are sustained.

By surfacing these commonalities and innovations, this section reveals the foundational role that grassroots care actors play in advancing gender justice, social cohesion, and inclusive development across the region — in the hopes that the lessons they have learned and the best practices they have shown can inform future investment, policy design, and scale-up.

#### Innovation in care services

#### **Mutual aid**

Whilst all the care organizations included in this analysis provide community-based care, several stand out for their strong emphasis on mutual aid. An example of this is Fundación Niños Indígenas Sin Barrera in Colombia, where caregivers and families are

encouraged to support one another and build resilient networks. The Asociación Civil Familias Extraordinarias in Mexico facilitates the exchange of support materials among families, such as medical equipment, resources, and practical advice, creating a self-sustaining cycle of mutual aid.

#### **Use of technology**

Some organizations that have the necessary resources are able to capitalize on technological innovations in care. Fundación Infantil Huellas que Transforman Colombia, Fundacion ASTUR in Uruguay and Capacidades Diferentes Marce A.C. in Mexico all make use of tools such as telecare and monitoring applications to improve the quality and efficiency of care. The Asociación Civil Familias Extraordinarias in Mexico utilizes digital platforms such as WhatsApp groups to allow families from different locations, beliefs, and socioeconomic backgrounds to connect, share information, and offer mutual support.

#### **Cultural sensitivity**

Several of the care organizations, including Fundación Niños Indígenas Sin Barrera and Luuçx Kiwethegnas Niños Guardianes del Territorio y de la Vida in Colombia, emphasize culturally inclusive care that respects the ethnic and cultural identities of the Indigenous communities they serve.

This includes integrating traditional knowledge and practices into caregiving frameworks, as well as incorporating Indigenous rituals and artistic activities such as dance, music, and planting. These community-driven approaches are increasingly aligned with national priorities, as Colombia's emerging National Care System is now in the process of developing a dedicated ethnic and Indigenous chapter to formally recognize and support culturally grounded models of care.



#### **Conflict-affected communities**

The post-conflict context in Colombia presents a unique case where care solutions have been integrated into peacebuilding and conflict prevention efforts. The Asociación Madres del Catatumbo por la Paz in Colombia runs rural community schools to prevent children from being recruited into armed groups. In Mexico, La casa de los Abuelos, which provides services and accommodation for the elderly people and people with disabilities, also supports refugee populations in partnership with the local government, ensuring access to food, shelter, and essential resources.

#### **Support to caregivers**

Many of the organizations featured in this study ensure that caregivers themselves are also supported, thereby alleviating the emotional and psychological burden of care and ensuring that caregivers feel heard, valued, and supported. The Asociación Civil Familias Extraordinarias in Mexico is developing a project to offer free psychological care for women in vulnerable situations, in response to growing demand. This initiative aims to address the mental health needs of women caregivers, particularly those facing high-stress situations or risk factors. Caminemos Juntos Con Amor Luz Y Esperanza A.C. and Capacidades Diferentes Marce

A.C. in Mexico also provide caregivers with access to mental health services. In Uruguay, the Cooperativa Mujeres Emprendedoras Salteñas provides care workers with paid time off, ensuring they have dedicated periods for rest and self-care. The organization also facilitates access to mental health services with a psychologist and social worker offering technical support and personalized accompaniment. These services aim to reduce burnout, improve overall well-being, and ensure that caregivers feel valued and supported in their essential roles.

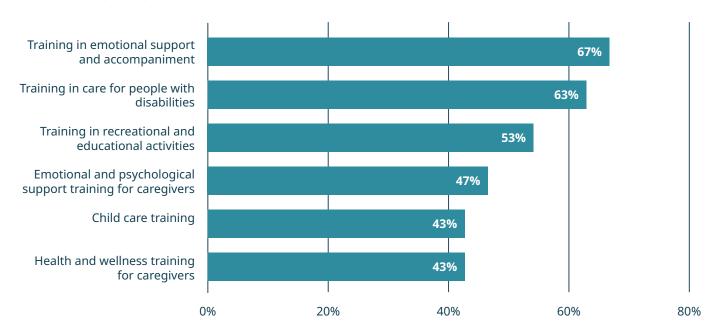
#### Care providers

The 30 care organizations vary in the number of care providers they employ. While the organizations selected have an average of 20.6 workers per organization (including employees and volunteers), the number of workers ranges from 2 to 222, reflecting significant variation in size and capacity across the sample. Workers worked an average of 26 hours per week. The workforce and volunteer force across the 30 communitybased care organizations show a consistent gender imbalance, with an average ratio of approximately four women to one man per organization. This highlights the central and often unrecognized and unrewarded role women play in care work across these organizations.

The training provided to caregivers across the 30 organizations reflects a strong emphasis on emotional support, disability care, and recreational activities (see Figure 1). The most common type of training is emotional support and accompaniment, reported by 67% of organizations, followed closely by training in care for people with disabilities (63%) and training in recreational

and educational activities (53%).<sup>12</sup> Emotional and psychological support for caregivers is also a priority, with 47% of organizations offering this type of training. Other notable areas include child care training and health and wellness training for caregivers, each reported by 43% of organizations. Less common training areas include assistive technology (23%) and child nutrition (13%).

Figure 1: Top 6 types of training caregivers possess



# Operating models of community-based care organizations

#### Registration and Collective Leadership Structures

Almost all, with the exception of two organizations, are formally registered, whether as an NGO or other non-profit civil society organization, cooperative or association. The majority of the 30 selected organizations (67%) are led by a board, committee or group with no single lead person. However, 17% of organizations are led by one or more women, and only one organization is led by a man. This type of leadership structure could be indicative of the nature of these organizations as CBOs, which is aligned with heterarchical or democratic leadership models in which community members are represented.

#### Hiring and paying care workers

The analysis of workforce composition across 30 community-based care organizations in Colombia, Mexico, and Uruguay reveals a consistent reliance on unpaid volunteers alongside paid workers. Volunteers are the most common type of worker, with 87% of organizations relying on them, and engaging as many as 208 volunteers. Unpaid community helpers, such as family members or friends, also contribute substantially, supporting 57% of organizations. Paid employees are present in many organizations, with 58% employing full-time staff (averaging 8.5 workers per organization) and 47% employing part-time workers (averaging 5.1 part-time staff). However, 20% of organizations operate entirely with volunteers and have no paid workers.

The above finding makes clear that volunteerism and unpaid community support are not supplementary, but foundational to how community-based care is delivered and sustained in practice. This reliance on unpaid and volunteer labor has far-reaching implications. It underscores the need for care policies and funding models that recognize and support the informal infrastructure sustaining community-based care. Yet despite their foundational role, unpaid caregivers often remain invisible

in official frameworks — uncounted, unsupported, and excluded from planning processes. This not only threatens the sustainability of care provision, but also raises serious concerns about equity, burnout, and labor justice. As demand for care grows, any effort to strengthen or scale care systems must begin with acknowledging unpaid care as essential labor — and investing accordingly in its protection, resourcing, and potential pathways to formalization.

**Table 1: Organizations' operating locales** 

Location Type	# of Orgs	% of Orgs
Facility/building dedicated to care	9	30%
Organization's own space/headquarters	4	13%
Various locations	4	13%
Community centres	4	13%
Rental/in-kind donated space	3	10%
Educational/institutional spaces	2	7%
In the home of organization members	2	7%
In the home of the person being cared for	1	3%
Not yet established	1	3%

#### **Operating locales**

Community-based care organizations deliver their services in a variety of physical settings (see Table 1). The most common arrangement is the use of dedicated care facilities or organization-owned buildings (13 organizations), followed by community centres (4 organizations). Many organizations demonstrate flexibility in their service delivery, utilizing mixed-location models that combine different spaces to meet care needs: borrowed spaces or mobile arrangements, private homes — either those of organization members or care recipients — and educational or institutional spaces. This diverse distribution suggests that while many organizations have

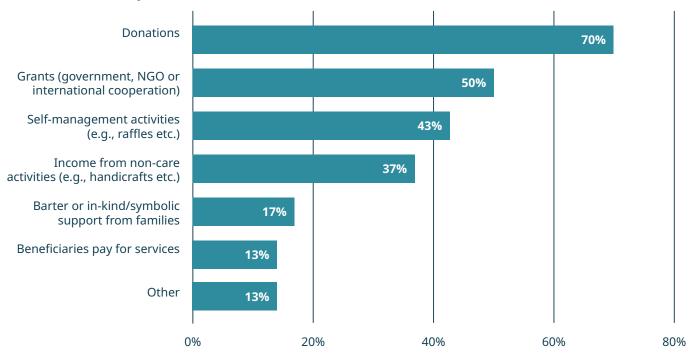
established permanent facilities, others adapt their service delivery to available spaces and community needs.

