

FUNDACIÓN BAYLOR



COLOMBIA

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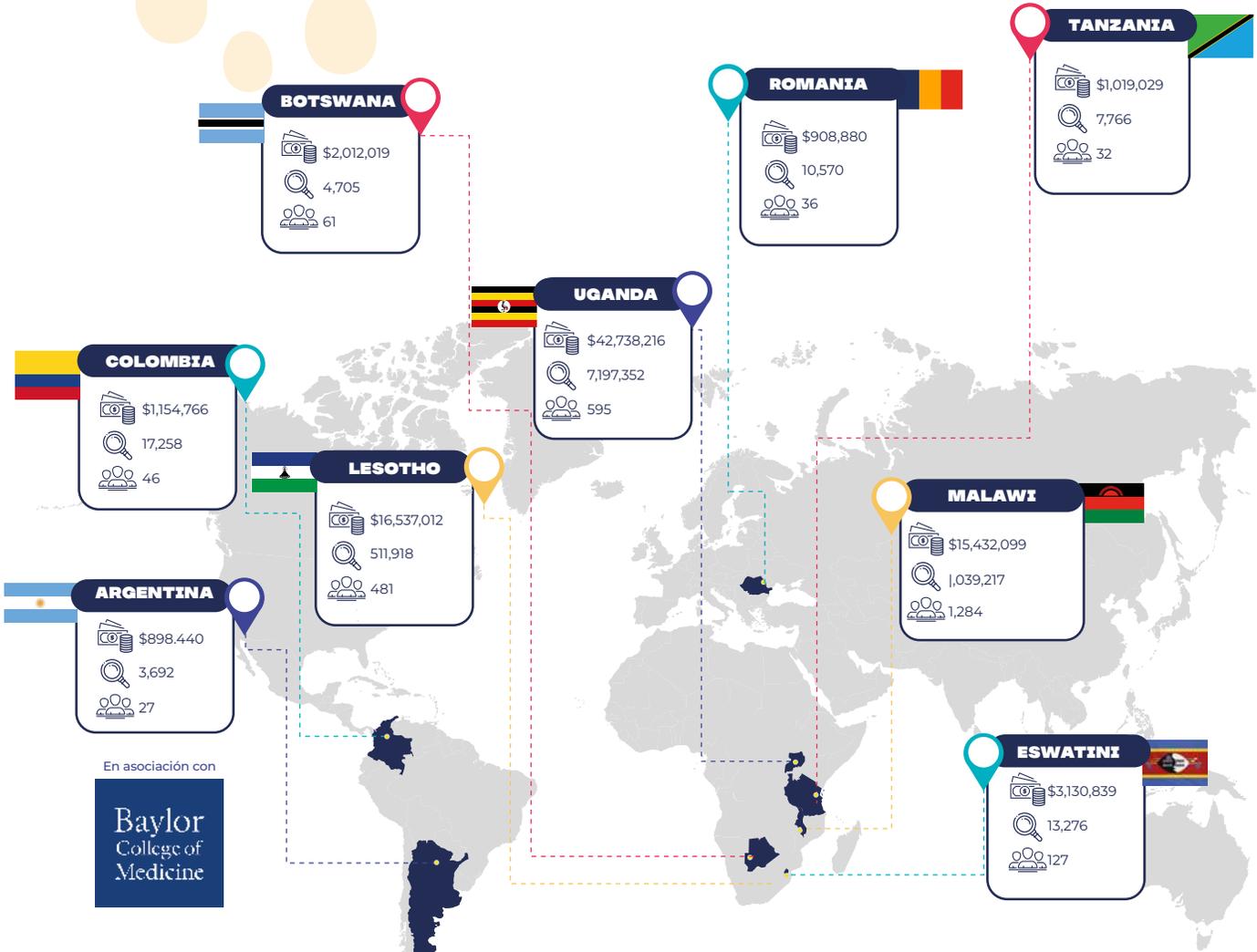
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THANK YOU



NETWORK IMPACT AT A GLANCE



PROGRAM FUNDING



PEOPLE REACHED



FOUNDATION STAFF EMPLOYED

COLLECTIVE IMPACT



\$83,831,300
Total Network Funding



2,689
Total Staff Employed



8,805,754
Total People Reached



8,859
Total Health Personnel Trained

Each foundation in the Texas Children's Global Health Network works together, sharing ideas to tackle tough health problems in their communities and around the world.

Foundation Background

HISTORY FOUNDATION



WHO ARE WE?

