

# THE SANTA MARTA ANGLICAN CENTER 2022 IMPACT REPORT

“In the end, we come here to heal, to have a home, to feel safer, and to not be exposed to the violence we faced before.”

-Manuel, Santa Marta client

The Santa Marta Anglican Center for LGBTIQ+ Youth and Young Adults is a program of the Anglican Church of El Salvador and CREDHO.

05-30-2023

## **ANGLICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF EL SALVADOR**

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## IGLESIA EPISCOPAL ANGLICANA DE EL SALVADOR

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San Salvador, May 26th 2023

Dear friends,

Peace and Blessings to you.

As Primate of the Anglican Church in Central America, Diocesan Bishop of the Anglican Episcopal Church of El Salvador and head of the Santa Marta Anglican Center for LGBTQ+ Youth and Young Adults, on behalf of all the youth residents and myself, I address all those people who in one way or another have supported the work of the Center, especially our partners in the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia. We are grateful for your financial donations, prayers and other support.

Thank you to our strategic partners The Ali Forney Center, Cari Creative, Counterpart International, San Rafael Hospital Safe Clinics, International Organization for Migration, International Red Cross Committee, the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia and every single person who supported us. Each donation, no matter the size, has a huge impact. Thanks to you, we can continue to operate and grow the work of the Santa Marta Anglican Center.

Thank you to the LGBTQ+ youth and young adults for having the trust in our program and giving testimony through their stories of support received through the Center, as well as the ways they have demonstrated their own resilience, strength, compassion and care for one another in community. We are glad that many of these young people have already been able to move onto more hopeful living conditions and a better quality of life.

Unfortunately, as long as the sins of homophobia, machismo and heteronormativity run rampant, there will always be a need for places like the Santa Marta Anglican Center that provide home, community and warmth. In the words of one client, "In the end, we come here to heal, to have a home, to feel safer, and not to be exposed to the violence we faced before." We pray to be able to continue this work and expand to advocate for LGBTQ+ rights in El Salvador. You, our supporters, are an indispensable part of this story. You make this work possible.

Once again, thank you all for your support. It has had a profound impact on the lives of our clients and on Salvadoran society as a whole.

May God bless all of you in the love of Christ.

The Right Reverend David Alvarado  
Primate of the Anglican Church in Central America  
Diocesan Bishop to the Anglican Episcopal Church of El Salvador



“creemos en la iglesia una, santa, católica, y apostólica”





# Santa Marta Center

SALVADORAN LGBT YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

## MISSION

To provide immediate, comprehensive, and warm care to LGBTIQ+ young adults facing domestic violence, homelessness, and deportation in El Salvador.

## VISION

To be a center of attention, community, inclusion, and prosperity that promotes rights for LGBTIQ+ youth, and to contribute to ending the cycle of violence and the social construction of hatred against sexual diversity.

### SHORT-TERM RESULTS

1. LGBTIQ+ youth and young adults expelled from their homes find refuge and safety at the Center
2. LGBTIQ+ youth and young adults participate in an empowerment process generated by Center staff
3. LGBTIQ+ youth and young adults are linked to programs inside and outside the shelter according to their skills and interests

### LONG-TERM RESULTS

1. The cycle of violence and poverty caused by homelessness is broken
2. Graduates of the Center's program contribute to the maintenance of the home through donations or volunteering (5 years)
3. Users can find a community of celebratory faith in the IAES (optional)

## THEORY OF CHANGE

If LGBTIQ+ people receive comprehensive and warm care in crisis situations, this care will reduce the negative impact of these crises on their personal development.

## OUR WORK

We interrupt the cycle of violence that affects LGBTIQ+ youth from 18 to 30 years old. Through **Five Accompaniment Pillars**, we support youth as they build a welcoming community and collaborate to seek sustainable options.

### FIVE ACCOMPANIMENT PILLARS



#### Shelter

Meet emergency needs and provide shelter, safety, food, loving community, and hygiene.



#### Psychosocial Accompaniment

Assist users in crisis care and support in the development of capacities to manage difficult situations.



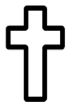
#### Empowerment

Equip users with knowledge about human rights, health and sexual diversity.



#### Vocational Insertion

Provide help with life plans, job accompaniment, and support to find work and housing.



#### Pastoral Care (optional)

Explore queer theology and support users as they grow in a faith that celebrates them.



