

Vital Investment for
Development Aid
in Latin America



ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Supporting
communities'

HEALTH
EDUCATION
ENVIRONMENT



Contents

About us

How we change lives	4
Our mission	5
Our story	5
Case study: Diomara's success	6
Our year	7
Our Trustees	8

Project overview

Our projects	9
Amazon-se, Brazil	10
Corcovado Foundation, Costa Rica	11
educate., Honduras	12
Education for the Children, Guatemala	13
Case study: Mylin's story	14
El Rio Foundation, Colombia	15
Fondo Guadalupe Musalem, Mexico	16
Mano Vuelta, Mexico	17
Plant Your Future, Peru	18
Poder Joven Foundation, Colombia	19
Ütz B'ey, Guatemala	20
Villa Maria School, Peru	21

Financial statements & notes	22
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Independent examiner's report	25
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Administrative details

Charity information	27
Structure, governance & management	27
Objectives & activities	28

How we change lives

La Vida focuses exclusively on projects supporting communities' health, environment and education. Our targeted support has a positive impact on lives in some of the world's poorest countries.



La Vida has raised more than **£1 million** so far



More than **99 pence** of every **£1** raised is donated to our projects

Everyone working for La Vida does so on a voluntary basis. We have an impressively low cost base with almost every penny raised going directly to our projects.

We have a rigorous governance process. We go to great lengths to ensure funds are properly allocated, well-monitored and have a significant, long-term local impact.



We have helped more than **100,000** disadvantaged children and families



Our mission

La Vida raises funds to support community health, education and environment projects throughout Latin America

The charity is registered in the UK and has been established to help disadvantaged people residing permanently in Latin America, by advancing education, preserving and protecting health, relieving sickness, relieving poverty and raising environmental awareness.

Our story

La Vida was co-founded in 2006 by Katy Vatis and Helen Ilsley when, after a business trip to Brazil, they met Dr Monica Nogueira, a paediatric orthopedic surgeon trying to raise funds to train her peers in the non-surgical Ponseti method of treating children with clubfoot.

La Vida raised the funds needed, and the project was a success; in 2008, 556 doctors were trained, and 5,000 children were treated. Thousands more children have been successfully treated in subsequent years.

La Vida has since supported highly effective grassroots projects in Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela; some of which we support on a continuing basis and some of which are now complete.

The grants aided projects in areas such as youth development, education initiatives and school expansions, as well as community health and environmental programmes.

Despite being a relatively small charity, so far La Vida



has raised over £1 million through sponsorship, fundraising events, direct donations and partnerships with other foundations. We estimate the funding we have deployed has directly impacted the lives of over 100,000 disadvantaged children and their families in Latin America.

CASE STUDY: Diomara

**Star student, Academic
Tutoring Programme
El Rio Foundation, Colombia**

“ Diomara has been recognised as the best English student in her school. She and her brother are motivated and proud to learn ”

For Lin Morales, Academic Tutoring and Community English programme lead, Diomara's success is an example of the transformative effect of El Rio Foundation's tutoring programme, which is supported by La Vida.

Nobody in Diomara's family of 10 has previously completed school, yet she is now excelling in English, and her brother, Jeancao, has won a regional chess tournament. Access to quality education has transformed not only Diomara's future prospects, but also her whole family's view of education.

Lin adds: "This community faced many challenges and behaviour problems were common. The change has been extraordinary. Children now show respect, love and genuine excitement to attend tutoring."

Our year

In 2025, La Vida focused on fostering stronger connections between our partners, supporters and communities across Latin America. We extended our network and deepened our shared commitment to long-term, sustainable change.

We raised **£58,562** through donations, with significant sums contributed by The Royal Bank of Canada, Benchmark Holdings and a large individual donation, as well as our regular supporters who continue to sponsor children's education at Villa Maria School in Peru.

We granted **£66,315** to causes throughout Latin America and **continued to provide support to 11 projects**. We have also been delighted to begin work with a **new partner in Brazil**. Base Colaborativa offer **immersive experiences in the Amazon rainforest** in order to promote sustainable tourism and preserve biodiversity while supporting local communities.

In November, La Vida's **third Leaders Forum** provided a digital meeting place for our projects, enabling **attendees across eight countries** to exchange a broad range of ideas and experience. Presentations focused on measuring the impact of projects. A series of 'breakout rooms' facilitated in-depth discussions on individual challenges and solutions, including how to track outcomes over time, ways to clearly communicate results, and the needs of international donors. La Vida will continue to promote open communication among our partners.

