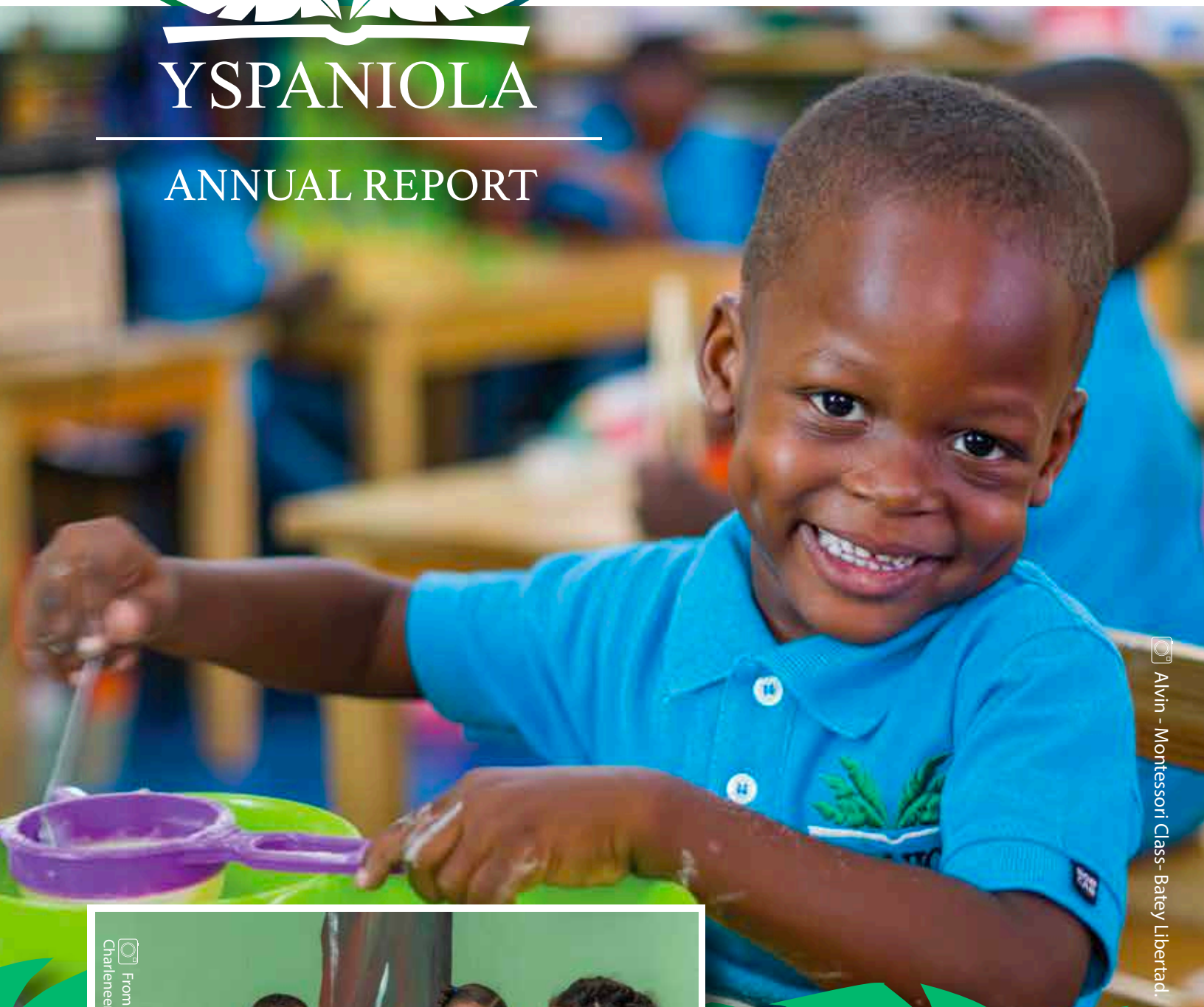




# YSPANIOLA

## ANNUAL REPORT



Alvin - Montessori Class - Batey Libertad.

# 2024-2025



From left to right: José Guillermo, Weishly, and Charlene from the Literacy Program - Los Mina Sur.