Baylor College of Medicine Children's Foundation - Colombia is a legally registered NGO since 2014, dedicated to improving health care and comprehensive protection of children, adolescents and their families in the country.

WHAT DO WE DO?

Our holistic health model integrates intercultural care, education, research, and complementary projects that address the social determinants that influence the health status of our beneficiaries.

HOW DO WE DO IT?

We are dedicated to impacting the well-being of pregnant mothers, children, and their families through the conception of health as "a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being, and not just the absence of disease or disease."

WHY DO WE DO IT?

We believe that a **holistic approach to health is the best way** to protect, improve, maintain, and support innovative health service delivery in vulnerable communities

Our actions are focused on the most vulnerable areas of the country, where there are significant gaps in health care. Currently, we are implementing programs in Atlántico and La Guajira, benefiting more than 8 municipalities, and we plan to expand our interventions to other departments in the coming years.



MISSION

Our grantees will have tools to achieve a more prosperous and healthy future.

VISION

By 2029, to be among the outstanding Colombian foundations for leading sustainable partnerships that promote equity in healthcare through innovative collaboration for patient care, education, and addressing the social determinants of health.

VALUES

1. Respect
2. Teamwork
3. Excellence
4. Innovation
5. Transparency
6. Diversity in inclusion
7. Keep Our Word

Baylor program outline **IN COLOMBIA**

In our comprehensive programs we do not only treat the pathology, we work on its causes to deeply resolve the state of health of our beneficiaries. Among the axes are:



Intercultural health care

Develop a model of health care that is culturally appropriate, equitable, and sustainable, ensuring the highest quality. This model promotes the implementation of participatory social audit schemes in defense of the cultural diversity of our nation.

1. Outpatient Clinic
2. Diagnostic Support
3. Early Detection
4. Specific Protection
5. Nutritional Recovery Zones
6. Active Search Units
7. Emergency Care



Intercultural education

Strengthen local health capacity by training communities, health workers and our workforce, with the aim of achieving a more prosperous and healthy future for families.

1. Community education
2. Education for our staff
3. Education for health professionals



Research and development

Promote the exploration and detection of current gaps in the health care model in order to provide information that allows for the adjustment of national public policies and their implementation at the level in a participatory manner.

1. Childhood
2. Family
3. Pregnant Women
4. New Health Models



Activities on social determinants of health

Develop holistic, self-managed models to address social determinants of health, such as food insecurity, economic development, and the environment, that are replicable and triple impact with a single investment.

1. Food security
2. Economic development
3. Environmental improvements



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

Ana María Galvis

DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

As I reflect on the past year, I feel the need to share both the challenges and triumphs we have faced at Baylor College of Medicine Foundation in Colombia. This year has been marked by significant obstacles that resonate with many in our network and in the philanthropic sector at large.

We experienced a notable 2.3% decline in our revenues, mainly due to the recession in the hydrocarbons industry, on which we rely for 70% of our financing. This sudden change felt like a storm, forcing us to navigate uncertain waters. Simultaneously, the philanthropic landscape has evolved, with giving increasingly directed toward local organizations rather than larger international bodies.

In response to these challenges, we meticulously crafted a comprehensive financing plan for 2024-2029, positioning ourselves for resilience and growth. We built a dedicated business development team with 10% annual growth targets. While we still anticipate the creation of a position exclusively focused on fundraising, our multidisciplinary approach has allowed us to respond quickly and effectively to secure humanitarian aid.

In addition, we expanded our portfolio of services to more effectively address the needs of our communities. In the field of health, we launched dental services and ophthalmology initiatives, delivering 427 pairs of glasses and 154 dental prostheses this year alone. Our commitment goes beyond health care; we have positively impacted the lives of 17,258 beneficiaries and their families through educational initiatives, such as our support to establish the first medical school in La Guajira.



However, we recognize that challenges continue to arise. Water management and food production in arid conditions present considerable obstacles. Our pilot project to extract water from moisture was cancelled due to exorbitant energy costs. Undaunted, we are moving forward with an innovative aquaculture project aimed at improving food security and fostering economic development.

The changing donor landscape has also led us to adapt our approach. Although we don't fit the typical local organization, we are firmly rooted in Colombia as a local NGO. To better align with evolving expectations, we are incorporating ethnic minorities into our strategy, with the goal of redefining our foundation's mission and transforming perceptions about our work. We work closely with our grantees to identify community needs and develop projects that include local labor. Currently, 72% of our staff come from these communities, demonstrating our commitment to local engagement. In addition, we establish monitoring committees to identify and implement opportunities for improvement. This collaborative approach reinforces our dedication to sustainable development and community well-being.