#### Sources of finance

The financing models for these 30 organizations are diverse (see Figure 2). Donations are the most common source of funding, followed by grants from government, NGOs, or international cooperation, and self-management activities such as raffles or community pots. A significant portion of organizations also relies on income from non-care activities, such as handicrafts. Less common financing methods include barter or in-kind support from families and direct



Figure 2: How does your organization finance its services, activities and operations (check the three most important)?



payments from service users. The "Other" category, selected by 13% of organizations, includes unique funding strategies such as municipal administration support, income from organized seminars, procurement events (e.g., tournaments or auctions), union dues, and monthly contributions from members. These findings highlight the reliance on community-driven and external funding sources, as well as the creative and varied approaches organizations take to sustain their operations. Many organizations are still developing their fundraising capacities, with some relying heavily on contributions from their own members or steering committees.

#### Other sources and types of support

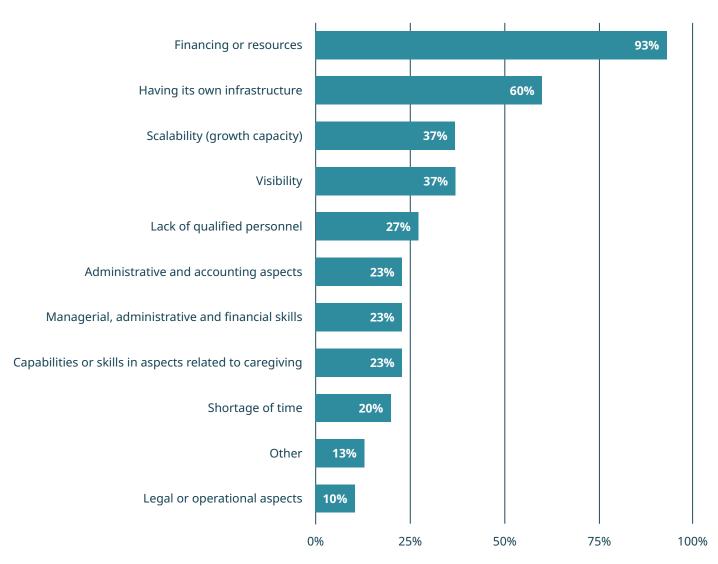
Most of the organizations are not linked to any government services. Some have connections to the local municipality or to other civil society organizations, but for the most part, organizations are working alone with very little support. Six organizations (20%) reported receiving non-financial support, such as technical assistance or training from international cooperation agencies or NGOs.<sup>13</sup>

### Main challenges faced by community-based care organizations

The vast majority of the organizations (93%) face financial challenges, including a lack of regular and sustained funding and the necessary resources to carry out their work (see Figure 3). This is linked to an absence of infrastructure, which 60% of organizations state as a challenge, as many do not have a permanent or dedicated space from which to operate. Organizations in Uruguay were more likely to report challenges with having their own infrastructure. Over a third of organizations have highlighted that they find it

difficult to both scale up their operations and increase their visibility, which could be linked to their limited resources and inability to reach potential donors. Other notable challenges include a lack of qualified personnel (27%), and administrative or managerial resources (23% each). A smaller proportion of organizations face challenges related to time shortages (20%), legal or operational aspects (10%). The "Other" category (13%) encompasses specific challenges, including access to technology, computers, and computer rooms, as well as critical moments of growth or stagnation, financing for infrastructure expansion, and Uruguay's need to fully implement the Convention on the Rights of Older Persons, similar to the one in Costa Rica.

Figure 3: Main challenges reported by organisations



% of organizations reporting the challenge

#### **Conclusions**

This study reveals that community-based care organizations across Colombia, Mexico, and Uruguay play a foundational role in the delivery of care services to marginalized and underserved populations. Often operating where state systems are absent, fragmented, or inaccessible, these organizations are not peripheral actors in the care ecosystem: they are its backbone.

These organisations are delivering a broad spectrum of services, including elder care, disability support, childcare, and mental health services. They do so through models that are locally rooted, culturally responsive, and often highly innovative — leveraging mutual aid networks, integrating Indigenous knowledge, and using digital tools to enhance accessibility. These adaptive practices allow CBOs to respond effectively to diverse and complex care needs, especially in contexts shaped by conflict, displacement, and systemic exclusion.

Critically, the mapping underscores that volunteerism and unpaid community support are not supplementary features of this care infrastructure, but rather a core operating mechanism. The overwhelming reliance on unpaid labor, particularly by women, reflects both the strength and fragility of community care. While this model enables reach and relational care delivery in contexts where formal labor markets and public services fall short, it is neither equitable nor sustainable. Unpaid caregivers are often overlooked in budgets, unsupported in policies, and largely invisible in governance — yet they bear the greatest burden. This invisibility has profound implications for equity, burnout, and labor rights. It also presents a structural vulnerability in efforts to scale or formalize care systems.

The findings also reaffirm the gendered architecture of care. Women dominate the care workforce — both formal and informal — and often do so with limited recognition, training, or compensation. Addressing this imbalance is not simply a matter of gender justice; it is a prerequisite for the effective and ethical expansion of care systems across Latin America.



Looking ahead, ecosystem actors including governments, donors, philanthropic institutions, and private sector stakeholders — must treat CBOs not as temporary stopgaps, but as strategic partners in care system development and **service delivery.** This requires a paradigm shift from episodic funding to sustained investment; from ad hoc collaborations to institutionalized partnerships; from token recognition to shared governance. National care strategies, public budgets, and workforce development efforts must be designed to recognize and resource the informal infrastructure of care, with particular attention to the protection and professionalization of unpaid care workers.

Finally, the study's findings highlight a critical policy gap: despite growing regional consensus on the need for comprehensive care systems, there is limited alignment between macro-level reforms and the lived realities of frontline actors. Bridging this gap demands deliberate mechanisms to incorporate CBOs into planning, financing, and oversight structures. Without this, efforts to build inclusive, resilient, and gender-just care systems will remain aspirational.

# Next steps: Toward a community care initiative

The mapping study reveals a care ecosystem anchored by community-based organizations that are rich in innovation, legitimacy, and resilience — but constrained by structural underinvestment, operational fragility, and exclusion from formal systems. These organizations provide essential services in underserved areas, often stepping in where public systems fall short. They provide essential - and often lacking - support to care providers, paid and unpaid.

To catalyze scalable, sustainable impact, the next phase of work will pilot a dedicated initiative to support community-based care organizations in Latin America. This initiative will support a cohort of organizations to strengthen their capacity, visibility, and systems integration through attention to the following insights taken directly from the results of mapping:

# Insight 1: Chronic underfunding and absence of core operating support

Many organizations operate without stable incomes, dedicated physical spaces, or salaried staff. Chronic underfunding — combined with heavy reliance on volunteer labor, informal donations, and ad hoc project funds — undermines sustainability and limits the scale and consistency of care delivery.

Recommendation for community care initiative: Provide flexible, multi-purpose grants that can be used to meet organizations' most urgent and context-specific needs — including caregiver stipends, supplies, and basic equipment. These grants should be low in administrative burden and accompanied by light-touch action planning to maximize efficiency and enable organizations to invest in priority areas.

# Insight 2: Lack of access to structured, formal training for care workers

Organizations reported urgent skill gaps in disability care, elder care, and emotional support for care givers. Most care providers operate without formal training or certification, which can hinder service quality, limit professional recognition, and lead to care provider burn-out.

Recommendation for community care initiative: While the community care initiative cannot directly provide formal care training, it can support organizational leadership to conduct internal capacity audits and map available external training and support opportunities. This will equip leaders with the tools to identify, advocate for, and connect their caregivers to appropriate capacity-strengthening resources over time.

# Insight 3: Weak internal systems and limited access to foundational operational training

Many organizations expressed a need for support in budgeting, financial planning, and organizational systems strengthening, yet few had access to training in these areas.

Recommendation for community care initiative: Operational strengthening should be embedded in the initiative, through foundational training modules. These should be tailored to the varying levels of formalization across participating CBOs and focused on building basic systems in financial management, planning, and administration. Tools and templates should be simple, adaptable, and designed to enhance organizational sustainability.

# Insight 4: Limited exposure to digital tools that could enhance care service delivery

Only a few organizations reported using technology in care delivery — such as telecare, monitoring apps, or digital coordination platforms — despite growing interest.

Recommendation for community care initiative: The initiative should include a structured learning component focused on technology use in care services delivery, featuring peer examples from organizations already utilizing digital tools. The initiative can facilitate exploratory discussions and exposure visits, encouraging participants to consider low-cost, context-appropriate solutions that support — rather than replace — relational care models.

# Insight 5: Lack of stable physical infrastructure undermines service delivery

Many CBOs operate from private homes, borrowed venues, or temporary spaces. This affects service continuity, professional identity, and community trust.

