

Fundraising Case

Raiz Foundation, Inc., through its partner Fundación Raiz Ecuador, has been an early respondent to the COVID19 pandemic. We support vulnerable communities in Ecuador, a country greatly affected by this health crisis and suffering one of the highest number of COVID19 cases per capita with correspondingly high death tolls particularly in impoverished communities along the coast.

Fundación Raiz Ecuador has focused on communities living in extreme poverty in Atacames, where livelihoods were compromised by the 2016 earthquake, as well as indigenous minorities in Amazonia whose cultures are in danger of disappearing due to premature departure of elders caused by COVID19. We also have focused on impoverished families living in the provinces of Esmeraldas and Sucumbíos, where the COVID19 crisis is exacerbated by proximity to the conflictive drug war areas of Colombia.

Funds provided by Raiz Foundation Inc. permitted Fundación Raiz Ecuador to react quickly as the pandemic unfolded. Ecuador’s private sector recognized this early response and has provided funds allowing Fundación Raiz Ecuador to deliver over 230 metric tons of food to assist over 5,000 vulnerable families. Ecuador’s government has recognized Fundación Raiz Ecuador for helping the national health system diagnose the first reported cases of COVID19 infections in indigenous peoples.

Now in a second phase of our assistance to vulnerable families in Ecuador, Raiz Foundation Inc. seeks to raise funds in the amount of \$629,000 to supplement \$240,500 that have already been raised through in-kind donations of 4,000 rapid tests, 2,500 PCR tests and a \$100,000 challenge.

The second phase has 3 components:

1) **Food Security for the most vulnerable.** Families that Fundación Raiz Ecuador has identified as most vulnerable to food shortages due to local lockdowns or because they are dependent on economic activities most affected by the COVID crisis (tourism) and because they are ethnic minorities at risk of losing elders that support their cultural heritage.

Food security for the most vulnerable			
Community	# Families	cost/family/month	cost Jun July
Atacames	1,300	\$ 50	\$ 130,000
Chachi	1,500	\$ 55	\$ 165,000
Secoya	190	\$ 50	\$ 19,000
Kofan	350	\$ 50	\$ 35,000
Siona	150	\$ 50	\$ 15,000
Shuar	300	\$ 50	\$ 30,000
Total Families	3790	Total \$	\$ 394,000

Component	Target	Importance
Food for the most vulnerable	7,000 people in extreme poverty in Atacames	Atacames is a community in Ecuador's coast with a population of 60,000 that depends on tourism. The COVID crisis will leave 60% of the population without income for almost one year.
	9,000 members of the Chachi people	Indigenous communities living in the province of Esmeraldas close to the border with Colombia. Vulnerable due to armed conflict in the area.
	800 members of the Secoya (Siekopai) people	An entire indigenous nationality with only 40 elders who hold knowledge of their culture. Losing the elders will push Secoya culture to extinction.
	2,100 members of the Kofan people	As with the Secoya, losing the elders population will push their culture to extinction. Some Kofan communities have very little land due to encroachment by the oil industry.
	600 members of the Siona People	One of the smallest indigenous nationalities in Ecuador with only 20 elders.
	1,800 members of the Shuar people living in northern Ecuador	Indigenous communities living in heavily polluted places and very vulnerable to infection by oil workers.
Total	21,300 people in extreme vulnerability due to lack of food	

II) **Medical supplies:** Supplies for protecting medical staff of the Public Health System from COVID19 infection. Oxygen provision is a top priority for hospitalizing indigenous peoples locally rather than at distant hospitals. Many of the supplies and instruments considered here will serve a larger population beyond indigenous groups.

Medical supplies			
Element	Number	Unit cost	Total
Oximeters	200	\$ 90	\$ 18,000
Infra red thermometers	200	\$ 120	\$ 24,000
Oxygen concentrators	5	\$ 9,000	\$ 45,000
Masks	10,000	\$ 0.50	\$ 5,000
Gloves	10,000	\$ 0.15	\$ 1,500
Protective clothes for doctors	1,000	\$ 18	\$ 18,000
Oxygen Tanks	15	\$ 1,000	\$ 15,000
Oxygen recharges	30	\$ 100	\$ 3,000
Disinfectants			\$ 5,000
Medicine			\$ 25,000
Medical equipment	4	\$ 10,000	\$ 40,000
Field medical posts	4	\$ 7,000	\$ 28,000
		Total	\$ 227,500

III) **Epidemiological monitoring:** Fundación Raíz Ecuador is supporting an effort between communities and Ecuador's Ministry of Health to foster a strong epidemiological system combining community participation and vigilance with technical/scientific support from professional epidemiologists. Fundación Raíz Ecuador has already secured an important number of PCR and rapid tests for this purpose.