In conclusion, this year has presented many challenges, particularly in the area of financing and restrictions on international aid. However, our commitment to diversifying our portfolio of services—focused on health, education, research, and the social determinants of health—sets us apart. By expanding our offering, we open new avenues for donor engagement and support.

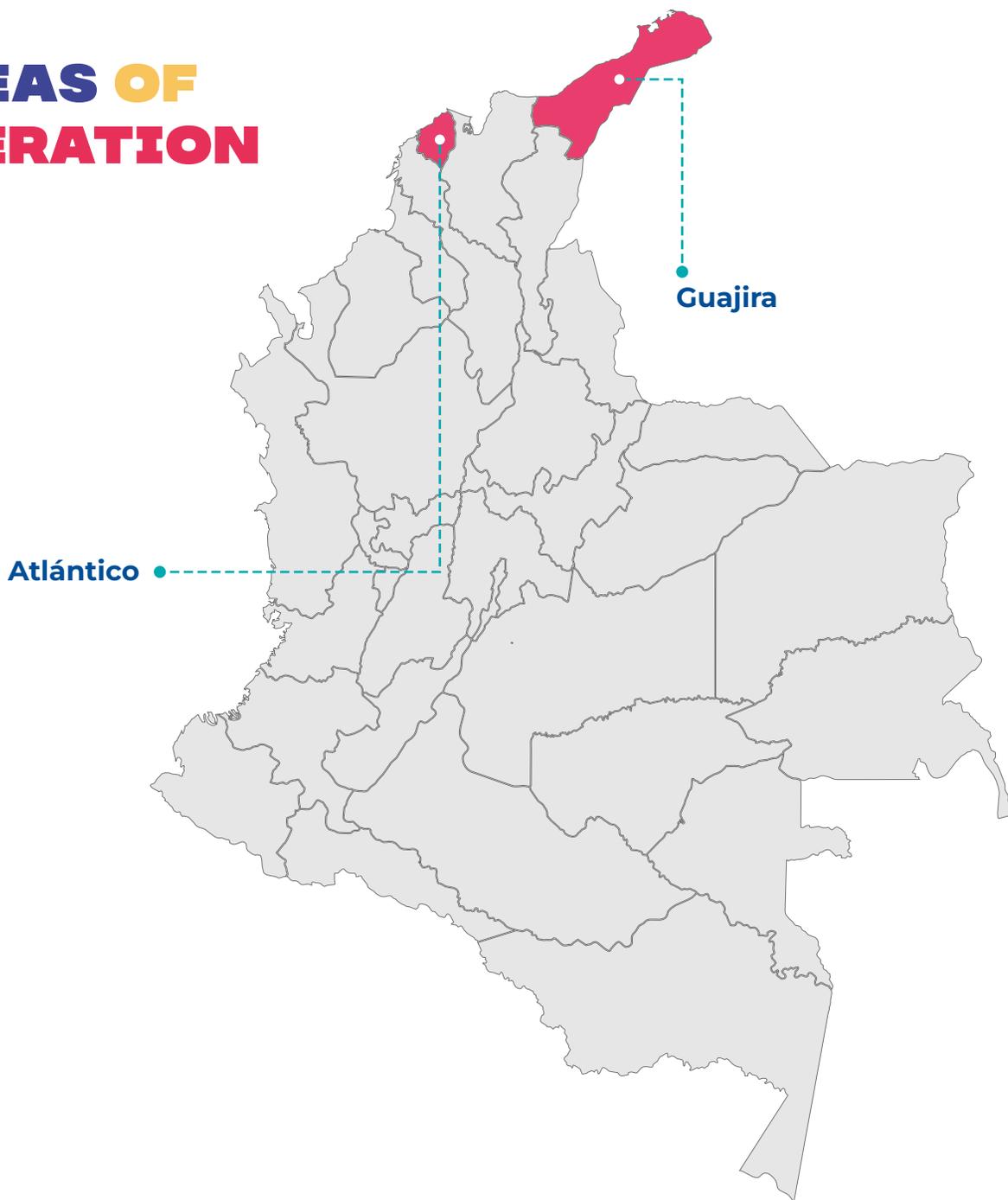
Patience and perseverance will be essential as we navigate these changes, but I remain optimistic that our collective efforts will bear substantial fruit. At the heart of our mission lies the belief that the future of our foundation depends on each of us. Together, we can cultivate a brighter future for the communities we serve.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNWAVERING SUPPORT.