As we look ahead to 2026, we are excited to **celebrate our 20th anniversary** and have plans to organise an event to bring our main supporters together.



Education for the Children Foundation, Guatemala

Our Trustees



« Katy Vatis Co-Founder and Chairperson

Katy co-founded La Vida with Helen Ilsley in early 2006. She has a degree in Economics with Spanish. Most recently, Katy worked at Fullerton Fund Management as a Senior Analyst in Emerging Markets. She has spent most of her career as a Fund Manager covering Latin American equity markets. Katy's travel to the region has given her first-hand experience of its extreme levels of poverty and the need for improvements in health and education.

» Helen Ilsley Co-Founder and Treasurer

Co-Founder Helen spent 15 years as a stockbroker in the Latin American investment community. Having left the City in 2012 to set up her own property asset business, Helen is now an executive coach, heading up Business Development for the Executive Coaching Consultancy, specialising in helping businesses retain and develop their talented women. Helen has a Business Economics degree and is an accredited member of the Association of Coaching.



« Zarela Feeney Trustee

Zary joined La Vida in December 2012. She began her career with Ernst & Young's Financial Advisory Team in Washington DC where she focused on Latin America. She moved to London to join Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein's M&A team. She has subsequently been involved in the non-profit sector and serves on the boards of foundations that have a significant social and environmental impact in Latin America. She has a MBA from George Washington University.

» Ivonne Cantu Trustee

Ivonne joined La Vida in 2018. She is Head of Investor Relations and Sustainability at Benchmark Holdings plc, and a Director of Creo Medical plc and Primary Health Properties plc. Ivonne is also Chair of Info Latinos, a UK-based charity providing support to the Latin American community in the UK. Prior to this, Ivonne was a corporate finance adviser for 20 years at Merrill Lynch and Cenkos Securities. She has an MBA from the Wharton School of Business.



« Susana Knaudt Trustee

Susana joined La Vida in 2023. She has a background in financial regulation, development finance and education. She worked at Citibank, the Central Bank of Bolivia and the World Bank, working on financial sector reform and micro-lending projects in Latin America. She believes education and grassroots financing are key to securing better futures for local communities. Susana has an Economics degree from LSE and a Masters in Public Policy from Harvard.

» For further details of our Trustees and volunteers please visit www.lavida.org.uk

Our projects



>> KEY

PROJECT FOCUS: ● HEALTH ● EDUCATION ● ENVIRONMENT

Project updates

AMAZON-SE

>> Grant in 2025: £4,064

>> Location: Brazil

>> Partner since: 2025



Amazon-se supports riverside communities in the Brazilian Amazon through education.

Working alongside remote Amazonian communities, Amazon-se facilitates education through culturally rooted participatory learning. In 2025, the organisation delivered two five-day educational programmes in Prainha do Maró and Maripá. The immersive events combined teacher training with environmental and literacy education, as well as socio-emotional learning to strengthen leadership and encourage student engagement and confidence. A Strategy Bank of Active Methodologies was developed as a practical resource to support future teaching. The programme reached 103 direct beneficiaries with an estimated 200 additional people benefiting from knowledge sharing within families and the wider community.

Despite the logistical challenges of working with a community only accessible after 15–30 hours of river travel, the project demonstrated that human-centred, culturally relevant education can have a lasting impact in remote settings. La Vida enabled the successful delivery of both education programmes, including travel, educational workshops, teacher training and community engagement activities, while laying the foundations for continued initiatives across the Amazon.

For more information, visit www.basecolaborativa.org/amazone-se

CORCOVADO FOUNDATION

» Grant in 2025: **£5,774**

» Location: **Costa Rica**

» Partner since: **2020**



Empowering communities through regenerative agriculture and environmental education.

The Corcovado Foundation works with communities across the Osa Peninsula to strengthen sustainable livelihoods and promote environmental stewardship. In 2025, rural families benefited from programmes that combined community participation with environmental activities and sustainable food production. This helped to foster resilience while promoting the conservation of one of the world's most biodiverse regions.

The foundation boosted local economies by enabling 20 farming families to participate in agro-ecological markets and generate additional income through the sale of food and artisanal products. Community cohesion was reinforced through ten Manos Cambiadas (Shared Hands) workdays, which brought families together to exchange knowledge on regenerative farming practices, including compost production, biofertilisers and soil restoration techniques. Women play a leading role in the programme, comprising more than 80% of productive participants, and driving the transition towards sustainable agriculture.

