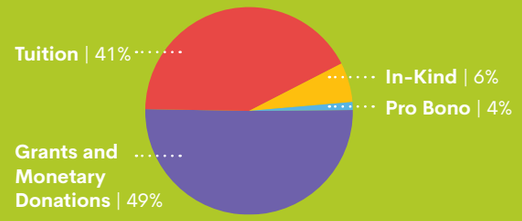
FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

SOURCE OF INCOME

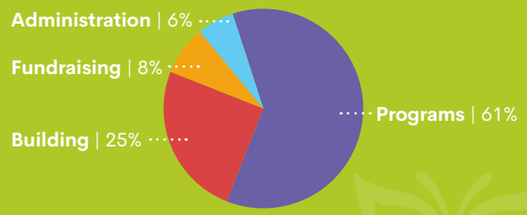


We raised over $359,000 to:

- Educate 96 students
- Support 146 parents, and employ 30 staff
- Feed 126 students and adults healthy meals
- Take our oldest 54 students on 6 educational excursions
- Give 5 staff professional development opportunities
- Build a bike path for 1-3 year-olds
- Provide Montessori training for 1 staff member
- Install a science lab in the Upper Elementary classroom
- Send HoS and Program Director to the U.S. for Montessori training and fundraising
- Ensure that 3 UW-Madison interns had a fun and productive experience working at our Summer Camp
- Begin construction of a new kitchen
- Grant 16 students scholarships to participate in our After School Programs

3MM is dedicated to responsibly allocating donations to ensure long-term sustainability and maximize impact. Through these efforts, we provide our children with a solid foundation for success, fostering happy, healthy, and fulfilling lives.

USE OF FUNDS



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

SEND A MONETARY GIFT

1. **ONLINE**
   3mariposasmontessori.com
2. **BY MAIL**
   3 Mariposas Montessori Foundation
   P.O. Box 935
   Dowagiac, MI 49047
   U.S.A

ASK WHAT SUPPLIES WE NEED

Send an inquiry to info@3mariposasmontessori.com

VOLUNTEER

Send an inquiry to volunteer@3mariposasmontessori.com

HOW TO REACH US!

1.829.913.8439
info@3mariposasmontessori.com
3mariposasmontessori.com

OUR LOCATION
La Ciénaga, Cabarete
Dominican Republic

3 MARIPOSAS MONTESSORI

2023 - 2024

ANNUAL REPORT

STUDENT NUMBERS

96 Students

+20 since last year!

- **18 in El Nido** | 1-3 Years Old
- **22 in Children's House** | 3-6 Years Old
- **22 in Lower Elementary** | 6-9 Years Old
- **10 in Upper Elementary** | 9-12 Years Old
- **24 in Childcare** | 1-6 Years Old

60% Scholarship

40% Tuition

STAFF NUMBERS

30 Staff

- **23** Dominican
- **5** Haitian
- **1** Venezuelan
- **1** American

POSITIONS

- **5** Montessori Guides
- **13** Classroom Assistants
- **8** Support Staff
- **1** Program Director
- **1** Office Manager
- **1** Development Director
- **1** Assistant to Development Director

Alongside parents and teachers,

we provide children with the foundation for educational success and a happy, healthy life.

A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDER

Dear Friends of 3MM,

There's a good chance we know each other personally if you're reading this — and for that, I'm grateful. Instead of sharing a typical "Letter from the Founder" (aka me!), I've decided to do something different. I've asked Iskania Perez, 3MM's Program Director and my "right hand", to share a letter with you instead. As someone who is more actively on the ground due to our respective roles, it's important you get to know her. She's an absolute rock star and has played a pivotal role in enhancing and growing our programs over the past 6.5 years.

Enjoy Iskania's letter, all the while learning about our successful 2023 - 2024 school year.

With love,

Sarah Ludwig-Ross

Sarah Ludwig-Ross
Founder & Head of School

"We must look to the children as a vehicle for bringing change to humanity."
Dr. Maria Montessori

A LETTER FROM OUR PROGRAM DIRECTOR

As the Program Director of 3 Mariposas Montessori, I witness the remarkable growth of our foundation each day - not just in the number of children we serve, their diversity, and their cognitive, social, and emotional development, but also in our dedicated staff, the programs we offer, the animals we care for, and the development of our entire campus. Our parents also grow and learn alongside us, actively engaging in their children's education and development, strengthening our community.