# Dear friend of Yspaniola,

The year 2024-2025 was marked by moments of joy, dedication, passion, enthusiasm, in which each member of our wonderful teams in Batey Libertad and the Mina Sur, could experience gratitude and pride for each of the advances that were materialized over time.

We are excited to present a brief summary of the most relevant of all our educational programs, university scholarship program, assistance to people in vulnerable immigration situations, and service trips. As well as new initiatives such as Un Batey Más Verde and Fanm Vayan (women empowerment), that we undertook last year and that are now beginning to show their first results, which we will share with you with great satisfaction in the following pages.



We hope this annual report inspires you as much as it inspires our team of employees and collaborators, as well as our incredible board of directors.

There are not enough words to thank you for your trust, support and company. Together we have achieved it.


From the bottom of our hearts we send you our best wishes and a prosperous year 2026 in which we meet again.

Thank you for believing in us, it's been **16 years** now. Thank you for being part of this family called Yspaniola.




Alejandra García Pérez  
Executive Director



 Yspaniola - Los Mina Sur Team.



 Yspaniola - Batey Libertad team.



# University Scholarship Program



This year that has just ended, it was also characterized by the commitment shown by each of our six fellows to advance their university careers in Nursing (Odaly, Oriana and Manushka), Education with emphasis in biology (Francis), and finally, in Modern Languages (Idelove and Rosa).

Seeing them motivated and with a desire to excel is what fills us with the most satisfaction. If you want to know the testimonials of our scholarship recipients, [click here.](#)

 From left to right: Manushka, Francis y Mirian, Administrative Manager and Head of the University Scholarship Program.



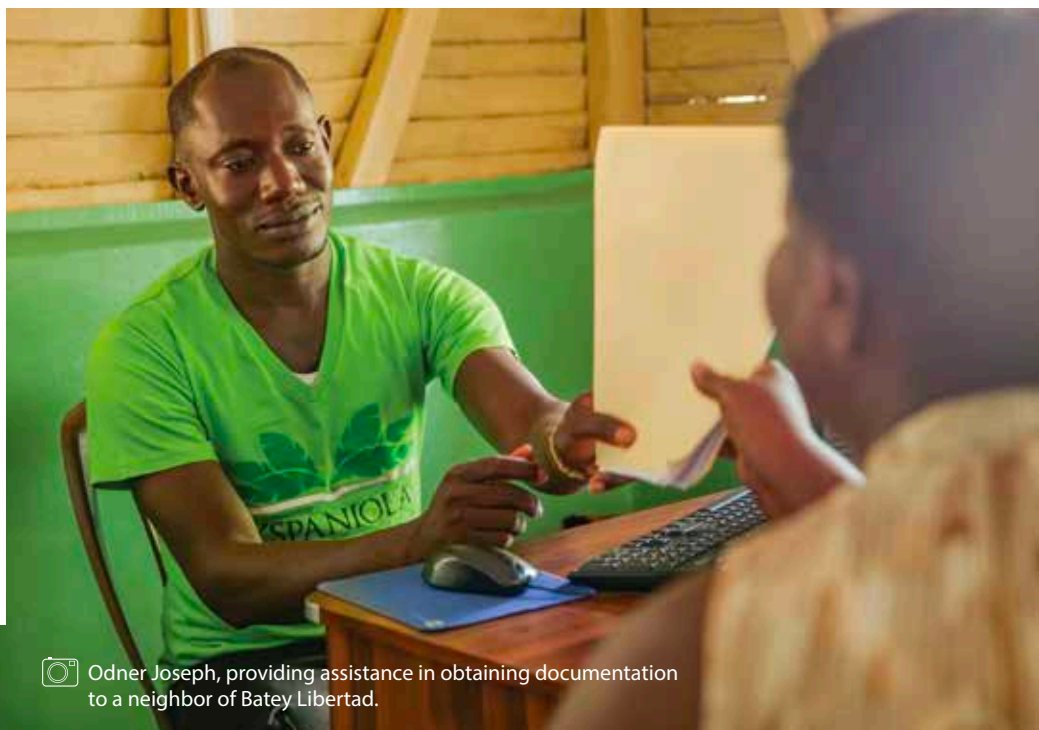
## Humanitarian Assistance and Guidance


From 2024 and during 2025, support was offered to around 08 inhabitants of Batey Libertad who were arrested in different raids. Fortunately, we were able to help those who were detained return home.