Environmental education activities reached more than 250 children, deepening their understanding of wildlife conservation and local ecosystems. The programme expanded to four additional schools and combines classroom learning with field visits, environmental festivals and wildlife monitoring. Strategic partnerships with Corcovado National Park, the Yaguará Wildlife Rescue Centre and other organisations furthered the programme's reach.

For more information, visit www.corcovadofoundation.org

educate.

» Grant in 2025: £9,932

» Location: Honduras

» Partner since: 2021



Grass-roots NGO educate. supports Honduran children and young people through community-driven education initiatives.

In 2025, educate. successfully expanded its Comprehensive Scholarship Programme, providing holistic financial, academic and emotional support to 47 highly vulnerable young people. Demonstrating a firm commitment to gender equity, over 60% of scholarship recipients were young women, culminating in six secondary-school graduations. By integrating personalised tutoring with mental health services and leadership workshops, the initiative ensured that more than 80% of beneficiaries – who come from households earning below the minimum wage – sustained their education and emerged as resilient community leaders and positive role models.

The Technology with a Purpose STEM programme narrowed the rural digital divide across Santa Bárbara through hands-on digital training. The initiative successfully graduated 72 primary school children in Tier 1, providing vital IT experience. In Tier 2, 28 secondary school students combined advanced digital literacy with practical programming and robotics, developing the critical thinking skills necessary for higher education and working life.

The second annual Robotics Camp exemplified sustainable community development by transitioning former students into active project facilitators. Under this peer-to-peer mentorship model, advanced youth led a new cohort through the practical application of physics, electricity and engineering. This collaboration created functional prototypes – such as hydraulic and robotic arms – which will be showcased at a robotics fair.

For more information, visit www.educate-ngo.com

EDUCATION FOR THE CHILDREN FOUNDATION (EFTC)

>> Grant in 2025: £6,318

>> Location: Guatemala

>> Partner since: 2022



EFTC's School of Hope and Further Education Programme supports over 600 students and their families in Jocotenango, a remote region in Guatemala.

This urban area has one of the lowest literacy rates in the western hemisphere. Extreme poverty, gang crime, domestic violence and alcoholism are everyday realities for local children. EFTC offers extensive education, nutrition, healthcare, social support and employment programmes to local children to remove any obstacle to education and enable students to realise their potential.

In 2025, EFTC marked 20 years since opening their first School of Hope, where La Vida continues to sponsor a cohort of children. The school's broad curriculum includes maths, language and literacy, history, geography, PE, art, music, ICT and Kaqchikel (a local language). Additionally, the children have English classes three times per week and benefit from PSHE (personal, social and health education) lessons.

EFTC also continued to strengthen school leadership, enhance curriculum development and expand access to innovative learning tools. An impressive 83% of students now regularly use educational platforms, compared with 42% in 2024. Targeted literacy and maths interventions are helping more students to close learning gaps, while significant investment in English-language teaching is building a vital pathway to future employment opportunities. Alongside these academic advances, dedicated social and education teams continue to provide holistic support, ensuring every student has the opportunity to thrive both in and beyond the classroom.

For more information, visit www.eftcfoundation.org

CASE STUDY: Mylin

Former School of Hope student returns as a speech therapist
Education for the Children (EFTC), Guatemala

“ This career is a way to give back to the community that allowed me to pursue my education ”



Mylin broke the cycle of poverty and entered a life of opportunity in 2008 when her mother enrolled her in EFTC's School of Hope, which is supported by La Vida.

After graduating in 2011, Mylin went on to train as a speech therapy technician – an underrepresented profession in Guatemala – and later earned a Bachelor's degree in Education and Learning with a diploma in psychopedagogy.

Today, Mylin helps the latest cohort of children at the School of Hope. "Knowing firsthand the obstacles students can overcome inspires my approach to treat each child as their own unique world," she says.



EL RIO FOUNDATION

>> Grant in 2025: £10,280

>> Location: Colombia

>> Partner since: 2021



El Rio Foundation provides educational, sporting, environmental and wellbeing programmes that positively impact five local communities around Buritaca, benefiting more than 600 children.

La Vida continues to support El Rio's flagship Academic Tutoring programme, which provides a safe, positive space with tailored academic and wellbeing support for disadvantaged children on the north Caribbean coast of Colombia. Local government-run schools suffer from insufficient funding, lack of qualified teachers and large class sizes. Children can also face significant challenges at home. The Academic Tutoring programme offers a high teacher-pupil ratio, with personalised plans for children with challenging behaviour, designed by a psychologist and delivered in tandem with their teaching team.