We want to support the use of ELISA based immunological essays for low cost, high-quality immunological response tests in replacement of the existing rapid tests. ELISA tests will be based on technology developed by the University of Michigan that has released patents for use in Ecuador of highly sensitive, selective COVID testing.

Epidemiological monitoring				
Element	Number	Unit cost	Total	Secured
Elisa capable mini lab	4	\$ 15,000	\$ 60,000	\$ -
Elisa COVID tests reagents	25,000	\$ 1	\$ 25,000	\$ -
Rapid Tests	5,000	\$ 18	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,500
PCR Tests	2,500	\$ 40	\$ 100,000	\$ 50,000
		Total	\$ 275,000	\$ 140,500
		Need	\$ 134,500	

Raiz Foundation Inc. aims to raise \$629,000 to support over 21,000 people in peril of losing food security and with minimal access to emergency health needs such as oxygen and basic medicines. These funds will also support epidemiological monitoring of indigenous communities plus a much larger population of over 100,000 people in their area.

The entire proposal calls for \$869,000 dollars of which \$240,500 dollars have been secured in the form of in-kind donations of PRC and rapid tests plus a \$100,000 matching fund.

Summary	
Proposal component	Amount
Food Security	\$ 394,000
Medical supplies	\$ 227,500
Epidemiological monitoring	\$ 275,000
Total	\$ 896,500
Secured grupo Por Todos in Ecuador	\$ 140,500
Existing Match	\$ 100,000
Need	\$ 656,000

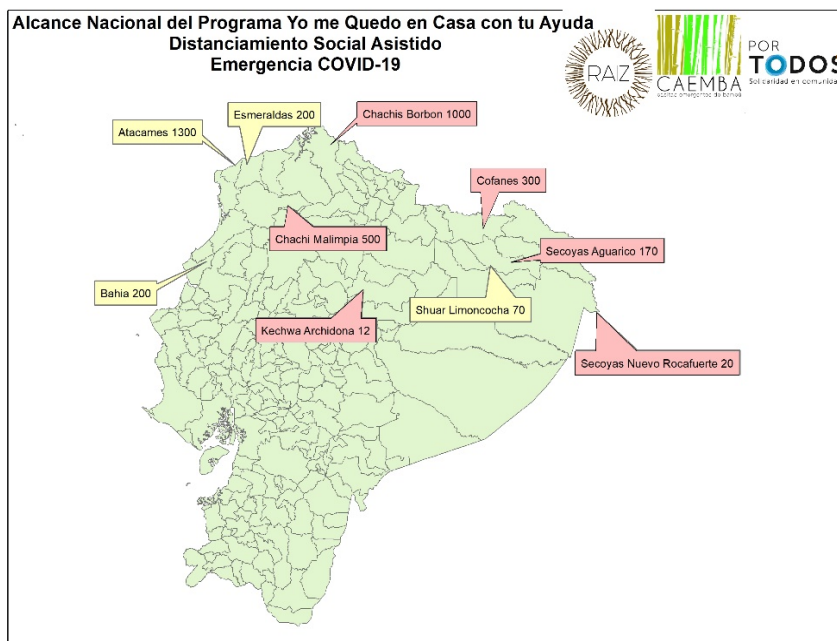
Work done to date with COVID19 in Ecuador

Raiz Foundation, Inc. in association with Fundación Raiz Ecuador has raised \$415,260 to date. Roughly 50% of this amount has been supplied by Por Todos Ecuador, a private initiative led by Ecuadorean business people.

Source	Amount
Raiz Foundation Inc/Fundacion Raiz Ecuador	\$ 207,800
Por Todos Ecuador	\$ 207,460
Total Raised	\$ 415,260

Fundación Raiz has distributed 13,350 rations totaling 230 metric tons of food to 5,000 families. Fundación Raiz has supported the early detection of COVID19 cases of the Siekopai and Chachi indigenous peoples.

Location and number of families assisted by Fundación Raiz Ecuador



Conditions of a typical medical post serving indigenous communities in Ecuador

