



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



## Improving Access to Vocational Training in El Salvador



### About Fe y Alegría:

The International Federation of Fe y Alegría (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 Alegría 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

In addition to basic education, Fe y Alegría operates an extensive network of vocational training programs for youths and adults throughout the region. These programs help people in all 16 countries develop skills that are targeted at industries with available jobs.

Fe y Alegría El Salvador was founded in 1969 with the mission of creating educational centers to provide basic, high school and vocational training education to children from marginalized areas. In 1992 FyA decided to strengthen its vocational programs to work with youths in high-risk situations. The organization initiated its “mobile workshops” program bring technical education to rural communities.



### Project Description

Vocational training programs are critically important in El Salvador because of the high standards of the labor market. Adolescents and young adults need specialized, intensive training to meet those demands and attain successful livelihoods. Through education for better jobs, Fe y Alegría seeks to help them improve their life conditions and avoid criminal activities.

For these reasons, Fe y Alegría wants to strength the training programs at two vocational centers in El Salvador, located in Santa Ana and Soyapango. These centers currently work with high-risk youths from poor and marginalized areas who have not graduated from secondary school and need technical education to find work. As the market continues to develop and advance, however, Fe y Alegría struggles to keep their curricula relevant and useful. This project funds updating and adapting the training programs to the new conditions of the labor market, focusing in particular on they dynamic field of Information Technology. The project also covers the purchase of new computers and equipment necessary for classes.

#### Cost of the Project:

\$20,632	Amount raised by Fe y Alegría El Salvador
\$50,469	Requested from donor
<b>\$71,102</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

#### Impact:

- A productive training center that provides vocational preparation for school drop outs
- Youths equipped to join a 21<sup>st</sup> century labor force
- Meet both the labor needs of the private sector and the career aspirations of young citizens