Recommendation for community care initiative: Allow flexible grant funding to be used toward physical space needs, including improvements to existing spaces or colocation with allied organizations. Pair this with planning support to explore viable business models, optimize shared use, and consider long-term infrastructure strategies.

# Insight 6: Scarcity of spaces for peer learning, reflection, and exchange

Organizations rarely have the opportunity to connect with peers, share tools, or troubleshoot challenges together. This isolation contributes to burnout and duplication of effort.

Recommendation for community care initiative: The initiative should adopt a quasi-cohort-based model that facilitates structured peer exchange, mutual learning, and long-term relationship-building. It should include both virtual and in-person components such as convenings, site visits, and co-learning workshops. These shared spaces will promote collective resilience and lay the foundation for future collaboration and advocacy alliances.

# Insight 7: Lack of linkages to institutionalized services and advocacy opportunities

Despite filling critical care gaps, many organizations remain invisible to governments, funders, and public initiatives. They are excluded from planning spaces and policy processes, limiting their access to funding, training, and influence. This marginalization reinforces narratives that undervalue community care and overlooks its systemic importance. Organizations expressed a clear need for greater visibility, storytelling support, and opportunities to engage in advocacy and system design.

#### **Recommendation for community care**

initiative: The initiative should invest in strengthening the visibility, advocacy capacity, and narrative power of participating organizations. This includes tailored coaching to help organizations articulate their value and impact; support for communications materials such as pitch decks or policy briefs; and a culminating advocacy and learning event that brings together organizations, local authorities, funders, and care system stakeholders.

# Part II: Community-based care organization profiles<sup>14</sup>

### Colombia organizational profiles





#	Organization name	Department
1	Fundación Niños Indígenas Sin Barrera	Cauca
2	Fundación Infantil Huellas que Transforman	Valle del Cauca
3	Fundación InmensaMente	Cundinamarca
4	Fundación Puerta del Cielo Ianoacoelly	Valle del Cauca
5	Mujeres Campesinas, Populares y Diversas (MEPYD)	Cundinamarca
6	Asociación Madres del Catatumbo por la Paz	Norte de Santander
7	Luuçx Kiwethegnas - Niños Guardianes del Territorio y de la Vida	Cauca
8	Misión Vital	Putumayo
9	Fundación Triunfemos	Cauca
10	Fundación Eudes Colombia	Bogotá
11	Funicancer	Antioquia
12	Junta Comunal Popular 1	Antioquia

#### 1. Fundación Niños Indígenas Sin Barrera

Fundación Niños Indígenas Sin Barrera, located in Paez and Belalcazar, Cauca, is a legally registered Foundation operating in rural areas, with operations focused on the municipality and nearby communities. The organization aims to provide comprehensive humanized care to transform lives: fostering happiness, independence, and autonomy.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

The organization supports caregivers, children, and adolescents through a range of services, including:

- Psychopedagogical and emotional support for children, adolescents, and their families, particularly those with disabilities.
- Self-care initiatives for caregivers (e.g. yoga, respite spaces<sup>15</sup>, and well-being workshops)
- Empowerment programs that strengthen caregiving capacities and emotional resilience.

#### **Innovations**

- **Community Networks:** The organization facilitates community-based mutual aid groups, encouraging caregivers and families to support one another. It also activates institutional and community-based routes for legal assistance.
- **Culturally Inclusive and Intersectional Approaches:** The organization's work centers on providing care that respects the ethnic and cultural identities of Indigenous communities, ensuring that traditional knowledge and practices are integrated.
- **Training:** Offers virtual and in-person training to enhance caregiving skills.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization faces challenges such as the need for its own infrastructure and financial resources. Funding is limited to in-kind contributions and community-led activities, with no external financial support to sustain or expand services.



#### 2. Fundación Infantil Huellas que Transforman

Fundación Infantil Huellas que Transforman is a legally registered foundation, which is based in Buenaventura, Valle del Cauca, in a rural area, and operates regionally across multiple municipalities and departments. The organization aims to ensure the visibility, social inclusion, and integral development of people with disabilities in the territory, as well as create protective environments to safeguard children and adolescents.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

The organization provides care to children (0-5 years), the elderly, and people with disabilities. Their main activities include:

- Self-care programs for caregivers (which includes respite spaces, meditation or yoga sessions, psychotherapy sessions, workshops on the well-being of caregivers, as well as recreational or cultural activities).
- Childcare for ages 0 to 5 before and after school.
- Daycare for seniors.

#### **Innovations**

In terms of innovations, the organization integrates technology, community support, and training to enhance caregiving efficiency and inclusivity.

- **Technology-Enhanced Care:** Integrates technological tools such as telecare and monitoring applications to improve the quality and efficiency of care.
- **Community Networks:** Promotes community-based support groups, encouraging families and caregivers to share responsibilities and provide emotional support.
- **Training:** It has virtual and in-person training programs aimed at enhancing caregiving skills.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** Collaborates with various organizations to expand services, ensuring tailored support for diverse populations.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization faces significant challenges related to a lack of infrastructure, financing, and visibility. Financially, it is constrained by limited resources, with income mainly derived from non-care activities such as handicrafts, and no external financial support to scale its operations. Its visibility is also limited.

#### 3. Fundación InmensaMente

Fundación InmensaMente is a legally registered foundation, which is located in Gachancipá, Cundinamarca, in a rural area and provides services within the municipality and surrounding districts. The organization aims to improve access to and quality of early education with a systemic and territorial approach.

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care:**

The organization provides care to children aged 0-5 and caregivers. Their main activities include:

- Early childhood care services with methodologies that promote cognitive and socioemotional development.
- Training programs for teachers, parents, and caregivers to enhance caregiving and parenting skills.
- Workshops for caregivers to strengthen socioemotional, educational, and nutritional competencies.
- Initiatives to support caregivers' well-being (which includes yoga and meditation sessions, respite spaces, and recreational or cultural activities).

#### **Innovations**

- **Methodologies that Promote Early Cognitive Development:** In collaboration with Colsubsidio, the foundation trains teachers in its social kindergarten to implement a socioemotional methodology designed to build resilience, initiative, and self-regulation in children and adults alike.
- **School for Families:** It is a space where parents and caregivers receive guidance to enhance their parenting and caregiving skills.
- **Project to Support Women Caregivers:** The organization has launched a project to support women caregivers in Gachancipá, providing workshops to strengthen their socioemotional, educational, and nutritional competencies.
- **Governance Participation for Caregivers:** The organization empowers caregivers to engage in local development planning committees, ensuring their voices shape policy and community initiatives.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization faces several challenges. Financial constraints are a significant issue, as their funding relies on donations and grants. Additionally, the absence of fully trained caregivers highlights the urgent need for ongoing professionalization. The lack of managerial, administrative, and financial skills further complicates the organization's operations. Finally, visibility is another challenge, as the organization operates from a social garden, rented spaces, and caregivers' homes, restricting its outreach.

#### 4. Fundación Puerta del Cielo Ianoacoelly

Fundación Puerta del Cielo Ianoacoelly is a legally registered foundation, which is based in Buenaventura, Valle del Cauca, in a rural area, serving communities within the municipality. The organization aims to improve the quality of life of children, youth, and adults in vulnerable conditions by providing priority attention in nutrition, health, education, recreation, and spiritual development. It is characterized by the defense of human rights and care for the environment.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

The organization provides care to children aged 0-5, elderly individuals, people with disabilities, and individuals of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. Their main activities include:

- Extracurricular care for school-aged children.
- Self-care programs for caregivers (which includes psychotherapy sessions, workshops focusing on resilience and self-care strategies, and recreational and cultural activities).

#### **Innovations**

- **Culturally Inclusive and Intersectional Approaches:** The organization integrates a cultural, intercultural, intersectional, and ethnic approach, tailoring services to the unique needs of each community.
- **Specialized Caregiver Training:** Through training programs delivered both virtually and in-person by highly qualified professionals, caregivers in vulnerable and rural areas receive support to overcome challenges in their caregiving roles.
- Psychological and Emotional Support for Caregivers: The organization provides
  psychological and emotional support to caregivers and families, ensuring that they have the
  necessary resources to navigate the complexities of caregiving.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports facing several challenges. Financial limitations are a primary concern, with funding relying on donations, grants from the government and international cooperation agencies, and income from non-care activities such as handicrafts. The workforce reflects a diverse yet limited team. Despite having a dedicated headquarters, the organization often operates in borrowed spaces or third-party homes.