 RESULT	# OR % OF KEY IMPACT (2024)	# OR % OF KEY IMPACT - CUMULATIVE (2014-2024)
# Beneficiaries impacted	17,258	51,694
# Consultations: General Medicine, Pediatrics, Dentistry, Psychology, Gynecology, Ultrasound, Internal Medicine, Nutrition	20,629	132,381
# of glasses delivered	910	2,230
# of dentures	155	335
Months of exclusive breastfeeding	5.9 MONTHS	5.9 MONTHS
# Women Planning	216	3,932
# Impacted pregnant women	2,728	9,123
# Children and adolescents impacted	5,880	30,333
# Food packages delivered	3,358	55,881
Tons of recycled material (KG) (Started: 2019)	33,763	159,098
Artisan Bread Units (A) (Started: 2022)	17,950	30,229



**AREAS OF
OPERATION**



Guajira (Uribia, Manaure, Riohacha, Dibulla)

Atlántico (Barranquilla, Puerto Colombia, Juan de acosta, Baranoa, Tubara)

PROGRAM

HIGHLIGHTS

1. INTERCULTURAL HEALTH CARE AXIS: HEALTH AND INDIGENOUS SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM IN LA GUAJIRA

Since 2014, Fundación Baylor Colombia has implemented the Indigenous Health and Self-Sufficiency program in La Guajira, with the aim of reducing maternal and infant morbidity and mortality rates in the region. This program has been able to integrate various sponsors that support specific activities in the field of health care.

During 2024, 8 initiatives were carried out under the Indigenous Health and Self-Sufficiency program in La Guajira, designed to provide intercultural care services to the Wayuu and migrant population. These projects aim to increase vulnerable households' access to quality nutrition and health services. Among the services offered are nursing, general medicine, nutrition, pediatrics, gynecology, vaccination, family planning, laboratory tests, optometry, ophthalmology and dentistry, among others.

Among the consolidated results, nutritional recovery stands out, where it has been ensured that 80% of the beneficiaries with malnutrition and low weight reach an adequate nutritional status. 10% continue to be under nutritional monitoring, while 5% have relapses, mainly due to food insecurity.

In 2024, we trained 60 indigenous health watchmen in Manaure and Uribia, adding up to a total of 210 lookouts trained in the use of the arm circumference and the identification of warning signs. This training allows them to detect early cases of malnutrition in childhood. In addition, their continuous training is guaranteed through dialogues of knowledge, which contributes to the empowerment of the community.

A strategic alliance was established to combat child malnutrition, which includes the delivery of 12,300 units of zinc sulfate, a key complement to oral rehydration. Likewise, a pact was signed with the Colombian Society of Pediatrics to address Acute Malnutrition in Manaure and Uribia, addressing the main causes of infant mortality in La Guajira.

Fundación Éxito's Gen Cero program seeks to ensure that, by 2030, the first generation of children in Colombia will be free of chronic malnutrition. In 2024, 3,358 food packages were delivered, adding up to a total of 55,881 packages since the beginning of the initiative. In addition, Fundación Baylor Colombia joined the global Scale Up for Nutrition network to support the Alliance for Civil Society in Colombia, securing funding to establish a governance protocol and communication strategy.

In terms of ophthalmological and dental services, Fundación Baylor Colombia stands out as the only non-profit organization that offers dental prostheses and glasses to the migrant and host population. In 2024, 910 glasses and 155 dental prostheses were distributed, improving the physical, mental and productive health of this population. In total, 2,230 glasses and 335 dental prostheses have been delivered in the departments of Atlántico and La Guajira.

In addition, the headquarters of the Health Provider Institution in Uribia was moved and expanded, which now offers 11 health services. In 2024, this headquarters served 5,847 Wayuu migrants and indigenous people with more than 15,459 services provided.

1,860 children and single adults vaccinated in 2024

910 glasses and **155** dental prostheses for a cumulative total of **2,230** glasses and **335** dental prostheses



During the inauguration, the Mayor of Uribia highlighted the importance of cooperation to face the health challenges of the municipality. Simultaneously, adjustments were made in the pharmacy area of the institution in Manaure, in the community of Jieyusirra, achieving the delivery of more than 347 thousand units of medicines at this headquarters.