Social assistance was also provided to people of Haitian descent in detention centres, offering them food, water and clothing.

Finally, thanks to a documentation operation in May of 2025, 53 people obtained birth certificates, passports and marriage certificates.

[To learn more, click here.](#)



 Odner Joseph, providing assistance in obtaining documentation to a neighbor of Batey Libertad.

# Our Educational Impact

📷 Karina and Mairo during reading tutoring class at the Batey Libertad learning center.



## A Stronger Montessori Program

After 2 years of training and preparation, the pre-school teaching team formally began implementing the Montessori methodology in September of 2024. Feeling more capable of the methodology and its objectives, our teachers are helping students develop independence, a sense of order, and concentration.



📷 From left to right: Felicia, our educational assistant, and Lima, a student from the Montessori program.

### Overall results of educational programs in Batey Libertad

Preschool			
Name of class	September 24	January 25	June 25
Class 1A	Non-readers	AA-B	AA-E
Learning Center			
Name of class	September 24	January 25	June 25
Phonetics	Non-readers	Non-readers-AA	AA-B
Start reading	Non-readers - A	AA - C	AA-E
Reading tutoring	A - C	B - E	D - F
Reading and grammar	D - G	E - H	F - I

In 2024-2025 at Batey Libertad we enrolled 38 children in three different classes or groups: beginning to read, reading tutoring, reading and grammar. As you can see from the table, all groups advanced on the scale of the Reading A-Z system, whose lowest value is AA and highest is Z.

In January 2025, class 1A had an enrollment of 14 children, of whom only 4 students could read. Then, in June, 11 children in that class advanced their reading levels significantly.

## Nutritional support in figures and school days

In Batey Libertad  
156 days of class  
88 students  
received a daily snack

13,728  
snacks

+

In Los Mina Sur  
147 days of class  
55 students  
received a daily snack

8,085  
snacks

21,813  
snacks in  
2025



📷 Cleisy y Lianny, 3rd grade students at Los Mina Sur, beneficiaries of the nutritional support program.

📷 Children Batey Libertad preschool having a snack.




# Literacy Program in Los Mina Sur

For the third consecutive year, 55 enrolled grade 3 students, from the Juan Bautista Zafra school, significantly improved their reading skills in the school year 2024 - 2025. Additionally, the grade 3 teachers of the school were trained in the methodology of the program.

Specifically, in September of 2024 82% of students were in in group 1 (non-readers) and group 2 (syllable reader), in other words, they were reading below the grade 1 level. By June 2025 63% of students improved to reading at a level above grade 2 and 26% read at grade 3 level.

*In September 2025, the school district, formed by 58 schools, reported in their official evaluations, that the students who had passed the Yspaniola literacy program showed better results than the average of their peers.*


Level / Results	Elementary	Acceptable	Satisfying
Official Global Results School District	41.34%	34.73%	23.94%
Official Results JBZ School of the School District	26.32%	43.86%	29.82%

 Teacher Roanny practicing the methodology with her students from class grade 3 A, with the support of teacher Yngris from Yspaniola (right).




 Katie Ahern y Eliza Patterson, our PILA Fellows 2024-2025, during their visit to the JBZ school in Los Mina Sur.



 Yspaniola teacher, Ana María Rodríguez, teaching phonetics to the students.



 A student from the mentoring program supports a 3rd-grade student with reading practice.



# Experiential learning and exchange



Students from Libertas Academy play with children from the Montessori program.

## *Getting to Know the Dominican Republic Through Public Service*

During April and May we welcomed visiting students from Libertas Academy and the Student's Association from Yale University to Batey Libertad, and the College of Education and Human Development of Georgia University to Los Mina Sur.

During their stay they were able to spend time with residents of the batey and participated in activities such as: Painting a mural in the learning center, participating in reading hour in our learning center in Batey Libertad, visiting historical sites in Santiago de los Caballeros and Santo Domingo, as well as learning about the challenges faced by people of Haitian descent who live in the batey and in general in the Dominican Republic.