#### 5. Mujeres Campesinas, Populares y Diversas (MUCAPYD)

*Mujeres Campesinas, Populares y Diversas (MUCAPYD)* is not a legally registered association, which operates in the municipalities of Fusagasugá, Pasca, Pandi, Tibacuy, and Silvania, Cundinamarca, with services covering these municipalities and their rural surroundings. The organization is composed of diverse women from poor, rural households, who unite to strengthen their economies and self-esteem, and to demand and influence the guarantee of their rights.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

The organization provides care to elderly individuals, caregivers, people of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities, and people with physical disabilities. Their main activities include:

- Household cleaning, maintenance and other tasks.
- Self-care for caregivers (which includes respite spaces, workshops on the well-being of caregivers, and recreational or cultural activities).
- Workshops focused on topics such as rights and violence awareness, economic autonomy, and community participation.

#### **Innovations**

In terms of innovations, the organization fosters caregiver well-being through holistic self-care spaces, integrating physical health, nutrition, and agro-ecological practices<sup>16</sup> for women's empowerment.

Self-Care and Well-Being for Caregivers: Monthly meeting spaces provide caregivers with opportunities to engage in physical care exercises, discussions on healthy eating, and practices promoting mysticism and dialogue. These spaces also promote the use of agroecological products cultivated by the women themselves, contributing to both self-sufficiency and increased self-esteem.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports facing several challenges. Funding is primarily derived from donations, grants from the government and international cooperation agencies, and self-management activities such as raffles and community pots, which collectively offer limited financial stability. Operating from the homes of its members further underscores the pressing need for dedicated infrastructure to establish a stable base for its activities. Most caregivers have only completed primary education, and none have received formal caregiving training, highlighting a significant gap in professionalization. Additionally, the organization struggles with legal and operational aspects, as well as managerial, administrative, and financial skills.

#### 6. Asociación Madres del Catatumbo por la Paz

Asociación Madres del Catatumbo por la Paz is a legally registered women's association, which is based in Tibú, Norte de Santander, in a rural area, with operations expanding throughout the department. This organization was founded as a response to the violence and loss caused by the armed conflict in the region. It aims to defend the rights of women, children, and youth while fostering peacebuilding through community resilience. Their slogan is: "We do not give birth to children for war."

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care**

The organization provides care for children and adolescents, human rights defenders, refugees, asylum seekers, expatriates, people of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities, and caregivers. Their main activities include:

- Self-care for caregivers (which includes workshops, psychological and emotional support, and empowerment activities).
- Rural community schools to protect children from recruitment by armed groups.

#### **Innovations**

- Culturally Inclusive and Intersectional Approaches: Their care approach is rooted in cultural, intercultural, and intersectional perspectives, ensuring that services are accessible and tailored to individuals from diverse backgrounds.
- **Community Networks:** Community groups collaborate, coming together to share resources, experiences, and emotional support.
- **Caregiver Training:** The organization facilitates workshops for caregiver empowerment, activates legal and judicial support routes, and participates in governance mechanisms to influence care policies.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports facing several challenges. It primarily relies on community members, family, and friends providing informal support, supplemented by unpaid volunteers and paid service providers. While the organization benefits from donations, grants from the government and international cooperations, and self-management activities such as raffles and community pots, funding remains limited. Additionally, the organization faces challenges related to the lack of administrative and financial management, as well as the need for infrastructure.

### 7. Luuçx Kiwethegnas - Niños Guardianes del Territorio y de la Vida

Luuçx Kiwethegnas - Niños Guardianes del Territorio y de la Vida, is an Indigenous-led organization, based in Caloto, Cauca, in a rural area, serving specific Indigenous communities within local sectors and rural settlements. The organization aims to protect and safeguard the life, cultural identity, and integrity of the children and adolescents of their Indigenous community.

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care**

The organization provides care to human rights defenders and children. Their main activities include:

- Child care before and after school (extracurricular care).
- Psychosocial support for families.
- Self-care for caregivers (which includes workshops on the well-being of caregivers and recreational or cultural activities).

#### **Innovations**

- Culturally Inclusive and Intersectional Approaches: Integrates cultural practices and Indigenous rituals, aimed at harmonizing and balancing the energies of both children and caregivers. These practices involve ancestral knowledge and artistic activities such as music, dance, and planting, promoting holistic development.
- **Community Networks:** The organization fosters community groups helping each other, creating a strong network of support for families and individuals.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports facing several challenges. Although most caregivers hold secondary and professional education, and their training includes early childhood development, recreational activities, academic support, emotional support, and caregiver well-being, further professionalization is needed. Additionally, the organization lacks a permanent office and relies on borrowed spaces, including third-party homes. While they receive some donations and engage in self-management activities like raffles, funding remains a challenge.



#### 8. Misión Vital

*Misión Vital* is a legally registered foundation, which is based in Puerto Asís, Putumayo, in a rural area, with a presence throughout the department. The organization aims to promote the personal and professional development of the children and young people of the Department of Putumayo through strategies that allow them to have academic support at school and sports activities based on values and principles.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

The organization provides care to children and adolescents, caregivers and young people who have been victims of the armed conflict. Their main activities include:

- Child care before and after school.
- Specialized care for young people affected by armed conflict.
- Self-care support for caregivers (which includes workshops on physical, emotional, and mental health, facilitating access to mental health services, and recreational and cultural activities).

#### **Innovations**

- Culturally Inclusive and Intersectional Approaches: Adopts a culturally sensitive, intercultural, and intersectional approach to meet diverse needs.
- **Community Networks:** Developed strategies that enable families to work together in community activities such as educational reinforcement and sports.
- Caregiver Training: Offers workshops to promote the empowerment of caregivers.
- **Income-Generating Initiatives:** Supports marketing agricultural products and developing handicrafts, helping families become more financially independent.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization faces several challenges. Although it receives donations and income from non-care activities, funding remains a challenge. The caregiving team has backgrounds in secondary and professional education, along with training in areas like first aid, group management, and emotional support. However, ongoing professional development is needed to refine these skills. Additionally, infrastructure constraints remain an issue.



#### 9. Fundación Triunfemos

Fundación Triunfemos is a legally registered foundation, which is based in Caloto, Cauca, in a rural area, and works across the department to support communities. The organization aims to improve the quality of life of people with disabilities and their caregivers through support, care, and rehabilitation, respecting the human being as a subject with rights.

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care**

- Care for people with disabilities.
- Training for caregivers.
- Self-care for caregivers (which includes respite spaces, workshops and recreational or cultural activities to promote the well-being of caregivers).

#### **Innovations**

- **Culturally Inclusive and Intersectional Approaches:** The organization incorporates cultural, intercultural, and intersectional approaches, respecting the diverse backgrounds of the communities they serve.
- **Community Networks:** The model encourages community groups to help each other, fostering solidarity among families and caregivers. Regular meetings in spaces of conversation and listening allow families to support each other.
- **Caregiver Training:** Provides virtual and in-person training to improve the quality of care, empowering caregivers and ensuring they have the necessary skills to offer better care.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports facing several challenges. While the organization receives financial support from NGOs and has also benefited from grants, including assistance from the IOM three years ago, a lack of funding remains a challenge. While the specialized training of the caregivers allows the organization to provide focused support, the narrow scope of training highlights a need for further professional development. The absence of dedicated infrastructure is also a challenge.



#### 10. Fundación Eudes Colombia

*Fundación Eudes Colombia* is a legally registered foundation, which is based in Bogotá, an urban area, and operates regionally across multiple municipalities and departments. The organization, founded in 1987, aims to provide comprehensive support to children, young people, and adults who are in situations of special social vulnerability, victims of discrimination, or neglect, including people living with HIV.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

The organization provides care and support for children, migrants, and people of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. It also assists people living with and affected by HIV in urban areas.

- Provides before- and after-school programs to support children and working families.
- Offers workshops, family schools, and psychosocial support sessions (both individual and group) to strengthen caregiving skills and emotional resilience.

#### **Innovations**

- **Unique Care for Adults Living with HIV:** Provides a supportive home for both children and adults, fostering a nurturing environment for personal growth. Additionally, the organization offers care for adults living with HIV, enhancing their living conditions and empowering them to manage their life projects with dignity.
- **Family schools:** Offers an innovative model of support, where caregivers can receive individualized and group psychosocial care, fostering resilience and emotional stability.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports facing several challenges. It still relies heavily on donations and occasional financial support from international organizations such as Caring for Colombia and Adveniat, which are contingent on project approvals. This creates uncertainty in long-term funding. Despite the diverse skill set of the caregivers, the organization still faces challenges related to the professionalization of staff and the need for more specialized training. Additionally, the organization's visibility remains limited, and infrastructure constraints persist.



#### 11. Funicancer

Funicancer is a legally registered foundation, which is based in Medellín, Antioquia, in an urban area, with a nationwide reach. The organization aims to provide children and adolescents diagnosed with cancer and their families with comprehensive care that allows greater adherence to treatment and improves their quality of life.

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care**

The organization provides care to children aged 0-5 and chronically ill people, particularly those affected by cancer. Their main activities include:

- Home and outpatient programs.
- Emotional and psychological support for families.
- Self-care for caregivers (which includes workshops on the well-being of caregivers, and recreational and cultural activities).