In 2025, the programme supported 78 students across five post-conflict communities, expanding to 26 hours of weekly instruction. The initiative integrated environmental education, sports and chess to achieve a 36% average improvement in academic skills and a 55% growth in life skills, resulting in high satisfaction ratings from families.

The programme fostered a culture of respect and inclusivity, shifting local dynamics from behavioural instability to collaborative learning in communities like Los Linderos. Through consistent emotional support and tailored education, the foundation mitigated pandemic-related learning gaps, bolstered parental trust, and empowered children with improved academic confidence and leadership skills.

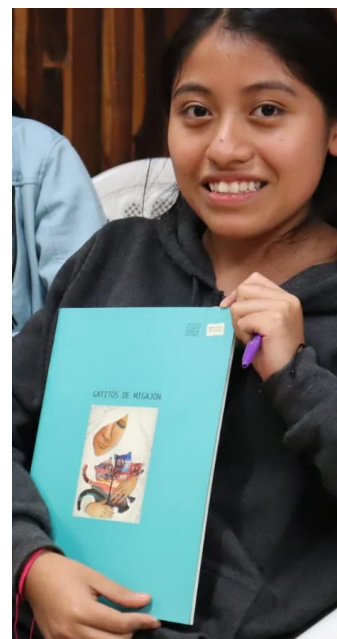
For more information, visit www.elriofoundationco.org

FONDO GUADALUPE MUSALEM

>> Grant in 2025: **£3,000**

>> Location: **Mexico**

>> Partner since: **2022**



By providing educational bursaries, one-on-one mentoring and a rich programme of extracurricular activities, Fondo Guadalupe Musalem helps girls and young women from rural, indigenous and Afro-Mexican communities in the state of Oaxaca to access high school and university education, and develop to their full potential.

Established in 1995 in memory of the feminist scholar and human rights advocate, Guadalupe Musalem, the organisation provides academic scholarships, mentoring and a comprehensive programme of personal development.

Since then, the organisation has awarded more than 200 high school bursaries and around 70 university bursaries. Today, Fondo Guadalupe Musalem sponsors approximately 50 students on a rolling basis. La Vida's partnership supports scholarships that remove the financial barriers that prevent many girls from continuing their education.

In addition to financial assistance, each student receives individual mentoring, academic support and regular workshops covering topics such as leadership, human rights, gender equality, emotional wellbeing and environmental awareness. This holistic approach equips participants to succeed academically as well as become confident, informed and active members of their communities.

For more information, visit www.fondoguadalupemusalem.org

MANO VUELTA

» Grant in 2025: £3,869

» Location: Mexico

» Partner since: 2020



Mano Vuelta promotes equality, dignity and human rights for indigenous and Afro-Mexican women through research, education and community-led initiatives.

Based in Oaxaca, Mano Vuelta is led by a multidisciplinary team of indigenous and Afro-Mexican women. Working from an intercultural and anti-racist perspective, the organisation seeks to strengthen communities while addressing structural inequalities in the region.

La Vida's partnership with Mano Vuelta supports programmes that empower girls and young women with the knowledge, confidence and practical skills to exercise their rights and participate fully in their communities. In 2025, La Vida provided funding for a teacher-training programme, which enabled Mano Vuelta to considerably expand their reach by creating a community of teachers able to deliver Mano Vuelta's programme in local schools.

Mano Vuelta regularly contributes to national discussions on human rights and gender equality by participating in major conferences and sector forums. They have also co-hosted educator events that enable teachers from different schools to exchange insights and strengthen approaches to comprehensive education. Through this collaborative work, Mano Vuelta helps create safer, more inclusive learning environments.

For more information, visit www.manovuelta.org

PLANT YOUR FUTURE

>> Grant in 2025: **£1,000**

>> Location: **Peru**

>> Partner since: **2023**



Plant Your Future helps smallholder farmers to build resilient livelihoods through sustainable agroforestry in Peru.

Plant Your Future works with communities in the Peruvian Amazon to restore degraded landscapes while improving household incomes through sustainable agroforestry. With support from La Vida, the organisation provided essential assistance and resources to 28 farming families in the Honoria District, Huánuco Region, helping them maintain more than 59,000 trees planted as part of an ongoing reforestation programme. Regular farm visits, monthly farmer field schools and practical training strengthened knowledge of sustainable land management, pest control, fire prevention and climate-resilient farming practices.