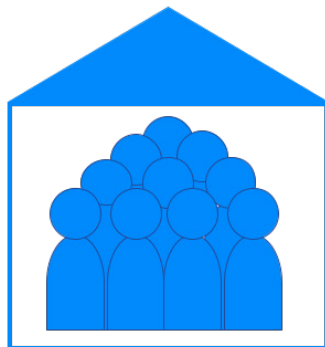
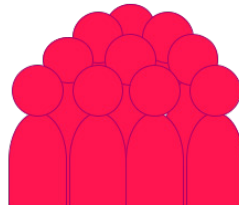


## SUMMARY

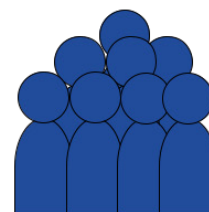
Between the launch of the Santa Marta Anglican Center for LGBTIQ+ Youth (CASM) in August 2021 and December 2022, we served 107 cases total, including 30 cases admitted to our shelter. Of the 107 cases, 26 participants have graduated from the program and are now in a more stable situation. In the program, they received psychosocial care, participated in training on human rights and sexual health, and built a welcoming community. In addition to our direct work with cases, we have collaborated with international organizations to train people on issues of sexual diversity, collaborated with the Ali Forney Center in strengthening international networks of organizations that care for LGBTIQ+ people, and supported research on sexual diversity in Central America.

Throughout the report, you will find stories and quotes our clients have chosen to share so others can understand the issues they face and how the Center supports them. Names have been changed for their privacy and safety.

**107 Total Cases**  
(including Remote Support\*)



**30 Clients in Refuge Program**



**26 Clients Exited the Program**

Remote care is for cases with a more stable situation who do not have to enter the shelter. They receive support from the other pillars for their particular needs and their own care plan.



## IMPACTS OF PILLARS

Through these pillars, our clients have participated in individualized training programs to address the following aspects of their lives:



### Individual

Clients have strengthened skills for introspection, managing emotions, flexible thinking, and resilience in the face of adversity. Graduates of the program are more aware of the impact of society on their development and strategies to address this impact.



### Relationships

Clients have built skills in communication, conflict resolution and relationships. These strategies help establish healthier relationships with friends, partners and family. Their support networks help in their search for a job, a home, and a community.



### Family

In 4 cases, the staff worked with clients' families to dispel myths and learn about sexual diversity. In 3 remote cases, clients did not need to leave their homes.



### Faith Transformation

Several people received pastoral accompaniment, including joining mass and several facilitated conversations about their faith. 5 cases participated in a queer Bible study.



### Follow-Up with Graduates

Many graduates continue to visit the Center to meet and encourage new members, but also to hang out with their friends who are still there. Upon graduating, many continue with the support networks developed at the Center with them.





## COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The solidarity of the Salvadoran people and the international community is what allows the operation of our program. The generosity of donors and volunteers helps users get ahead and mainly supports the direct care that users receive.

- We receive donations of non-perishable food from members of the community and especially from the Anglican community in El Salvador.
- We participate in the Santa Ana Migration Table.
- We celebrated our second gala with Living SV, a gay club in San Salvador, the celebration of one year in operation, and an opportunity to raise funds, share information about our services, and be accountable to our community.
- We collaborate with other local organizations in media training for better coverage of sexual diversity issues in the news.

## MIGUEL'S STORY

Miguel was kicked out of his home by his aunt when she found him with another man. He engaged in survival sex work to pay for housing until a friend recommended he reach out to the Santa Marta Anglican Center. With generous support from our donors, we are able to provide shelter and support to clients like Miguel.

“In my old life, I paid for accommodation, but I got the money through... well, you can imagine. A friend asked me if he needed money, he taught how to contact people for this. Then another friend gave me the contact number of the Center. I called, and Helen met me at the Center.

“Before this, I lived with my aunt, and everything was fine, but a month ago, I ran into a guy in bed. He got angry and kicked me out of the house. He doesn't want to know anything about me. He doesn't accept me for who I am. It was then that my friend asked me, 'Do you want to get money? With this app you can find people who pay you.' So I started to earn money to survive.”



## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Through alliances with international cooperation organizations, we can better serve more cases, provide trainings, advocate for human rights, and collaborate internationally. Together, we provide direct protection and address homophobia and sexism holistically.