#### **Innovations**

- **Home and Outpatient Programs:** Designed to support patients and their families throughout the treatment process. These programs are enhanced by an interdisciplinary team consisting of psychologists, social workers, and pedagogues, ensuring a holistic approach to care that addresses not just physical needs, but also the emotional, social, and educational aspects.
- **Community Networks:** A strong sense of community through groups helping each other, which helps patients and caregivers find mutual support.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports facing several challenges. The team still heavily relies on donations, income from non-care activities, and self-management activities like raffles and community pots. While the broad training equips caregivers to provide foundational support, the lack of advanced professional qualifications underscores the need for further skill development and specialized training.



#### 12. Junta Comunal Popular 1

*Junta Comunal Popular 1* is legally registered as a community action board, which is based in Medellín, Antioquia, in an urban area, and serves communities within the municipality. The organization aims to promote the integral and sustainable development of the community through the democratic and supportive participation of its members. It seeks to strengthen the sense of belonging, lead training processes for democracy, plan and implement community projects, promote neighborhood cultural identity, and ensure the defense of human rights and the environment.

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care**

The organization provides care to the elderly, people with disabilities, children and adolescents, migrants, and individuals with chronic or long-recovery illnesses. Their main activities include:

- Child care before and after school.
- Facilitating access to health services by helping individuals manage appointments, secure medications, and navigate healthcare systems.
- Day care for seniors.
- Self-care of caregivers (which includes meditation and yoga sessions, workshops on caregiver well-being, recreational and cultural activities, and nature walks to foster relaxation and connection).

#### **Innovations**

- **Culturally Inclusive and Intersectional Approaches:** It incorporates a cultural, intercultural, intersectional, and ethnic approach to care, ensuring inclusivity and sensitivity to diverse needs.
- **Home Visits for Personal Assistance**: It supports households with resource management, medical visits, and purchases.
- **Partnership with Organizations:** The organization forms alliances with other groups to address the diverse needs of families and individuals. It collaborates with psychologists and coordinates with administrative authorities to provide health services and essential support.
- **Care training:** They provide training to improve the quality of care, both virtually and in person, alongside workshops for the empowerment of caregivers.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports facing several challenges. While it benefits from a workforce, much of its operations rely on community support. The organization faces difficulties in managing its finances and operations due to a lack of managerial and financial skills. Additionally, despite receiving support from the municipal government and various foundations, most of the funding remains limited to donations, income from non-care activities like handicrafts, and self-management efforts. Finally, the limited resources, including a shortage of technology, computers, and a computer room, are significant challenges.

### Mexico organizational profiles



#	Organization name	State
13	Asociación Civil Familias Extraordinarias	Mexico City
14	Centro de Atención Infantil Piña Palmera AC	Oaxaca
15	La Casa de los Abuelos	Chiapas
16	Casa Hogar Divino Maestro A.C.	Aguascalientes
17	Caminemos Juntos Con Amor Luz y Esperanza A.C.	Colima
18	Centro Regional De Autismo Rotario AC	Chihuahua
19	Fundacion Carlos Eduardo Almanza	Guanajuato
20	Capacidades Diferentes Marce A.C.	Guanajuato
21	Mi Gran Esperanza	Jalisco
22	Centro Geriátrico Sinank'ay	Querétaro
23	Una Gota en el Océano	Sinaloa
24	Cruz Rosa ABP	Jalisco

#### 13. Asociación Civil Familias Extraordinarias

La Asociación Civil Familias Extraordinarias is a legally registered association based in Cuajimalpa, Mexico City, and serves communities nationwide. The organization aims to provide emotional support between parents and to offer reliable information to families of people with intellectual disabilities, especially Down syndrome, to foster their self-sufficiency and inclusion in society. The organization also works to protect the rights of people with disabilities, including their inclusion in school and the workplace.

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care**

- Care for children and people with disabilities.
- Self-care and well-being activities for caregivers inside the family (which include monthly inperson group support meetings and WhatsApp groups, and workshops on the well-being of caregivers).
- Psychological/emotional support for families.

#### **Innovations**

- **Training for Caregivers:** Virtual and in-person training programs in collaboration with specialists, including doctors, therapists, and educators, to empower parents and educate caregivers.
- **Educational Inclusion Seminars:** These seminars, provided by the organization, are intended to equip schools, teachers, and support staff with the tools needed to foster inclusive environments.
- **Community Networks:** The network has grown from a network of five families 13 years ago to now serving 900 families. These families participate in monthly meetings to share knowledge, experiences, and emotional support. The organization also facilitates the exchange of support materials such as medical equipment, resources, and practical advice, creating a self-sustaining cycle of mutual aid among the families.
- **Free Psychological Care:** The organization is developing this initiative to provide free psychological care to address the mental health needs of women caregivers, particularly those facing high-stress situations or risk factors.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports lacking financing or resources and a lack of qualified personnel, including individuals with managerial, administrative, and financial skills. In addition, it reports having issues with scalability (growth capacity) and visibility. They also have infrastructure challenges, as they don't have a physical office.

#### 14. Centro de Atención Infantil Piña Palmera AC

Centro de Atención Infantil Piña Palmera AC is a legally registered civil association<sup>17</sup> based in San Pedro Pochutla, Oaxaca. The organization is located in a rural area and operates regionally across multiple municipalities. The organization aims to help people with disabilities and their families improve their quality of life.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

- Care for people with disabilities (which includes developmental disorders, visual, hearing, and speech or language impairments, physical disabilities, neurodegenerative conditions, and mental health disorders).
- Community-based rehabilitation activities integrate local resources and traditional practices.
- Support services to help individuals access healthcare, including assistance with medical appointments and obtaining medications.
- Self-care activities for caregivers (which includes yoga, meditation, stress reduction workshops, and recreational and cultural activities).

#### **Innovations**

- **Culturally Inclusive and Intersectional Approaches:** Services are tailored to the unique cultural needs of each community, with an intersectional approach.
- **Use of Local Natural Resources:** The approach prioritizes using local resources, such as rivers, seas, and natural environments, to conduct rehabilitation activities, integrating traditional practices into care routines.
- **Inclusion:** Working directly in local municipalities where people with disabilities live, they collaborate with community members to identify and address their specific care needs.
- **Community Networks:** The organization supports community groups that help each other, fostering mutual aid networks.
- **Training:** Virtually and in-person to improve caregiving skills, covering areas such as self-care and the empowerment of caregivers.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports facing several challenges. Financially, it depends on donations, or income from non-care activities such as handicrafts, and self-managed initiatives like raffles and community pots. Additionally, administrative and accounting challenges complicate the management of funds and resources. The organization also struggles with visibility.

#### 15. La Casa de los Abuelos

Casa de los Abuelos is a non-legally registered foundation based in an urban area in Las Rosas, Chiapas, and serves local communities. The organization aims to provide comprehensive and compassionate care to the elderly and people with disabilities, improving their quality of life and promoting their dignified independence and well-being.

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care**

- Daycare for seniors.
- Care for people with disabilities (which includes visual impairment, physical disability or reduced mobility and psychosocial or mental disability), refugees, asylum seekers, expatriates, and individuals with chronic or long-recovery illnesses.
- Self-care and well-being support for caregivers (which include respite spaces, recreational and cultural activities, access to mental health services, and workshops to promote the empowerment of caregivers).
- Support services to help individuals access healthcare and other services, including assistance with medical appointments, obtaining medications and managing their government pensions.

#### **Innovations**

- **Culturally Inclusive and Intersectional Approaches:** The organization uses a cultural, intercultural, and/or ethnic approach in care, ensuring that services are tailored to the diverse backgrounds of the individuals they serve.
- **Partnership with Organizations:** Accommodation for refugees is managed in collaboration with the local government, ensuring access to food, shelter, and essential resources.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization lacks its own infrastructure and instead relies on borrowed spaces and third-party homes to provide its services. Additionally, the organization has challenges in scalability (growth capacity), including financial, legal, or operational challenges. Moreover, there is a need for improving caregivers' skills.



#### 16. Casa Hogar Divino Maestro A.C.

Casa Hogar Divino Maestro A.C. is a legally registered association located in an urban area in Aguascalientes, and helps local communities. The organization is focused on providing care for the elderly and grandparents in a state of abandonment.

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care**

- Daycare for seniors.
- Care for people with disabilities and individuals with chronic or long-recovery illnesses.
- Psychological and emotional support for the elderly and their families.
- Household cleaning, maintenance and other tasks.
- Support services to help individuals access healthcare, including assistance with medical appointments and obtaining medications.
- Self-care and well-being of caregivers (which includes respite spaces, workshops on well-being and self-care, paid time off for rest, and recreational and cultural activities).

