



1.3 Million Students 32,000 Teachers 2,600 Schools/Centers 16 Countries



## School Libraries for Fe y Alegria Schools in Nicaragua



### About Fe y Alegria:

The International Federation of Fe y Alegria (IFFyA) is the largest and most successful education provider in Latin America and the Caribbean outside of public education systems.

IFFyA is a Jesuit-sponsored network of schools, vocational training centers, and community services that reaches over 1.3 million of the poorest and most isolated members of society. It works in close partnership with the Education Ministries of 16 countries.

The first Fe y Alegria organization was founded by much-loved Jesuit José María Vélaz of Venezuela in 1955. It has inspired similar programs all over the world, including the Cristo Rey Catholic schools in the U.S.

### Background Information

Fe y Alegria Nicaragua is a small organization that runs 22 schools and educational centers across the country. They offer pre-school, elementary and secondary education, along with vocational training programs and social services for poor communities.

One of Fe y Alegria Nicaragua's most urgent needs is for funds to purchase books. Libraries in Fe y Alegria schools range from under-resourced to non-existent. Because books are so expensive in Latin America, and because it is difficult to get funding for infrastructural costs, the organization has been unable to pay as much attention to this crucial part of education as it would like.



### Project Description:

This project proposes a global updating and equipping of libraries at every Fe y Alegria school in the country. Rooms will be converted into libraries for the use of the entire student and teacher body, existing libraries will receive any necessary repairs, and books and supportive materials for teachers will be purchased. Funds will also be used to buy furniture for school libraries that do not have any. Such improvement to the libraries at these schools will make an enormous impact on the quality of education being offered, as teachers will have the books and materials needed to effectively implement their curricula.

In order to use project funds in the best way possible, Fe y Alegria Nicaragua will conduct a study diagnosing the status of all the libraries at each school. They will determine the number of books at each school, the infrastructure and furniture needs of each one, and by comparing these to the established goals of the project, will decide how to distribute the funds.

### Cost of the Project:

\$8,910	Infrastructure improvements
\$73,260	Books, textbooks, materials, equipment, and furniture
\$12,830	Operating expenses (incl. labor)
<b>\$95,000</b>	<b>TOTAL (estimated)</b>

### Impact:

- A wide array of books made available to every student at each school
- Ongoing promotion of literacy at each school and increased literacy among students
- Reading and writing resources available to support all areas of education, fostering higher levels of literacy among students