The programme combined hands-on technical support with the provision of tools, organic fertilisers, native tree seedlings and improved cocoa-planting material. Farmers also received training in agroforestry, silvopasture systems and nursery management, with dedicated workshops supporting women's leadership and entrepreneurship. As trees and crops reached maturity, participating families began generating additional income from cocoa and guaba harvests. The community-run nursery created a self-sustaining cycle of seed collection, propagation and replanting using 27 native Amazonian tree species, including threatened hardwoods. The project demonstrated that long-term technical support is essential to the success of agroforestry systems.

For more information, visit www.plantyourfuture.org.uk

PODER JOVEN

» Grant in 2025: £12,425

» Location: Colombia

» Partner since: 2010



Based in Medellín, Poder Joven provides support to 130 children, aged six to 15, who live in precarious conditions and often suffer from insufficient food, limited healthcare access and exposure to drugs and gangs. Poder Joven's comprehensive programme offers essential support, including school enrolment, academic reinforcement, nutrition, psychosocial support, vocational guidance and family counselling.

During 2025, the training and school reinforcement programme at Casa Maren – a children's service centre – achieved significant academic and socio-emotional milestones, with participants demonstrating enhanced emotional regulation, prosocial behaviours and increased autonomy. Tailored pedagogical interventions successfully bridged learning gaps, resulting in improved reading comprehension, mathematical proficiency and strengthened study habits across all age groups.

Beyond these successes, challenges such as peer conflict, fluctuating student motivation and external family stressors highlighted the need for improved conflict mediation and academic support systems. These issues also underscored a need for greater family commitment to shared educational responsibility. This has guided future strategic initiatives toward reinforced parental communication and customised, psychoeducational support for diverse learning needs.

For more information, visit www.fundacionpoderjoven.org

ÜTZ B'EY GUATEMALA

» Grant in 2025: £1,352

» Location: **Guatemala**

» Partner since: **2023**



Ütz B'ey Guatemala is the new name of Project Somos Guatemala, a nurturing educational community for at-risk children, which operates in the highlands of Chimaltenango and the nearby town of Tecpán. The organisation supports families and provides free schooling for preschool, elementary and middle-school age children, supported by a health clinic and an organic garden. La Vida has been providing Ütz B'ey with small grants to train teenage young women in catering and cooking during a six-week course.

Project Somos underwent reorganisation shortly before the departure of project leader Sarah Riggott, with her deputy, Marelyne Ramírez, taking over the role. The aim was for Ütz B'ey, which means 'the right path' in Kaqchikel (the local language), to strengthen community ties by increasing communication with local leaders and establishing partnerships to improve conditions for children and women in the area. The establishment of an onsite medical centre was key.

In June 2025, La Vida further funded Ütz B'ey's cookery training programme. Two young women trained for six weeks in the kitchens of the centre. Although the programme is relatively short, it provides participants with an opportunity to broaden their horizons, gain skills, build the confidence to pursue further study or employment, and experience a setting in which they can interact with international volunteers and other students.

For more information, visit utzbeyguatemala.org

VILLA MARIA SCHOOL

>> Grant in 2025: £8,300

>> Location: Peru

>> Partner since: 2007



Villa Maria is a school in Villa Maria del Triunfo, a deprived area on the outskirts of Lima, which is underserved by state schools. Villa Maria School was set up as a charitable organisation to help close the significant gap in the provision of basic education locally.

The school supports more than 250 low-income families, providing quality education, free to the neediest children, as well as a programme of outings and extra-curricular activities designed to broaden young minds and offer stimulating, educational experiences. The school draws on a range of teaching approaches including the Montessori method and project-based learning.

Villa Maria School's aim is to develop the next generation of community leaders, with strong ethical values and a commitment to help the local community and protect the environment. The school promotes a broad, practical education including creative skills, entrepreneurship, environmental awareness and self-reflection. Activities such as reading, crafts, sports and educational field trips boost literacy, comprehension, analytical skills, critical thinking and self-expression.

La Vida has supported the school since 2007, funding the costs of around 30 children per year and providing additional support for computers, books and sports equipment as needs arise.

For more information, visit www.lavida.org.uk

Financial review

Policy on reserves

For 2025, La Vida kept six months of our ongoing commitments to projects as reserves. We will continue to do this in 2026.