#### **Innovations**

- **Support for Families and Caregivers**: Psychological care and emotional support are provided for families of the elderly and caregivers.
- **Accompaniment Services:** The organization helps individuals access health care, such as assistance with medical visits and obtaining medications.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization faces several challenges, including insufficient financial support to sustain and expand its operations. Additionally, it struggles with administrative and financial management. Limited staff availability, the lack of dedicated infrastructure, and the ongoing need for additional resources further hinder its ability to operate effectively.



#### 17. Caminemos Juntos Con Amor Luz y Esperanza A.C.

Caminemos Juntos Con Amor Luz y Esperanza A.C. is a legally registered association based in an urban area in Colima, Colima. It operates regionally, focusing on the municipality and surrounding communities. The organization aims to improve the quality of life of low-income children, adolescents, and adults with cancer, terminal illnesses, chronic degenerative diseases, and neurological damage in their integral physical and emotional development.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

- Care for elderly individuals.
- Care for people with disabilities (which includes developmental disorders, visual impairment, hearing impairment, speech or language disability, physical disability or reduced mobility, and psychosocial or mental disability) or those with chronic illnesses.
- Self-care and well-being of caregivers (which includes psychotherapy sessions, workshops focused on stress management and resilience, recreational and cultural activities, and access to mental health services).

#### **Innovations**

- **Culturally Inclusive and Intersectional Approaches:** This approach respects and integrates various cultural backgrounds, making the care experience more personalized and inclusive. Additionally, the organization provides support for Indigenous communities.
- Comprehensive and Holistic Care: A broad spectrum of services is offered to provide comprehensive care for elderly individuals, people with disabilities, and those with chronic illnesses. Physical rehabilitation services such as hydrotherapy, multisensory therapy, and nutritional counselling are provided alongside inclusive education, incorporating language development, motor skills training, and art therapy. Also, services are further enhanced with home visits for personal care and support for navigating health services such as medical visits, medication claims, and household resource management.
- **Community Networks:** The organization offers community groups where families help each other, creating a strong support network.
- **Training:** Offered both virtually and in-person to improve caregiving skills.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

Lack of funding remains a critical challenge. Although the organization receives financial support through donations, self-managed activities, and government assistance, these resources are often insufficient. Additionally, the shortage of qualified personnel and the absence of dedicated infrastructure hinder operations. Furthermore, scalability remains a significant obstacle, limiting the organization's ability to expand and sustain its impact.

#### 18. Centro Regional De Autismo Rotario AC

Centro Regional De Autismo Rotario AC is a legally registered NGO based in Delicias, Chihuahua. Located in a peri-urban area, the organization operates regionally across the state, supporting local communities. The organization is dedicated to supporting children and young people with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) by providing person-centered programs that foster autonomy, personal development, and inclusion. Grounded in respect, empathy, and tolerance, it strives to enhance their quality of life while ensuring equality and non-discrimination. Additionally, the organization works to build strong ties of acceptance, integration, and cooperation between the institution and society.

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care**

The organization provides care to children aged 0-5 and people with disabilities. Their main activities include:

- Comprehensive therapies for children and youth with ASD.
- Support services to help individuals access healthcare, including assistance with medical appointments and obtaining medications.
- Self-care of caregivers (which includes workshops on the well-being of caregivers).

#### **Innovations**

- **Training:** The organization provides staff, parents, and teachers with training on various strategies and techniques to support children with ASD.
- **Methodologies for Early Cognitive Development:** In child care centers, methodologies for early cognitive development are employed to foster growth and learning.
- Comprehensive Therapies for Children and Youth with Autism: The organization utilizes person-centered programs based on the eight dimensions of quality of life<sup>18</sup> and the twelve dimensions of Angel Riviere<sup>19</sup>. These programs are carefully designed to consider all aspects of an individual's well-being.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports facing several challenges. Despite receiving financial support from government grants and donations, these resources are often not enough. The organization's facility provides a solid foundation, but additional funding is needed to expand specialized areas, such as the adult area and occupational therapy services for individuals with autism.

## 19. Fundacion Carlos Eduardo Almanza

Fundacion Carlos Eduardo Almanza is a legally registered association based in an urban area in Irapuato, Guanajuato, and supports communities regionally across multiple municipalities. The organization aims to make the population aware that ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) exists and that it is not invisible. Additionally, its goal is to create the necessary spaces for the diffusion and awareness of ADHD.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

The organization provides care to caregivers and individuals diagnosed with ADHD and autism, including children, adolescents, youth, and adults. Their main activities include:

- Multimodal care for individuals with ADHD, integrating psychology, pedagogy, family psychoeducation, and socio-emotional development to enhance emotional regulation and personal growth.
- Extracurricular childcare services before or after school.
- Self-care and well-being of caregivers (which includes respite spaces, meditation and yoga sessions, psychotherapy services, and workshops on caregiver wellness).
- Training programs for caregivers and families.

#### **Innovations**

- **Training:** Delivered through virtual and face-to-face formats, including family psychoeducation workshops to improve the quality of services for parents and caregivers.
- Multimodal Care for People Diagnosed With ADHD: Include psychoeducational profiling, neurological and psychiatric referrals, and individual/group therapeutic care, all tailored to enhance the personal and social skills of those diagnosed with ADHD.
- Participation in governance bodies or mechanisms
- **Support for Families and Caregivers**: The organization provides psychological and emotional support for families of the elderly and caregivers.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

Financial resources available are limited. The organization receives minimal municipal support from the Municipality of Irapuato, Guanajuato, and relies heavily on grants, beneficiary payments, and self-management activities like raffles and community pots to generate income. Also, the organization lacks infrastructure and has administrative accounting and scalability challenges.

## 20. Capacidades Diferentes Marce A.C.

Capacidades Diferentes Marce A.C. is a legally registered NGO based in urban areas in León de los Aldama, Guanajuato, and serves communities nationwide. The organization provides care to people with disabilities, elderly people and children.

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care**

- Care for elderly people and children.
- Care for people with disabilities (which include developmental disorders, visual impairment, hearing impairment, speech or language disability, physical disability or reduced mobility, neurodegenerative conditions, and psychosocial or mental disability), or chronic or longrecovery illness.
- Care for human rights defenders, refugees, asylum seekers or expatriates.
- Support services to help individuals access healthcare, including assistance with medical appointments and obtaining medications.
- Self-care and well-being of caregivers (which includes psychotherapy sessions, workshops on the well-being of caregivers, paid time off for rest and self-care, recreational or cultural activities, and access to mental health services).
- Psychological and emotional support for families.

#### **Innovations**

- **Technology-Enhanced Care:** Innovative tools (e.g., telecare and monitoring applications) have been introduced to enhance the caregiving experience and ensure continued support.
- **Community Networks:** The organization promotes community-based care, where groups help each other.
- **Legal Assistance:** Activating institutional and/or community legal and juridical assistance routes, as well as participation in governance bodies or mechanisms.

## **Challenges and Needs**

The organization struggles with financial resources. It depends on government grants, in-kind support from families, and self-management activities like raffles and community pots to fund its initiatives. Furthermore, it has a lack of infrastructure and faces administrative and accounting challenges.

## 21. Mi Gran Esperanza

*Mi Gran Esperanza* is a legally registered association based in Guadalajara, Jalisco, in an urban area. It supports communities regionally across multiple municipalities. The organization aims to support the physical, emotional, and spiritual recovery of children and young people with cancer, as well as their families, by providing essential resources and compassionate care to enhance their hope and quality of life.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

The organization provides care to children aged 0-5 and chronically ill people, particularly those affected by cancer, and human rights defenders. Their main activities include:

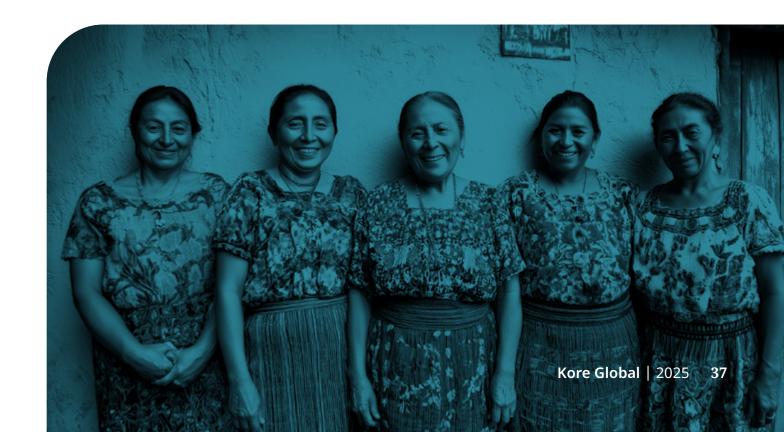
- Comprehensive care for cancer patients.
- Psychological and emotional support for patients and their families.
- Self-care and well-being of caregivers (which includes respite spaces, psychotherapy sessions, seminars on caregiver wellness, and recreational and cultural activities).