On the left, students from Yale paint a mural on the learning center, on the right, their visit to the National House of Representatives of the Dominican Republic (Cámara de Diputados en el Edificio del Congreso Nacional).



Visit and service project of the College of Education and Human Development of Georgia State University at JBZ School.





# New Projects


## *Un Batey Más Verde (A Greener Batey)*



In the 2024 report we saw how, with the support of Valley Presbyterian Church, we incorporated the component of environmental care and environmental sustainability. To do this, we acquire books and educational materials and develop awareness activities with our students, during reading hour and in the summer camp. We also started exploring how to engage batey neighbors to improve environmental conditions.

At the beginning of 2025, we formally requested the support of the local authorities to carry out cleaning days. At the same time, with the financial support of All People Be Happy, we were able to launch the Greener Batey project, which supports environmental education and the solid waste management system managed by members of the community. If you want to know more about this project, [click here.](#)



 During the summer camp, the children participated in a day of cleaning and increasing environmental awareness, going home by home.



## *Fanm Vayan (Courageous Woman): Women's Empowerment*



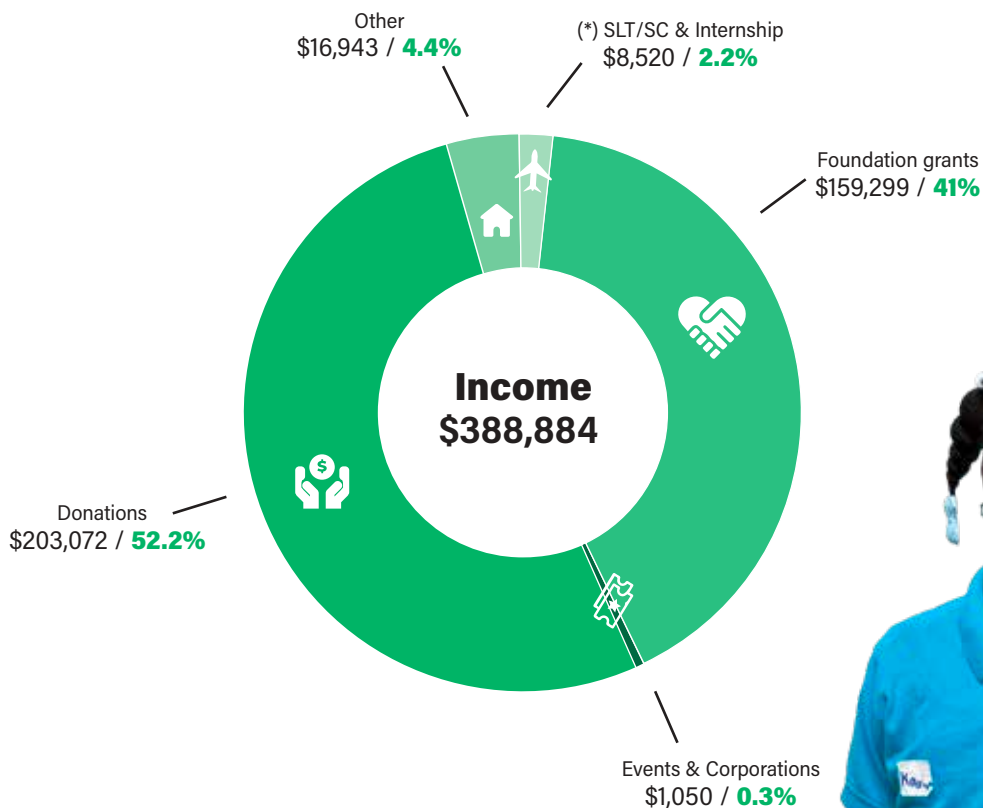
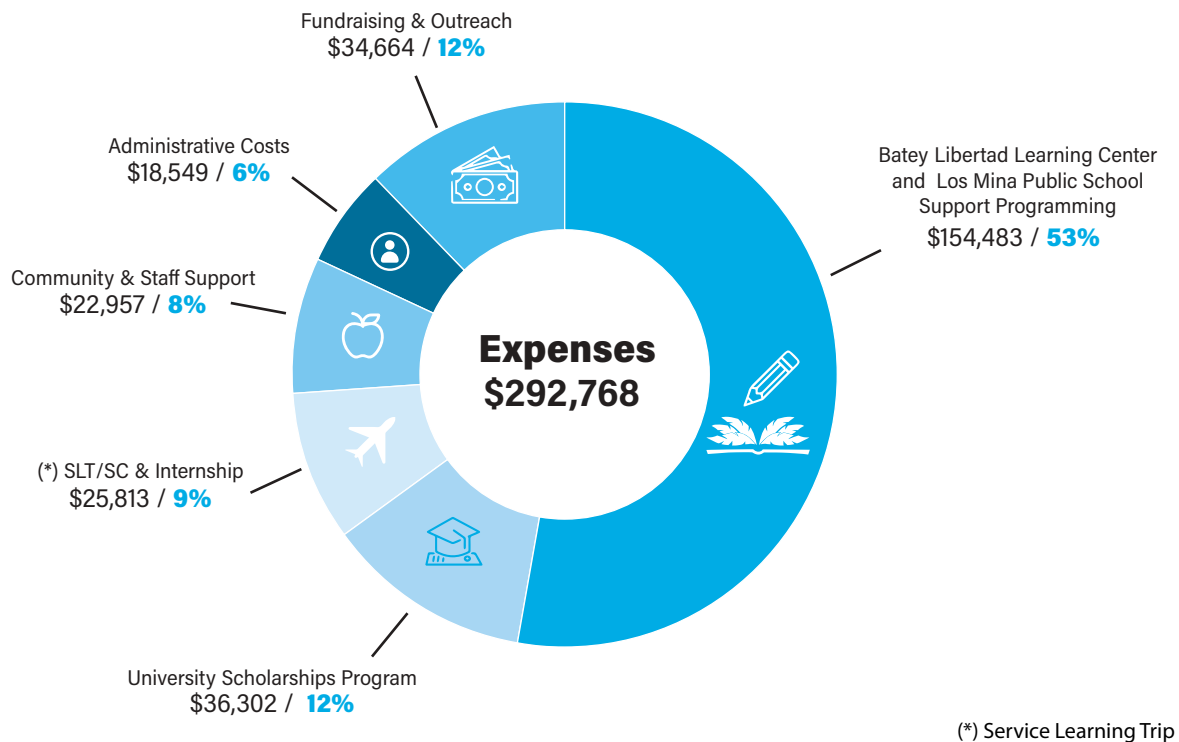
From September in 2024 to the present day, a group of women from the community began to meet every Saturday to learn how to sew and develop the initial entrepreneurial ideas. Some of them had participated in the workshops to create reusable female towels that had been given months earlier.