- We received an **International Organization for Migration** award for our participation in the Santa Ana Migration Board and our commitment to LGBTIQ+ migrants.
- We received donations of hygiene kits from the **International Red Cross Committee**, which gave us more flexibility for other needs.
- We collaborate with the **Ali Forney Center** to strengthen an [international network of organizations](#) supporting LGBTIQ+ people, and joined their [Technical Conference](#).
- We worked with **USAID's Diversidad en Movimiento**, administered by **Counterpart International**, to launch a volunteer and community outreach project to share information and education on human rights through grassroots alliances.
- We trained transportation staff on issues of gender violence and sexual diversity with **CREDHO** and the support of **CARI El Salvador** from **USAID**.
- We dialogue and promote job opportunities in a space facilitated by the **Embassy of the United Kingdom** in collaboration with other advocacy organizations.





## MILESTONES IN 2022

This year has been a year of many achievements and lessons learned. We want to highlight the following four achievements beyond the success detailed above:

### TRAININGS

We collaborate with local NGOs and international cooperation to train various groups in human rights and sexual diversity.

### INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS

We strengthened international connections to share best practices, receive cases from neighboring countries, and connect migrants with resources on their way.

### ADVOCACY

We collaborated with local NGOs and international cooperation in advocacy in favor of LGBTIQ+ rights and people and the dissemination of information about our programs.

### GREATER SECURITY

We installed cameras for greater security of users, the community in general, Center staff and volunteers.

## GOALS IN 2023

To apply the lessons we've learned and expand our program to help more LGBTIQ+ youth, we're raising **\$45,000 for 2023** and expanding our services with the following changes:

### IMPROVED SPACE

Relocate the Center to a place with more space for users and with a more strategic (but always confidential) location.

### EDUCATION PROGRAM

Develop an education program with training spaces in queer theory, queer theology and work with the broader LGBTIQ+ population.

### INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

We will collaborate with international cooperation organizations for the financial and programmatic support of new initiatives.

### VOCATIONAL INSERTION

Improve the vocational insertion program with personnel exclusively dedicated to helping in the search for employment and housing.

### CASE REGISTRY

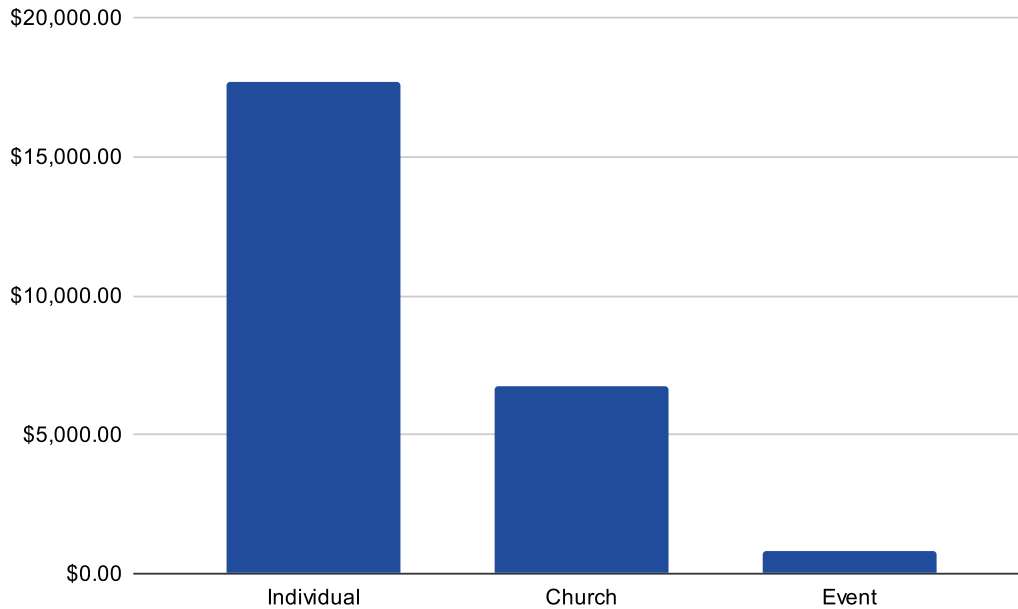
We will publish data on the cases we attend to (without identifying data) for a more informed discourse on violence and discrimination in El Salvador.