#### **Innovations**

- Comprehensive Support for Cancer Patients: Covering all aspects of their care, from material support for oncological treatment to psychological counseling, health, nutrition, and human development
- **Training:** Virtual or face-to-face to improve the quality of care.

## **Challenges and Needs**

The organization struggles with limited financial resources. Also, there is a need for greater professionalization and skills development among caregivers. Furthermore, the limited visibility within the community is a challenge.



## 22. Centro Geriátrico Sinank'ay

Centro Geriátrico Sinank'ay is a legally registered association based in Querétaro, in an urban area. It helps communities regionally across multiple municipalities. The organization provides geriatric and gerontological services, comprehensive medical care, and special care that is distinguished by its high quality, experience, and warmth in human treatment to give quality of life to seniors and peace of mind to their families.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

- Daycare for seniors.
- Care for people with disabilities (which includes developmental disorders, visual impairment, hearing impairment, speech or language disability, physical disability or reduced mobility, neurodegenerative conditions, psychosocial or mental disability) and chronically ill individuals.
- Self-care and well-being of caregivers (which includes respite spaces, workshops on the well-being of caregivers, paid time off for rest and self-care, and recreational or cultural activities).
- Psychological and emotional support for families and caregivers.

#### **Innovations**

- **Training:** Focused on the latest clinical trends, offered virtually and in person to improve care quality.
- **Technology-Enhanced Care:** Applications of technological tools to help caregiving.

## **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports important challenges when it comes to specialized professionals. While most caregivers hold Associate Degree qualifications and have received specialized training in areas like geriatric care, chronic disease management, and physical and occupational therapies, there is still a need for further professional development.



## 23. Una Gota en el Océano

*Una Gota en el Océano* is a legally registered association based in a rural area of Mazatlan, Sinaloa, and operates locally. The organization aims to provide a dignified home for older adults in homeless situations, providing them with housing, care, and maintenance to improve their quality of life.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

- Care for elderly people.
- Care for people with disabilities (which includes visual impairment, hearing impairment, speech or language disability, physical disability or reduced mobility, neurodegenerative conditions, and paralysis) and people with chronic or long-recovery illnesses.

#### **Innovations**

- **Caregivers Training:** Caregivers receive specialized training in caregiving techniques, including courses that teach them how to mobilize elderly individuals safely without causing harm.
- **Psychological Support**: This includes providing psychological therapy to elderly individuals, addressing mental and emotional health.

## **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports facing several challenges. Despite receiving some food donations, external financial resources remain limited. Also, while caregivers have varying levels of education and have received some training, there is a need for more qualified personnel.



## 24. Cruz Rosa ABP

Cruz Rosa ABP is a legally registered association based in Guadalajara, Jalisco, in an urban area, and it serves communities nationally. The organization aims to support mainly low-income women diagnosed with cancer and their families in a specialized shelter where they are provided with lodging, food, psychological and spiritual care, as well as recreational activities so that they can face their situation positively and with hope for life. It aims to provide immediate attention to patients and their families, offering orientation and integral support through the Cruz Rosa modules installed in health institutions. It promotes the timely detection of cancer and responsibility in health care.

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care**

- Care for women with chronic or long-recovery illnesses, specifically women with low incomes diagnosed with different types of cancer.
- Household cleaning, maintenance and other tasks.
- Support services to help individuals access healthcare, including assistance with medical appointments and obtaining medications.
- Self-care and well-being of employed caregivers and families (which includes meditation or yoga sessions, psychotherapy sessions, recreational or cultural activities, and access to mental health services).

#### **Innovations**

- **Community Networks:** The organization emphasizes community-building by creating support networks among women who have undergone similar health challenges.
- Comprehensive Care for Women with Cancer: The organization seeks to guarantee the patients all the resources and supplies they may require in their treatment, trying to relieve the mental and economic burden on the patient and their caregiver. This includes psychological care and meditation workshops for patients and caregivers. The organization also offers transportation within the city to ensure that individuals can attend medical appointments and receive necessary treatments.
- **Training:** Virtual or face-to-face to improve the quality of care. This includes workshops to promote the empowerment of caregivers.

## **Challenges and Needs**

The organization faces several challenges, including the need for its own infrastructure, insufficient funding, and limited visibility.

# Uruguay organizational profiles



#	Organization name	Department
25	Cooperativa Mujeres Emprendedoras Salteñas	Salto
26	Cooperativa de trabajo co.IMPACTA	Cerro Largo
27	Asociación Civil para la Integración del Adulto Mayor de Cerro Largo	Cerro Largo
28	Fundación ASTUR	Montevideo
29	Sindicato Único de Asistentes Personales (SUAP)	Canelones
30	Mujeres con Historias	Montevideo

## 25. Cooperativa Mujeres Emprendedoras Salteñas

*Cooperativa Mujeres Emprendedoras Salteñas* is a legally registered cooperative, which is based in Salto, in an urban area and operates nationally. The organization is composed of caregivers, known as personal assistants.

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care**

- Care for people in dependency situations, which can include children (0-5 years), the elderly and people with disabilities.
- Self-care and well-being of personal assistants (which include workshops on the well-being of caregivers, paid time off for rest and self-care, recreational or cultural activities and access to mental health services).
- Psychological or emotional support for families.

#### **Innovations**

- **Training:** Tailored training programs for personal assistants. These trainings, offered virtually or in person, are developed in collaboration with partner organizations such as Inacoop, Procop, and Inefop. The topics covered are customized based on the needs and requests of the assistants, equipping them with practical tools and knowledge to enhance their caregiving roles.
- **Support for Caregivers and Families:** Support is provided through group and individual spaces, as well as through coexistence workshops and spaces for exchange among participants. These spaces are for both the assistants and their families, working together to improve the user's access to their benefits and the working conditions of the assistants.

## **Challenges and Needs**

One of the organization's primary challenges is the lack of its own infrastructure, as it operates from users' homes and various educational institutions, both formal and non-formal. In addition, while the organization receives some financial support from international cooperation agencies and NGOs, such as Banco Previsión Social and Inacoop, this funding is insufficient to finance their full operations.



## 26. Cooperativa de trabajo co.IMPACTA

Cooperativa de trabajo co.IMPACTA is a legally registered cooperative, which is based in Melo, Cerro Largo. Located in an urban area, its operations extend throughout the department of Cerro Largo. The organization aims to promote the economic and social development and welfare of its membership, made up of personal assistants, promoting and developing an inclusive ecosystem in the care sector in the territory and at the national level.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

- Care for children and young people.
- Care to elderly individuals.
- Care for people with disabilities (including developmental disorders, visual and hearing impairments, physical disabilities, and neurodegenerative conditions), and chronically ill persons.
- Self-care and well-being of employed caregivers (which includes workshops on the well-being of caregivers, and paid time off for rest and self-care).
- Support services to help individuals access healthcare, including assistance with medical appointments and obtaining medications.

#### **Innovations**

- **Culturally Inclusive and Intersectional Approaches:** The organization emphasizes a cultural, intercultural, intersectional, and ethnic approach, tailoring services to the specific needs of diverse communities.
- **Comprehensive Care for Elderly People:** Through their project *Confianza los cuidados en movimiento* (Trust Care in Motion), the organization addresses the needs of isolated elderly individuals living in remote areas by providing social, health, and cultural services that strengthen communities and enhance their quality of life.
- **Community Networks and Development:** The organization fosters community-led care ecosystems and actively participates in public policy development, such as the *Centro de Día Melo* initiative, to integrate care, social inclusion, and innovation into its services.

## **Challenges and Needs**

The organization lacks its own infrastructure, which limits its ability to establish a permanent base for its beneficiaries. Additionally, the organization lacks funding and faces challenges in scaling its operations.

# 27. Asociación Civil para la Integración del Adulto Mayor de Cerro Largo

Asociación Civil para la Integración del Adulto Mayor de Cerro Largo is a legally registered association, which is based in Melo, Cerro Largo. It operates in an urban area and serves local communities. Founded in 2013, the organization challenges the idea that retirement equates to decline or uselessness. It advocates for retirees' rights, highlighting the issue of unpaid and unrecognized caregiving responsibilities often imposed on them, leading to economic abuse. Their work focuses on preventing such exploitation and protecting retirees' rights. The organization's motto is: "We came back to life."

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care**

- Daycare center for seniors.
- Care for people with disabilities (visual impairment, hearing impairment, speech or language disability, and physical disability or reduced mobility).
- Self-care and well-being of employed caregivers (which includes respite spaces, paid time off for rest and workshops to empower them).

