



# THE TIA FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

## Project Recap

COCULA

### Dear Beloved Supporters of The Tia Foundation,

What began as a last-minute change of plans quickly became one of the most heartwarming and well-executed programs in our history. With less than a week's notice, our team mobilized and arrived in Cocula, thanks to a remarkable act of coordination. Angel, a wildland firefighter and close friend of the Foundation, connected us with Presidente Luis, and Dra. Marta. Their swift support paved the way for an incredible week of training, healing, and connection. Presidente Luis and his team welcomed us with open arms, providing an ideal venue, treating us to local birria, and even bringing in EMTs and bomberos to help teach parts of the course.

### Cocula, Jalisco

As the birthplace of mariachi, Cocula's cultural pride was on full display. One of the most heartwarming moments came from a performance by a children's mariachi band, made up of local youth. Their music reminded us that community health is not just about medicine, it's about joy, identity, and the future these children represent.

42 new Promotores graduated from this program, now equipped to serve over 56,000 people. This brings our total reach to over 994,000 lives, less than 6,000 away from our 1 million milestone.





## Real Stories. Real People.

### A Daughter's Love

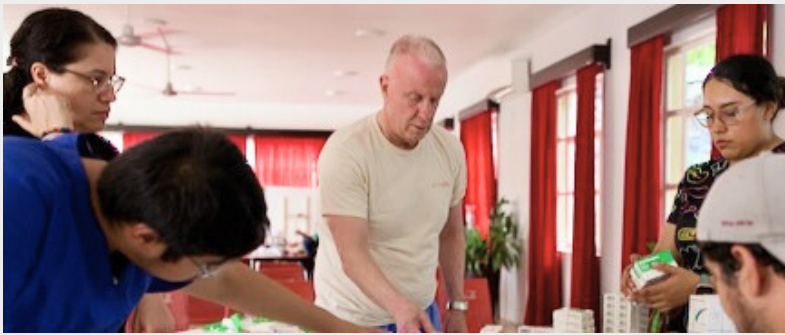
In La Estanzuela, we met Gimelda, a 96-year-old woman battling the effects of Alzheimer's. She lost her husband many years ago, and her daughter has stayed by her side ever since, caring for her with quiet devotion. Despite her age and challenges, Gimelda greeted our team with warmth and even sent us off with a prayer and well wishes. Her spirit left a lasting impression on all of us.

### Healing Hands

We were joined by Dr. Ed McGroarty, an adventuring physician and Chief of Staff at hospitals across the U.S. Known for serving in some of the world's toughest crisis zones, Dr. Ed said he only travels where he can truly add value and felt deeply fulfilled being part of this program. He's already expressed interest in joining us again.

### Sister Strength

America and Ana, sisters and medical professionals, played a key role in the program. America, a Nurse Practitioner with a PhD, and Ana, a Medical Assistant, brought expertise, compassion, donated medicine, and heavy boxes of manuals. Their warmth made them instant favorites and as our first sister duo, they set a new standard for teamwork.





## Love for All

Our Program Director and field cinematographer, Austin Reed, made sure no one was left out, not even the kids or the town's many dogs. When he wasn't capturing the heart of our mission on camera, he was often found tossing a ball, giving belly rubs, or playing games with the children. With school out early for the week, Austin even volunteered as an impromptu babysitter so parents could attend medical consultations. By the end of the week, he'd earned a small following of children (and dogs) who never left his side.



## Your Support Made This Possible

Cocula, like many rural towns in Mexico, is full of extraordinary people who simply need the tools to care for one another. Thanks to your support, thousands more now have access to care, compassion, and a healthier future.

We're headed back to the field **November 18-22, 2025**. Stay tuned for updates!

Our **20th Anniversary Celebration** is set for **February 15th, 2026**.  
More details coming soon!

*With heartfelt appreciation,*

**The Tia Team**



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