The work of Fundación Baylor Colombia has been recognized by the government, the indigenous community and other institutions as a key actor in the reduction of infant mortality associated with malnutrition, especially in Manaure. During 2024, the program benefited 427 pregnant women, 769 pediatric care was carried out, 7,328 beneficiaries were educated, and 2,600 food packages were delivered as part of the 1,000-day strategy, reaching an adherence of 5.9 months to exclusive breastfeeding,



Network of **210**
Indigenous Health
Watchers

3,358 food packages in 2024 for a cumulative
55,881 packages since the start of the initiative

2. INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION AXIS: EDUCATION TO GENERATE INCOME



977
beneficiaries
received support
to access high
school education,
regular technical
and university
training in 2024

In our Intercultural Education axis, we seek to strengthen local capacity in health through the training of communities, health personnel and our work team, with the aim of building a more prosperous and healthy future for families. We have made significant progress in this regard.

We have evolved from offering training exclusively to communities to also including health professionals and our staff, generating knowledge that lasts in the territories we impact. The results obtained from the Education to Generate Income Project include the graduation of 9 beneficiaries as high school graduates, the delivery of 360 school kits and the allocation of maintenance vouchers to 102 beneficiaries. In addition, 280 beneficiaries were certified in short regular training courses, while 60 fishermen received certification in courses designed to strengthen their activities. There were also 166 beneficiaries registered in training with degrees in technical careers, reaching a total of 977 beneficiaries impacted by the project.

We highlight the results obtained with the Education to Generate Income project, developed in collaboration with Noble Energy. By 2024, we achieved results that directly impact the income generation of the benefited communities. We could not leave aside the training effort on our work team received support

for specialized training in quality auditing, conflict resolution and accountability, with the aim of improving health care and management. In addition, 23 team members are in the process of being certified as exclusive breastfeeding counselors, reaffirming our commitment to the well-being of the communities served. 2024 has been the year in which FBC submitted its largest number of abstracts (12) to participate in the network's meeting in Africa where it documents on the following topics: (8) program descriptions, (2) quality improvement and (2) scientific research.



A total of **88** beneficiaries received training in health, which covered topics such as Early Childhood Care, Public Health and Auxiliary in Pharmaceutical Services, among others.



3. SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH: OUR THREE IDEAS

Our goal of Developing holistic, self-managed models to address the social determinants of health, such as food insecurity, economic development, and the environment, that are replicable and triple impact with a single investment have resulted in the development of three types of initiatives that have evolved in recent years, namely: Artisan bakery, exchange of recyclable waste for food and basic necessities and the recently inaugurated aquaponics project.

During 2024, the **Artisanal Bread Production project (Suü Wanaa - Wheat Seed)** has contributed to improving the Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) in Wayuu indigenous communities in the La Guajira desert. With 6 artisanal bakeries, 17,950 units of bread were produced in 2024, benefiting 4,811 people in Uribia and Manaure. The project's activities

include socialization with traditional leaders to ensure their acceptance, training in the construction of artisanal ovens and bread production techniques, as well as the acquisition of inputs and technical support in marketing.

Likewise, the **Alimercambio project**, which promotes recycling through the obtaining of points exchangeable for food and basic necessities, managed to collect 33 tons of recyclable waste, generating 32 million pesos in income from the sale of these materials. 21,050 units of products were delivered and 3 service points were established in Manaure, Riohacha and Dibulla. In addition, the Alimercambio team mobilized 51 communities, benefiting 2,163 people. 53 environmental education days and 2 recycling or community cleaning days were carried out

In 2024, the **Aquaponics: My Home Garden project** achieved important achievements in the Wayuu communities of the department of La Guajira. The project was socialized in 4 communities, which resulted in the registration of 33 people interested in receiving training. As part of the implementation, 1,100 red tilapia fingerlings were stocked in the tank, and after harvesting, 299 people benefited from the delivery of 240 kilograms of red tilapia. In addition, 120 tomato and paprika plants were planted in the hydroponic system, which are currently in their growth stage.



To strengthen the capacities of the beneficiaries, an inter-institutional agreement was signed with the University of La Guajira, facilitating the transfer of knowledge in aquaponics. Thanks to this collaboration, training programs have been designed that address both technical and practical aspects, ensuring the sustainability of the aquaponic systems implemented.

The development of these three initiatives—Aquaponics, Bakery and Alimercambio—has impacted 5,653 beneficiaries, demonstrating that controlled investment and rapid implementation projects can be effective in territories with high rates of unmet basic needs. It is evident that addressing the social determinants of health is essential to positively impact the well-being of our beneficiaries. All this is carried out under the principles of responsibility of the actors involved, far from pure welfarism.