For the period from January 2025 to December 2025

Section A: Receipts and payments

A1 RECEIPTS	Unrestricted funds (nearest £)	Restricted funds (nearest £)	Endowment funds (nearest £)	Total funds (nearest £)	Last year (nearest £)
Donations	55,962	2,600		58,562	60,034
Fundraising events					
Interest on deposit	156			156	420
SUB TOTAL (Gross income for AR)	56,119	2,600		58,719	60,454

A2 Asset and investment sales (see table)					
SUB TOTAL					
TOTAL RECEIPTS	56,119	2,600		58,719	60,454

A3 PAYMENTS	Unrestricted funds (nearest £)	Restricted funds (nearest £)	Endowment funds (nearest £)	Total funds (nearest £)	Last year (nearest £)
Cost of fundraising events					
Internet costs	216			216	216
Grants to LATAM projects	53,015	13,300		66,315	72,641
FX and bank charges	60			60	66
SUB TOTAL	53,291	13,300		66,591	72,923

A4 Asset and investment purchases (see table)					
SUB TOTAL					
TOTAL PAYMENTS	53,291	13,300		66,591	72,923

Net of receipts/ (payments)	(2,828)	(10,700)		(7,872)	(12,469)
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end	48,424	27,164		75,588	88,057
CASH FUNDS THIS YEAR END	51,252	16,464		67,716	75,588

Section B: Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds	Unrestricted funds (nearest £)	Restricted funds (nearest £)	Endowment funds (nearest £)
Cash CAF bank balance	51,252	16,464	
TOTAL CASH FUNDS	51,252	16,464	

Signed by two Trustees, on behalf of all Trustees:

Helen Ilsley

Helen Ilsley, date of approval: 20/09/2026

K J Vatis

Katy Vatis, date of approval: 20/09/2026

Independent examiner's report

**Report to the
trustees/
members of**

LA VIDA Vital Investment for Development Aid in Latin America

**On accounts for
the year ended**

31 December 2025

Charity no.

1115796

**Set out
on pages**

22-24

**Responsibilities
and basis of
report**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2025.

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed



Date

20/09/2026

Name

Tracey Falero

Relevant professional qualifications or body (if any)

Association of Chartered Accountants (ACA)

Address

c/o LA VIDA
Gordon House, Gordon Ave, London, SW14 8DZ, UK

Administrative details

Charity name	La Vida – Vital Investment for Development Aid in Latin America
Charity number	1115796
Registered address	GORDON HOUSE GORDON AVENUE LONDON SW14 8DZ
Trustees	Ivonne Cantu Zarela Feeney Helen Ilsley Susana Knaudt Katy Vatis
Independent examiner	Tracey Falero (ACA)

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Trust deed
How the charity is constituted	Trust
Trustee selection methods	Appointed by existing Trustees

Additional governance issues

La Vida – Trustee Selection Process Statement:

- Interest in the Latin American region and improving the conditions of its people.
 - Skills and experience that add value to the board, such as good relationships with potential sponsors and strong marketing skills for fundraising.
 - Good character.
 - Nomination by one of the Trustees.
 - Unanimous approval by current Trustees.
-

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in this governing document

To further any charitable purpose for the benefit of disadvantaged people residing permanently in Latin America. In particular, by preserving and protecting health, relieving sickness, relieving poverty and advancing education.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects

Provide funding for specific health, education and environment projects identified in any country in Latin America.

La Vida is 100% volunteer run. All of the Trustees and Executive Committee work on a

»

voluntary basis and aim to keep expenses to a minimum so the money raised goes directly to the project beneficiaries.

Donations and fundraising have allowed us to improve and directly benefit the lives of over 100,000 children and their families across Latin America.

We continue to fund health, education and environment projects throughout the region. In 2025, we continued to support our existing ongoing projects in Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Peru.

Additional details of objectives and activities

Policy on grant making

The Trustees of La Vida endeavour to directly grant funding to specific projects that relieve sickness and/or improve education in any Latin American country. Preference will be given to independent projects, but Trustees could also look to partner with local organisations that will see through the success and completion of compelling projects in health, education and the environment in Latin America.

The project committee meets every 3-6 months to discuss and approve new project proposals. We assess our projects in depth and have a rigorous selection process. Each grant application has to complete our project proposal form and give proof of identity of their organisation and the people running it, plus two years of bank statements.

Every project we support has a partnership agreement signed by La Vida and the organisation receiving the project funding which includes all of our reporting requirements. The agreement sets out the timeline of the project with final goals to be reached, all of our reporting requirements such as photos of the project, receipts for items purchased etc.

The executive committee, all of whom are volunteers, continues to help organise fundraising events, develop the website, publish newsletters and broaden the reach of the charity. ■