#### **Innovations**

- **Comprehensive Care for Elderly People:** The organization provides diverse activities for elderly people. These activities include psychomotricity sessions, Zumba classes, memory workshops, literature discussions, and guided walks to enhance physical, mental, and social well-being.
- **Technology-Enhanced Care:** Application of technological tools (e.g., telecare, monitoring applications) to help caregiving practices.
- **Intergenerational Meetings:** The organization integrates intergenerational meetings to foster connections and learning between different age groups.

## **Challenges and Needs**

The organization relies on donations, self-managed activities such as raffles and community meals, and limited government support, which creates financial challenges. Additionally, the organization also reports having visibility and scalability issues.



## 28. Fundación ASTUR

Fundación ASTUR is a legally registered foundation, which is based in Pocitos, Montevideo. It operates in urban areas and serves communities nationally. The organization strives to establish itself as a humane, sustainable, and leading entity in addressing essential issues related to care and well-being, including support for seniors, people with disabilities, and caregivers. It supports agreed-upon national policies while upholding the founding values of community care, innovation, and mutual support that inspired its creation.

#### **Core Activities and Services Related to Care**

- Daycare for seniors.
- Care for people with disabilities (which includes developmental disorders and physical disability or reduced mobility) and chronically ill persons.
- Ancestral community care such as midwifery, yerbatería, etc.
- Self-care and well-being for caregivers (which includes workshops on the well-being of caregivers).
- Training in how to care for people in a situation of dependence.

#### **Innovations**

- **Technology-Enhanced Care:** Integration of technological tools (e.g., telecare, monitoring applications) to improve caregiving efficiency and accessibility.
- **Community Networks:** The organization fosters community groups that encourage mutual support and knowledge-sharing among caregivers and families, promoting collaboration and collective well-being.
- **Training:** Specialized training in Dependency Care, with 152 hours of face-to-face instruction.
- **Virtual Care Clinics:** Offer urgent medical attention for non-life-threatening conditions remotely, enabling people to receive care from home or work without visiting the hospital emergency department.
- **Reference Centers for Active Aging:** Provide practical solutions to enhance the well-being of older adults, and showcase positive impact.<sup>21</sup>

## **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports facing financial challenges in funding their operations.

## 29. Sindicato Único de Asistentes Personales (SUAP)

Sindicato Único de Asistentes Personales (SUAP) is a labor union based in La Paz, Canelones. Founded in 2017 in the Department of Artigas, in northern Uruguay, it later expanded to other departments. The union, primarily composed of women, focuses on labor rights, continuous education, and mental health.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

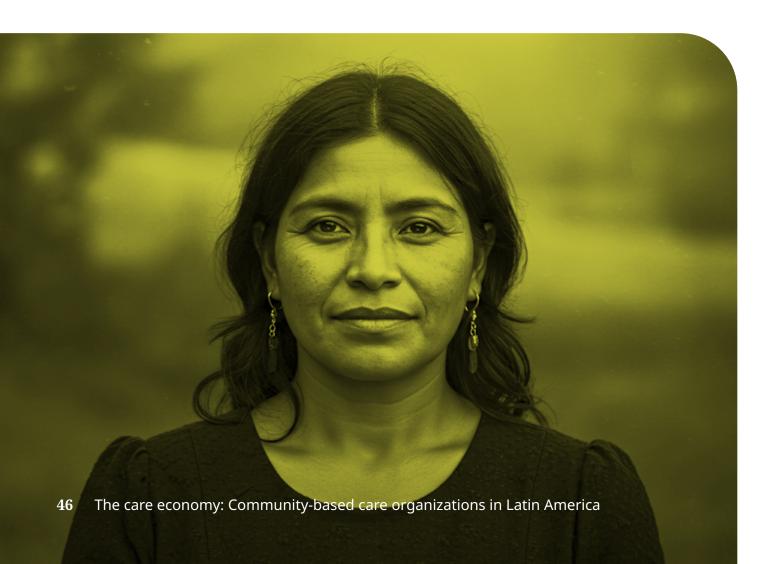
Care for individuals in situations of dependency (which can include children, elderly individuals and people with disabilities).

#### **Innovations**

- **Training:** Virtual or face-to-face training aimed to improve the quality of care.
- Advocacy in Care: As the founders of the Sindicato Único de Asistentes Personales in Uruguay, the organization has been instrumental in advancing labor rights for caregivers. This includes advocacy for labor regulation, collective bargaining, and professional development, underpinned by the creation of Law 19353, Cuidar y ser cuidado por el Sistema Nacional de Cuidados.

#### **Challenges and Needs**

The organization reports challenges with caregivers needing to improve their skills while managing time constraints. Additionally, it struggles with limited visibility and funding.



## 30. Mujeres con Historias

*Mujeres con Historias* is a legally registered non-profit civil association, based in Montevideo, an urban area, supports communities nationally. The organization, formed by feminist women advocating for autonomous aging, aims to promote public policies that recognize and support self-managed collaborative housing initiatives for older adults. It prioritizes collective solutions and mutual support, fostering the necessary care to preserve autonomy for as long as possible.

#### Core Activities and Services Related to Care

Elderly care through a unique model of self-care and mutual care among members.

#### **Innovations**

- Community Model: The organization provides elderly care through a unique model centered
  on self-care and mutual care among older adults. With 26 women members forming a network
  of mutual care, they foster a culture of giving and seeking help within the community. They
  planned to install themselves in a collaborative house soon to further develop their care model.
- A New Approach to Aging: The organization seeks to redefine the perception of old age. It promotes community-based living, prioritizing shared housing and mutual support over isolated living. It also advocates for urban planning and housing models that foster social connections and integrated elderly care.

## **Challenges and Needs**

While the organization has been actively involved in management, organizational, and advocacy work through the contributions of approximately 26 women members, it currently lacks a permanent headquarters. However, plans are in place to establish one soon.



## **Endnotes**

- 1. UN Women. (2022). <u>Los cuidados comunitarios en América Latina y el Caribe: Una aproximación a los cuidados en los territorios.</u>
- 2. ECLAC. (2022). Care in Latin America and the Caribbean during the COVID-19 pandemic. LC/TS.2022/4.
- 3. ECLAC. (2022). Buenos Aires Commitment. XV Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- 4. Unión Temporal Economía Urbana, Fedesarrollo. (2024). <u>Realizar una evaluación del Sistema Distrital de Cuidado implementado por la Secretaría Distrital de la Mujer en el marco de la última fase del ciclo de política pública. Producto 4 Informe de Resultados.</u> Alcaldía Mayor de Bogotá D.C., Secretaría Distrital de Planeación.
- 5. UNDP. (2022, July 1). <u>Modelo de cuidado integral en el proceso de reincorporación en 10 AETCR</u> priorizados, para la consolidación de la Paz en territorios PDET.
- 6. Unión Temporal Economía Urbana, Fedesarrollo. (2024). <u>Realizar una evaluación del Sistema Distrital de Cuidado implementado por la Secretaría Distrital de la Mujer en el marco de la última fase del ciclo de política pública. Producto 4 Informe de Resultados.</u> Alcaldía Mayor de Bogotá D.C., Secretaría Distrital de Planeación.
- 7. Government of Uruguay Care System. (2024). *Informe Quinquenal 2020-2024 Sistema de Cuidados*.
- 8. UNICEF. (2023). Care and support systems in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- 9. ECLAC. (2023). Social Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean 2023. LC/PUB.2023/19-P.
- 10. Austria, R., & Cruz-Mendoza, E. (2024). <u>El Sistema Nacional de Cuidados en México: ¿una herramienta para el mejoramiento de la condición y la posición de las mujeres?</u> Aljaba. Segunda Época. Revista de Estudios de la Mujer, 28(2).
- 11. Congreso de la Ciudad de México. (2023, August). Estudio sobre el Sistema Integral de Cuidados de la Ciudad de México
- 12. Percentages do not add up to 100% as respondents were able to select more than one response.
- 13. Percentages do not add up to 100% as respondents were able to select more than one response.
- 14. A number of the organizations' self-reported data regarding their contribution to the 5Rs did not align with the additional information provided in their questionnaire responses. Adjustments have therefore been made in the profiles.
- 15. Respite spaces are designated environments where caregivers can temporarily rest, recharge, and receive support, reducing emotional and physical stress.
- 16. Agro-ecological practices are sustainable farming methods that optimize natural resources, reduce environmental impact, and enhance biodiversity while promoting social and economic empowerment.
- 17. Non-profit organization made up of individuals.

- 18. Quality of Life (QoL) is a multidimensional concept that reflects a person's overall well-being, influenced by personal and environmental factors. It includes eight dimensions: emotional well-being, interpersonal relations, material well-being, personal development, physical well-being, self-determination, social inclusion, and rights. QoL serves as a framework for improving living conditions and assessing policies.
- 19. Angel Rivière identified 12 dimensions that are different in individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), each with four levels of severity. Level 1 represents more significant challenges, often in individuals with lower cognitive levels or without proper intervention, while Level 4 corresponds to fewer challenges.