HEALTH TESTIMONIAL

Name: Angela Cristina Ipuana Urariyu

Program: Indigenous Health and Self-Sufficiency
in La Guajira

“ The doctor told me that I could get my teeth back and that I would smile again; I remember with gratitude. The Baylor Colombia IPS Foundation is not only the only health provider in my community—it is a real lifeline.”

A Reason to Smile: Angela’s Story of Hope and Transformation

In the heart of the community of Apuniman, where everyday life is characterized by tradition and resilience, I found myself at a crossroads. As a mother and baker, I worked in an artisanal bakery, a project led by Hocol and Fundación Baylor Colombia, preparing bread to sustain my family. However, although I have a warm and hardworking spirit, I carried a burden that affected me deeply.

For years, I struggled with a dental problem: I didn’t have my full set of teeth. It was not only an aesthetic problem; it affected my confidence and made me hesitate to smile. That sadness weighed on me, undermining my self-esteem, and I had almost resigned myself to living like this—until a chance encounter changed my life.

One day, I decided to talk to an official at Baylor Health Center about my struggles and my desire to find a solution. She listened to me and directed me to the services of the IPS of Fundación Baylor Colombia, where I discovered that I could receive the treatment I needed.

The doctor told me that I could get my teeth back and that I would smile again,” I remember with gratitude. The Baylor Colombia IPS Foundation is not only the only health provider in my community—it is a real lifeline. They offer services ranging from general medicine and vaccination to dentistry and gynecology, allowing people like me to find the help they need without the weight of long and expensive trips.

I had a dental implant procedure, and I describe that moment as transformative. The surgery was a success, and the support I received from the medical staff and my family made the experience even more meaningful.

When I returned home, something inside me had changed. Looking in the mirror, I saw not only a new smile, but also a renewed sense of confidence. My recovery process was smooth, and with each passing day, I felt more like myself—but better.

As I reflect on my journey, I am reminded of the difficulties my community faced. “Before, we didn’t have access to these services. Children were getting sick and dying from malnutrition, and pregnant women were suffering because they did not receive timely care. Now we have the privilege of having health services in our territory,” I say proudly.

For me, this transformation wasn’t just personal—it was tangible proof of the power of health care here in our territory. So my message to others is clear: “Go and ask about the services that this health center has in the middle of the desert. They can help you, just like they helped me.”

Today, I continue to bake bread, take care of my children, and embrace life with a full heart—and a beaming smile. My story is a testament to the profound and positive impact that Fundación Baylor Colombia has had on my life and our community.

EDUCATION TESTIMONIAL

Name: Meliyara Luna Capell

Program: Education for Income Generation

“For me, this path has meant so much more than just getting a diploma. It has been a lesson in resilience and perseverance, and a certainty that, with the right support, anything is possible.”

A Bright Future: Meliyara's Path to Becoming a Biomedical Engineer

My name is, Meliyara Luna, I grew up by the sea, in a family of artisanal fishermen in Puerto. For my parents, fishing was more than a job; it was their way of life and the livelihood of our family. While they spent their time at sea, I dreamed of following a different path. I shared my home with my sister and nephew, and although I was looking for a job, I found happiness cooking in my free time.

My true passion has always been education. With effort and determination, I obtained a scholarship from the municipality of Puerto Colombia thanks to my excellent score in the ICFES, which allowed me to start my studies in Biomedical Engineering. I worked hard, balancing my studies with a part-time job as a bartender in a hotel to cover my transportation and food expenses. However, I faced one last hurdle: the university required a diploma course to graduate, but the cost of tuition was very high. The scholarship I had did not cover this expense and I felt trapped without resources.

It was then that I learned about the Maintenance Bonus Program, which helps students of technical, technological or university careers to cover essential expenses such as transportation and study materials. Seeing an opportunity in this program, I applied and, to my joy, was selected as a beneficiary.

The program offered four quarterly bonuses, but my situation needed a special solution. So the audit team approved a one-time payment that covered the full cost of my diploma. In total, I received 10 vouchers worth COP \$4,466,000, which were paid directly to the university, allowing me to enroll in the course and complete my degree.

With the financial burden lifted, I was able to finish my diploma and graduate as a Biomedical Engineer. The day of my graduation was a moment of great pride for me and my family, as well as for all the people who supported me on this path.

As I look back, I recognize the challenges I faced: the uncertainty of getting help, the stress of balancing work and school, and the anxiety of seeing my sleep at risk. But I also value the reward: the opportunity to build a better future for myself and my family.