## DONATIONS IN 2022

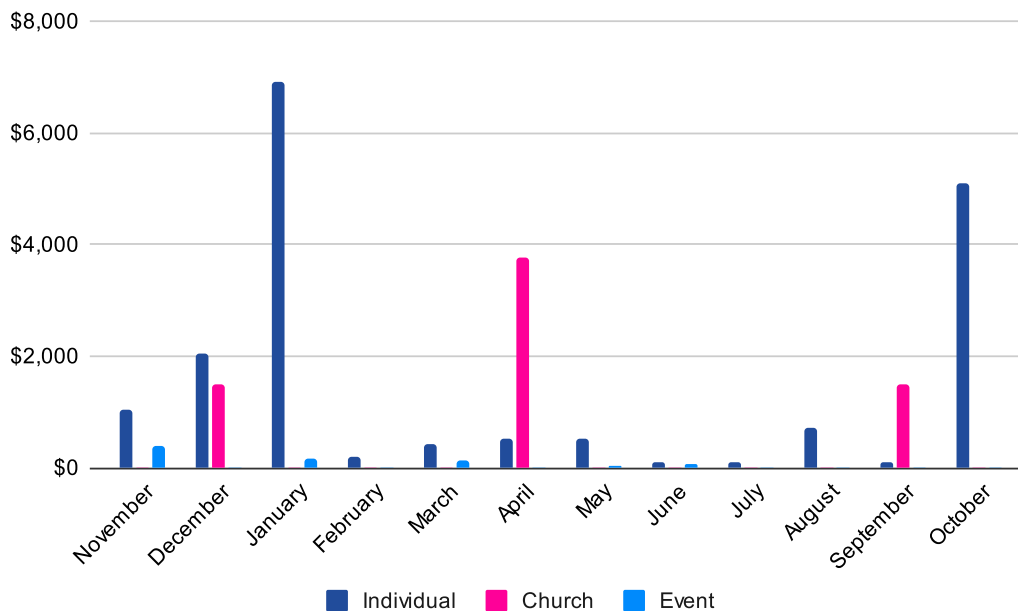
In 2022, we received **\$25,233.88 in donations** from 30 generous individuals, churches, and foundations. More than 70% of these donations were \$100 or less, and more than 20% were \$50 or less. Every donation, no matter its size, can have a big impact.

In addition to cash donations, we receive over **\$12,000 of in-kind or hybrid donations**, including transportation, food, hygiene products, our website, and other event support.

