



January 5th, 2018

Self-development strategies in health for rural Mexico

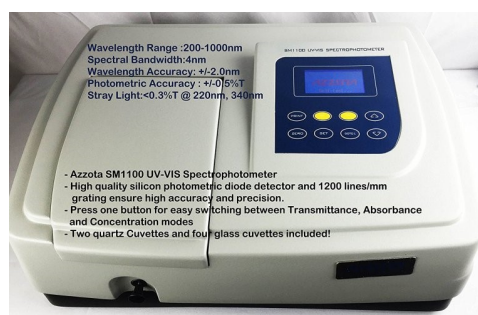
# The Tia Foundation

## End of 2017 Wrap Up

The Tia Foundation, at the end of 2017, has reached over 180,000 people; as many people as live in Tempe, Arizona; or Providence, Rhode Island; or Newport News, Virginia! Although 2017 saw a lot of improvements to our program, we have even bigger things planned for 2018 !

Our 2017 started with a project in Atengo, Jalisco and we were proud to host Barry and Carmen Libman in that lovely town. The Libmans are long time donors and champions of Tia's mission. They really enjoy seeing the transformation of our Promotoras over the course of the week, from shy, unsure but serious students, to smiling, proud, confident graduates. Barry really likes sharing a humble but delicious meal with the locals, and Carmen always loves a good cup of **café de la olla, the traditional sweetened coffee spiced with cinnamon and a concha (pictured)** for her breakfast. You too can join us in the field! Call Nate at 602-694-8100 or email him at [tionate@cox.net](mailto:tionate@cox.net) and he'll give you all the details.

Barry and Carmen were so impressed with how hard working our chemists are, staying up late into the night to run assays, they donated a **photospectrometer** to Tia so they could run multiple tests and get to bed at a reasonable hour.



580  
Community  
Health  
Workers

Serving  
180,000  
People

ALL THANKS  
TO YOU,  
OUR  
DONORS!

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In February, we hosted our first **I ♥ Tia** event at the **Arizona Biltmore**. The **Brophy VEs, Ryan, Ayaan and John**, spoke most eloquently about their experiences. The audience was truly touched by their stories and the effect their trip had on each boy. There were more than a few teary eyes. At the breakfast, we debuted our new, four minute Youtube video, detailing a little bit about our work. More than a few chuckles! You can see it at: <https://youtu.be/YidAtgR12ko>

In late spring, early summer, we did a project in **San Pedro Itzican, Jalisco** and we were joined in the field by **renowned photojournalist Kathy McCraine and Tia Board Member Katie Smith**. This was a particularly bittersweet project for all of us. The effects of extreme water contamination were visible in nearly everyone we met: neurological damage, thinning hair, birth defects. We made sure that not only did **Tia Promotoras learn how to make water filtration systems with items found in every home**, but we spread out and with the help of the dedicated Promotoras, like community leader Anita, made sure that many of the households were equipped to do the same.

Near the end of August, we hired our first Medical Director, Dr. Roberto Martinez Ibararan. Laura was in dire need of help in country as the number of Promotoras and villages had grown over the years. Dr. Roberto was the natural choice. He had been on Tia brigades when he was a medical student, then later as a professor of medicine. He loves field work and has a way of putting our villagers at ease with his wonderful sense of humor and his encouragement with the Pro-



Brophy made  
us proud



Kathy  
McCraine's  
photos of  
our work



Tia  
teaches  
water  
filtration





motoras. He explains the curriculum in a manner that they can grasp and remember. We are very fortunate indeed to have such **a brilliant doctor join our ranks!**

In September, there was a magnitude **7.1 earthquake** that struck just south of Mexico City and shook violently for about 20 seconds. **Dr. Raymundo Avila and Dr. Diego Alcocer formed volunteer brigades.** Each brigade went to help out and provide medical care at the quake-site. Dr. Ray's group worked in Mexico City, while Dr. Diego went to the nearby State of Morelos.

We rounded out our year with our last project in **Atotonilco El Alto, Jalisco.** Dr. Roberto had a great idea! In addition to our Promotoras coursework, **we created some breakout sessions for police and paramedics** who need only a refresher on the basics but are interested in learning new skills. The emergency professionals loved it and the Promotoras still received all their training and special attention.

As of the end of 2017, we have covered so much geography in Mexico that we cannot fit all of our project site push pins on one map! The map to the right shows **most of our sites in West Central Mexico**, primarily in Jalisco and Colima and we are in other states too! Thank you for helping us reach so many!

We won't be resting on our laurels. We have big plans for 2018.

**Watch out for your invitation to the I ♥ Tia Cocktail Party** on Thursday February 8th 2018 from 6-8 p.m. at the Montelucia Resort and Spa in Paradise Valley, Arizona. **Dr. Roberto Martinez will be speaking . Kathy**



Earthquake Relief

Dr. Roberto Martinez joins us

Tia Cocktail Party in Phx and SF this February

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**McCraine** ([kathymccraine.com](http://kathymccraine.com)) will also give a short chat about Tia and her photography in Mexico over the years. She is donating some stunning photos, professionally matted and framed as part of our silent auction. Disney Park Hopper passes, jewelry, Mexican shawls and artisan pieces, restaurants, resort stays and more will be offered up for bidding. Guests at the party will also enjoy **a performance by Flamenco Por La Vida** ([flamencoporlavida.com](http://flamencoporlavida.com)).

Friends in **San Francisco**, we will be hosting a **cocktail party** there too on **Tuesday, February 6th**. This will be our first event in the Bay Area and it promises to be lots of fun. **Dr. Roberto Martinez will be attending and speaking** too. Please contact [tionate@cox.net](mailto:tionate@cox.net) for more details.

The second week in January, Laura and Dr. Roberto will be in San Julian, Jalisco to meet with some doctors and **begin talks to open the first Tia Clinic** which will have a rotating staff of Tia Promotoras. Keep your eye on our social media and website for updates.

Thank you for reading and for supporting the hard working people in the rural communities of Mexico. Follow us on social media and YouTube. Share Tia with friends and **please consider a reoccurring monthly donation** on our new and easy to use donation platform on Qgiv. If you would like to join Tia in the field, get an invitation to an event or help out by adding your name and email address to our volunteer list, please contact us at [tionate@cox.net](mailto:tionate@cox.net). Take care and have a safe and happy 2018 to you and your family.



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much for  
supporting  
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