This is how Fanm Vayan emerged, “brave woman” in Creole, a group that has 16 women and participated in sewing classes, thanks to private donations raised by Eliza Patterson (2024 PiLA Intern). They have already begun to make their first product: baby clothes for women in the community. To learn more about Fanm Vayan [go here](#).



# Financials

Fiscal year October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025



Karina is a student at the Batey Libertad Learning Center. She wants to be a teacher when she grows up.





# To all our Donors, Volunteers & Supporters...



## The Yspaniola Circle (\$10,000+)

Essex Avenue Foundation  
Anonymous donor  
Lee Ann Patterson

## The Learning Center Circle (\$2000-\$9000)

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Zachary Denton





YSPANIOLA

*Thank you for making  
our work possible!*

#### **VOLUNTEER AND IN-KIND SUPPORTERS**

Eliza Patterson, Katie Ahern, Ariana Ramos, Keyana Alexis, Roger Berry Boden, Impresos R&R, Morel Supermarket, College of Education and Human Development from University of Georgia.

Special thanks to our dedicated Board of Directors: Cynthia So-Armah (Chairwoman), Charlotte Castillo, Cory Anne Fox, Diego Cuesy, Elisa Istueta, Gerald McElroy, Jonathan DiMaio, Lucas Alvarez, Maria Lopez-Bresnahan, Sarah Kabay, Silvio Torres-Saillant (Honorary Chairman), Stephen Wirth, Tanya Martinez-Gallinucci y Liliana Santana.



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