Joining 3 Mariposas Montessori in October 2018 was a significant step in my life. The school has provided me with unconditional support for personal and professional development, offering the flexibility and financial assistance I needed to complete my studies as a Physical Education teacher. I've had the opportunity to travel abroad with Sarah Ludwig-Ross, the founder, to meet donors, deepen my understanding of the Montessori method by visiting other Montessori schools, attend a Montessori conference with 2,000 others, and take a Montessori course for administrators. Thanks to 3MM, I became a certified lifeguard and have been fortunate to have my son be part of the 3MM family since he was just three months old. These experiences have deepened my understanding of the importance of creating safe and loving environments where students can actively learn through hands-on experiences and interactions. It is truly fulfilling to see each child excel.

At 3MM, children, parents, and teachers are building a supportive community that promotes the comprehensive development of each individual, providing children with the opportunities they need to build a strong foundation for a happy and healthy life.

Iskania Perez
Program Director

ZULLY, THE ONE AND ONLY!

In 2019, after getting to know Zully — a dedicated **parent** and a funny, compassionate, and responsible member of the community — we proudly welcomed her to the 3MM team as the Head of Cleaning. A "cherry on top" was that her youngest son was granted a scholarship, as that is a benefit of our employees - to have their child/children attend 3MM for free. After working together for a handful of years and discovering more wonderful qualities of Zully's, 3MM granted her the opportunity to learn how to be a masseuse.

This opportunity has been meaningful in a multitude of ways:

- It helps Zully expand her skills and grow personally and professionally.
- It allows 3MM to express gratitude to our staff in a thoughtful way by offering massages for going above and beyond.
- It provides Zully with an additional source of income, as she offers her services to friends of 3MM during off-hours.
- It sets the example that it's never too late to learn something new.

Zully's journey with us continues to be an inspiring example of growth, gratitude, and community support.

FLY HIGH, DJOUNISE!

Thanks to generous donors, Djounise was granted a **student** scholarship when she was just a year old. With her teachers' and parents' unwavering love and support, and the generous donations of donors, Djounise's "wings" flourished during her 12 years at 3MM.

Her last day with us in June 2024 was bittersweet - we were sad not to see her smiling face every day anymore, yet our hearts are filled knowing that her educational journey hasn't stopped. In what feels like the blink of an eye, Djounise, now a teenager, is thriving at a reputable private school and participating in extracurricular programs in The Mariposa DR Foundation, our fabulous sister organization.

We are confident that Djounise's love of learning will lead her to exciting adventures in life and that she'll leave her mark in every school, job, and community she joins.

WELCOME TO THE TEAM, IRENE!

3MM is delighted to welcome a new **staff** member, Irene Hernandez, to our school community as of March 2023! A proud Dominican-Puerto Rican, Irene holds a BA in Business Administration and an MA in Non-Profit Administration. Her impressive background includes roles as Dean of Discipline and Principal at top schools in Puerto Rico.

Life's journey, along with the impact of a hurricane, brought Irene back to the Dominican Republic, where she has continued to make a difference. She has worked with foundations and honed her managerial expertise in one of the area's largest restaurants.

We're excited about the energy and experience Irene brings to securing donations and assisting with administrative tasks at 3MM.

OUR BOARD

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Sarah Ludwig-Ross | President
Helmut Ludwig | Vice-President
Dra. Mónica García | Treasurer
Evelina Barrientos | Secretary
Paul Passarelli | Member

ADVISORY BOARD

Normita Gonzalez | Montessori Director
Charles Kerchner | Ph.D. in Environmental Science
Janet Ross | Retired Nurse
Dr. Hans-Peter Hutter | Professor & Doctor
John Ross | Attorney

DID YOU KNOW?

The #3 in our name symbolizes the three essential groups we serve: students, parents, and teachers—with students, naturally, being at the heart of our mission.