Without the support of Fundación Baylor Colombia, my life would have taken a different course. I probably would have had to drop out of school and settle for informal jobs without many opportunities. However, I now look to a promising future, ready to secure stable employment and improve my family's quality of life.

The impact of the Maintenance Bonus Program is beyond my history. This project was created to promote education and economic empowerment in 35 artisanal fishers' organizations and two women's groups. Although it was the first time the foundation had managed such a program, the team knew how to adapt and customize their approach to ensure success.

And my story doesn't end here. Inspired by my achievements, my mother also decided to continue her education and completed a technical training in Public Health through the same project. Our shared commitment to education reflects the transformative power of access to learning opportunities.

For me, this path has meant much more than just getting a diploma. It has been a lesson in resilience and perseverance, and a certainty that, with the right support, anything is possible. Today, I look to the future in hopes of building a career, giving back to my community, and proving that education is the key to opening doors to a brighter future.

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH TESTIMONIAL

Name: Claudina Arpushana

Program: Artisan Bakery

“ I am convinced that meeting not only immediate needs, such as the provision of medicines, but also needs such as training and skills development, is essential to improving the health and well-being of our community.”

Empowering a Community: Claudina’s Story of Growth and Opportunity

My name is Claudina Arpushana, I am 42 years old, and I live in the Perroutalimana community with my family. I come from a lineage of leadership—my father is the traditional authority of our community, and I, too, have taken on the role of community leader. My work is dedicated to helping those around me, collaborating with different organizations that seek to improve the lives of the people in our community.

One of the biggest struggles we faced was the lack of employment opportunities for single mothers. Many women in our community were struggling to support their children, with no steady source of income. Then, Fundación Baylor Colombia introduced us to an initiative that would change our lives—the Bakery Project. This program provided women with training in bread-making and the resources needed to start producing bread.

When we first heard about the Bakery Project, we saw an incredible opportunity for our community. We knew that learning to bake bread would give people a skill, a way to generate income, and create something meaningful together. That’s why we did not hesitate to be part of this initiative.

The impact of this project has been remarkable. Not only has it provided women with economic independence, but it has also brought visibility to our community. Thanks to the success of the bakery, other organizations and visitors have come to see our work. The project operates on a self-sustaining model—a percentage of the profits from the bread sales goes to the women involved, helping them support their families, while the remaining funds are saved and reinvested in bakery supplies, ensuring the project's continuity.

Beyond the financial benefits, the bakery has sparked a new sense of interest and motivation within the community. More people want to learn about the art of baking. Women who started in the program and later returned to their home countries have continued baking bread, using their new skills to sustain their families.

Of course, the journey has not been without challenges. One of the biggest obstacles has been selling all the bread we produce. Expanding our customer base and making a name for ourselves outside the community has required perseverance and creativity. However, the most rewarding part has been knowing that we are changing lives together. With the support of Fundación Baylor Colombia, we are not just baking bread—we are baking opportunities, hope, and a better future for our people.



PERSONAL TESTIMONY OF THE FOUNDATION

Name: Eliana Marcela Villera Flórez- Guajira Coordinator
Program: Indigenous Health and Self-Sufficiency in La Guajira

“When I joined Fundación Baylor Colombia, I never imagined the profound impact it would have on my life, both personally and professionally. My journey has been one of growth, resilience, and a renewed sense of purpose.”

A Transformative Impact on My Life

When I joined Fundación Baylor Colombia, I never imagined the profound impact it would have on my life, both personally and professionally. As General Coordinator in the department of La Guajira, my journey has been one of growth, resilience, and a renewed sense of purpose. The foundation has shaped my career in social work, providing me with invaluable skills in effective communication, teamwork, leadership, conflict resolution, and critical thinking. It has also taught me the importance of empathy and adaptability in an ever-changing environment.

I have had the opportunity to coordinate projects that improve the quality of life of Wayuu indigenous families, facilitating their access to essential health and education services. However, this path has not been without challenges. On a personal level, I have faced moments of stress, anxiety and insecurity; I have learned to delegate responsibilities and trust my team. In the organizational sphere, we have been faced with resource constraints, internal conflicts, and a fluctuating political and economic landscape. However, thanks to the foundation’s leadership and the way they set challenges we face, we have managed to overcome these difficulties and grow in the process.

