



New Website is Here! Check it out Now!! [Project Minnesota/León](#)

Want to know more about PML's Mission and Goals or who leads the organization, it's history and why it is effective? Check out this link!

[About PML](#)



Fiesta 2021 is Calling You!! This Nov 6th join in Virtually at 6:45PM (CDT) to Hear, See, Support and Share!

A New Video, Silent Auction, Stories and more!

Yes, it is Fiesta Time once again - a highlight of the year - for supporters and friends from Nicaragua and the USA to gather digitally and enjoy bidding in the Silent Auction. With the pandemic still impacting all of us, we are Virtual once again like 2020, but that will not keep us down.



Let's gather on Saturday, November 6, 2021 at 6:45PM before our computers, pads or phones and log on to Zoom for the next hour! To receive a Zoom link, RSVP to Elizabeth at minnesotaleon@gmail.com. **Here's the buzz:**



A NEW VIDEO

A new video created by Marlon Moreno will feature residents in the rural villages of San Carlos and La Gallina



THE SILENT AUCTION IS BACK!

There will be lots of things to bid on—gift certificates,

in Nicaragua.

You'll hear the story of doña Virginia (blue apron), who wakes at 2 a.m. to make tortillas. She received a small loan last year which enabled her to expand her home business and now has been able to hire additional employees.

artwork, and the popular weekend at a Duluth cabin (picture above)! The website 32Auctions (<https://www.32auctions.com/>) will display the items and its easy format guides you through the process. The auction will open one week before the Fiesta, so check back often to see the status of your bids. An email with a reminder and the Zoom link will be sent just prior to the start of the auction.

An additional element of the silent auction will be a "BUY NOW" section. Because we are unable to do a live auction at our virtual event, we want to give you an engaging way to support initiatives in San Carlos and La Gallina. Initiatives you can support with this option are highlighted below.



COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Community residents have determined that skills training and home-based businesses are a priority to address economic hardship, worsened by the pandemic. These endeavors are primarily owned and operated by women to support their families.

Can't Attend the Virtual Fiesta? You can still help out!

Donate Now

Your "Buy Now" Silent Auction Donation Options





SMALL BUSINESS LOANS

At the end of 2020, PML piloted a small business loan program and within six months 100% of loans due were repaid! The residents would like to expand the opportunities for investment in home businesses such as raising animals for food, small groceries, and door-to-door sales. As more products become available within the community, there is less need to make a trip to the city and the local economy becomes stronger.

Your donation shows you believe these women can succeed.



VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Community women have seen that honing skills like food preparation and clothing construction permit them to work from home and increase family income. We have seen the first graduates of baking and sewing classes ply their trades, but more support is needed. They only have one sewing machine, one mixer and one tabletop toaster oven for classes!

Won't you contribute towards equipment and training?



YOUTH ENTREPRENEURS

San Carlos teens have completed a successful year of the **pizza business**. In addition to mobilizing for sales at sporting events and local activities, they wish to expand their space and invest in a bigger oven.

Inspired by the pizza-makers, the younger members of the San Carlos youth group are investigating how to run an **ice**



They have completed a community-wide survey to assess favorite flavors and realistic price points. Now they seek more training and start-up costs.

These youth initiatives are

cream parlor.

designed with the goal of using profits to help defer for school expenses.

Consider a gift to either entrepreneurship, or both!



PROCESS AND LOGISTICS

Residents have been successful in their new initiatives so far because they participate in a continuous process of reflection & action which creates a strong community bond and ensures they make decisions that benefit everyone. PML supports this process

through Project Director Rosa Lira and her assistant, Gabriela Paredes. Additionally, PML enhances the process with the PML pickup truck. We are able to safely transport women advocates to institutions in the capitol city Managua. The truck gives rides to residents and brings chairs to meetings. It hauls equipment and supplies for occasional community-wide activities.

Make sure PML can provide logistical support for strengthening community development

LOCAL PHARMACIES

Improving access to health services has remained a high priority in the communities. Residents have decided to advocate for small pharmacy stations that can offer low-cost medications and provide basic care, such as blood pressure reading and injections. In order to accomplish this, they must be trained and meet Health Ministry guidelines. They also need medicines and equipment to launch the first of the rural pharmacies early 2022.

You can help make medicine affordable and medical care accessible.



THE *FIESTA* FUNDRAISING GOAL

PML's *FIESTA* goal is \$15,000 to help fund

- microloans to support small businesses
- materials and training
- basic equipment purchase
- logistical support for group evaluation and action



Want to Help?

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Volunteers are encouraged! Help with occasional mailing, updating website, planning events or consider serving on the Board.

Donations of any amount make a difference in the lives of people in León, Nicaragua.

As PML accompanies the people of Nicaragua through grassroots organizing, they are able to bring about changes in their own lives. Your financial support and generosity is what makes this possible. Thank you.

[Make a Donation](#)

Project Minnesota/León welcomes any contribution, large or small, to support our projects in Leon.

Use **Network for Good** to donate online.

Mail a check to PML c/o Deborah Allan,
1575 Merrill St., St. Paul, MN 55108

Questions? contact Elizabeth Moreira,
Executive Director at minnesotaleon@gmail.com

PML is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and contributions may be tax deductible.

Welcome to our first email newsletter using Constant Contact. We hope this will provide us with an effective means of keeping you updated more regularly about what is happening in this connected relationship we have between Minnesota and Leon, Nicaragua and the difference that your support is making in the lives of our sisters and brothers in Leon! Let us know how we are communicating!

Visit our Website



Project Minnesota Leon | 2900 Irving Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55408

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