### DONATIONS BY SOURCE (TOTAL)



### DONATIONS BY SOURCE (PER MONTH)

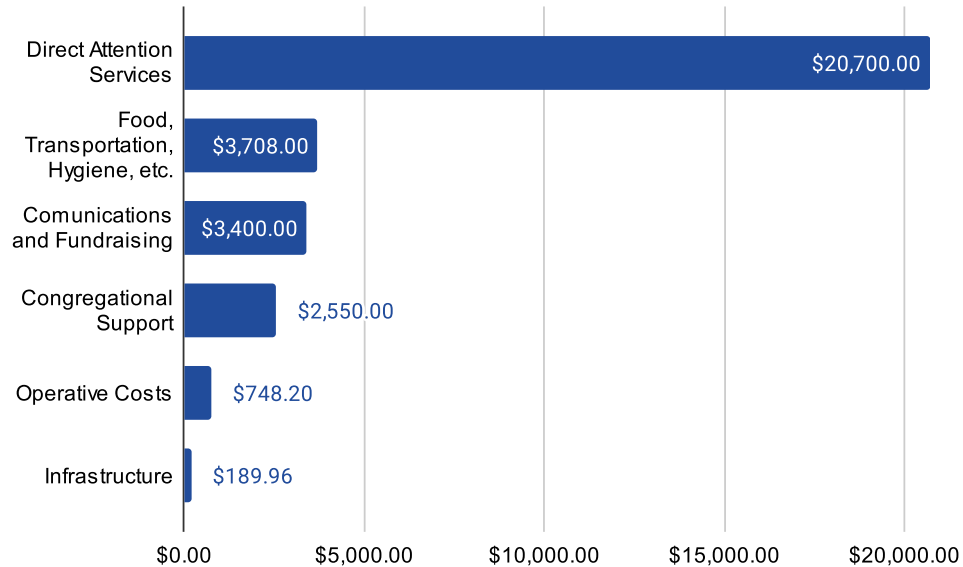




## EXPENSES IN 2022

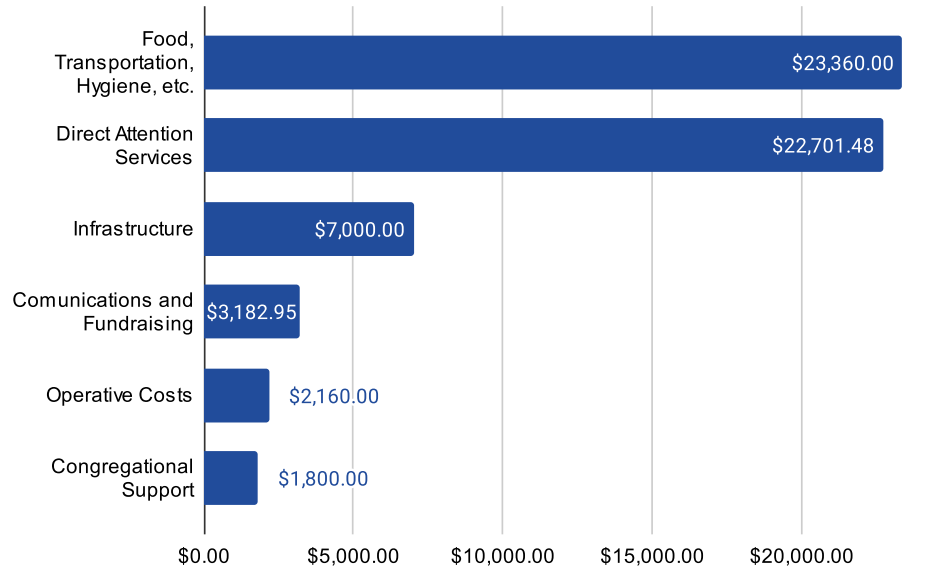
Your support has had a huge impact on the life of each client; 80% of the donations went to direct support, food, and materials that directly benefited the clients. Thanks to the International Organization for Migration, we have received donations of hygiene kits that allow us to invest our efforts in other aspects of our program while providing better care.

20% went to communications, administrative and operating expenses, and support to the congregation that hosts us and through which we pay the utilities. [You can find a full breakdown on our website.](#)



## BUDGET FOR 2023

This year, we're raising \$60,000 to invest more in services that directly benefit users, while seeking grants to continue education and advocacy, move to a better space, and improve security and privacy. [You can find our proposed budget on our website.](#)



### MARCELLA'S STORY

Marcella left her home due to the violence she experienced as a result of homophobia in her family. Although her family misses her, and she misses her family, she cannot return for fear of facing this same violence.

“Recently, my mom called me to say she missed me and asked, ‘Why did you abandon me?’ I miss my parents, but I know that for my own mental health I can’t go back because they’re going to make me feel guilty.

“I have always wanted to be a teacher. In fact, I was in college studying to be a teacher, but I lost my scholarship. The psychological care of the Center and the support of my partner have been invaluable. That being said, it always frustrates me that I don’t have a job to help my family or my partner’s family.”



## THANK YOU

Thank you to the incredible people and partner organizations that have supported this work. This includes financial donations, in-kind donations (for example, food, beds, personal hygiene products, and consulting), hybrid donations including in-kind donations and administered funds, and formal partners with whom we work to serve users. This work would be impossible without you.

### FINANCIAL DONATIONS

Alex Chernick  
Austin Gonzalez  
Becky Doria  
Bowen Baker  
Clara Hong  
Corrina Elder  
Diocese of Louisiana  
El Segundo UMC  
Eric Petterson  
Evan Azcuna

Howard Dana  
Joseph Russ  
Katherine Causey  
Lorette Picciano  
Mark Heaney  
Mark Petterson  
Michelle Moore-Schwartz  
Nader Batal  
Norman Lemoine  
Quinci LeGardye

Richard Bentley  
Ryan Kupyn  
Sofia Castro  
St Joseph's Church  
Stephen Sackett Mora  
Olga Sackett  
Tatyana Swanson  
Thomas Russ  
Willem Vorster  
William Anderson

### HYBRID OR IN-KIND GIVING

The Ali Forney Center  
Canadian Embassy  
Cari Creative  
IOM  
ICRC  
Saint John the Evangelist Church

### PARTNERS

The Ali Forney Center  
Safe clinics, Hospital San Rafael  
IOM  
Episcopal Diocese of Olympia



**“The simple fact of having food and shelter has brought me peace. When I was kicked out of my home in the past, my worry was always ‘What do I do now?’ I no longer have to worry.”**