In a broader context, I am aware that Fundación Baylor Colombia has transformed thousands of lives, especially in the country’s most vulnerable communities. They have improved access to health care for those facing malnutrition and preventable diseases by offering quality treatments. Their health education programs empower community

leaders with the knowledge needed to promote wellness in their own localities. This impact is not only immediate, but lasts over time, guaranteeing a better future for those who need it most.

Throughout my journey, the foundation has been instrumental in helping me overcome my own challenges, offering me training and development opportunities that have enriched my experience. My supervisor and colleagues have been a constant support, providing guidance through difficult times. The organization encourages collaboration and innovation, allowing me to learn from others and share my own experiences. Most significantly, it has created an environment of growth and motivation that has allowed me to develop in my role.

Every day, when I arrive at my workplace, I feel immense pride in knowing that my work really makes a difference. I'm motivated by professional growth, inspired by my team, and comforted by knowing that our joint efforts are changing lives. There is no greater reward than observing the direct impact of our work on the community.

If it weren't for Fundación Baylor Colombia, my life would be completely different. I would probably be in a less rewarding position, without the opportunities that have allowed me to grow and become the professional I am today. More than a job, this organization has given me purpose, a passionate team, and the opportunity to contribute to a meaningful mission.

This journey has been transformative, both for me and for the communities we serve. And for that, I will always be grateful.



PERSONAL TESTIMONY OF THE FOUNDATION

Name: Daniela Lozano – Atlantic Coordinator

Program: Education to generate income

“ Working at Baylor Colombia Foundation has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. Not only has it allowed me to grow professionally, but it has also shaped my personal development, leaving a positive and lasting impact on my life. ”

A Life-Changing Experience: Daniela’s Journey with Fundación Baylor Colombia

Working at Fundación Baylor Colombia has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. It has not only allowed me to grow professionally but has also shaped me personally, leaving a lasting positive impact on my life. From the moment I joined, I felt part of something bigger—an organization that is built on trust, transparency, and an unwavering commitment to the well-being of others.

The foundation’s impact on the community is undeniable. Everywhere it reaches, it leaves a mark, improving lives and bringing hope to the most vulnerable populations. Through its programs, it has transformed the quality of life for countless individuals, offering access to essential services and opportunities for development. I have seen firsthand how every initiative strengthens communities and provides them with the tools they need to thrive.

Personally, my journey at the foundation has helped me overcome various challenges. One of the biggest transformations has been my confidence, especially in public speaking—a skill I struggled with in the past but have now mastered thanks to the encouragement and experiences I have gained here. The support of my colleagues, particularly the executive director and Maritza Medina, has been invaluable in my professional growth.

I still remember the first time I joined the foundation. It was 2020, and the organization was operating the Nutritional Recovery Center in Manaure, La Guajira. A position for a

nutritionist opened, and I saw it as a perfect opportunity to apply my knowledge and gain experience in malnutrition issues. Since then, every day has been filled with purpose. What I love most about my job is the direct connection with the community—understanding their needs, walking alongside them in their daily struggles, and ultimately, being accepted as one of their own.

The most rewarding part of this journey has been witnessing the real change we bring to people's lives. Seeing the smiles on the faces of those who benefit from our programs reminds me why this work is so meaningful. Every initiative, every peso invested in our programs, directly reaches someone in need, creating lasting changes in entire communities. If anyone is considering donating to Fundación Baylor Colombia, I can assure them that their contribution will have a tangible impact on those who need it the most.

Beyond just work, the relationships and connections I have built through the foundation are invaluable. I have met incredible individuals from the health sector, government agencies, private companies, and more—many of whom have become lifelong friends. This job is not just about serving the community; it is about becoming part of it, learning from it, and growing with it.

What makes Fundación Baylor Colombia so special is its transparency and trust—values that are deeply embedded in every project and interaction. Currently, I lead a program that benefits 35 artisanal fishing organizations and two women's groups in the department of Atlántico. It is fulfilling to see how, through these efforts, we not only provide resources but also strengthen people's confidence and their ability to believe in themselves.

If I had not joined this foundation, I know that my professional and personal growth would have been different. I might not have had the same opportunities for development, nor the chance to work with such a passionate and committed team. Being part of this organization has filled a void—not just in my own journey but in the communities we serve.

For those interested in learning more about the foundation, my advice is simple: it will be one of the most fulfilling experiences of your life. The lessons you gain here go beyond the professional world; they shape you as a person. Fundación Baylor Colombia is not just helping communities—it is transforming lives, creating sustainable changes, and ensuring a brighter future for all.

FUNDACIÓN BAYLOR

COLOMBIA