

Annual Report



Message From Our President

We believe in a Puerto Rico where progress begins within communities and grows through collaboration. Over time, we have refined how we invest—always alongside partner organizations—integrating data, innovation, and continuous learning.

Our approach advances impact ecosystems that respond to Puerto Rico’s needs. By combining our own initiatives with meaningful partnerships, we have been able to respond in times of crisis, foster learning, and advance innovation—led from within communities, with determination and hope.

We believe students in Puerto Rico deserve more. That is why we support educational models that expand beyond traditional offerings, introduce new ways of teaching and learning, address structural challenges in the system, and can be replicated across contexts.

At the same time, we recognize the talent and creativity that define Puerto Rico. Investing in the musical education of our youth—and in the full development of their talent—is an investment in the future of our island.

None of this would be possible without the commitment of those who carry this mission forward year after year: Popular’s employees. Since its inception, through the Voluntary Contribution Program, our colleagues have contributed over \$15 million—matched by Banco Popular—a clear reflection of their ongoing commitment.

We look ahead with conviction: investing in education, and supporting good people and their ideas, is one of the most powerful ways to create real opportunity for Puerto Rico. Our work is not about visibility, but about lasting results.

We will continue to focus our efforts where they matter most and where they can have the greatest impact—so that every investment creates new possibilities for the organizations and communities that place their trust in Fundación Banco Popular.

2025 TOTAL INVESTMENT

\$6,477,790¹



Richard L. Carrión



¹ The total investment represents the Foundation’s full portfolio of grants and programmatic expenditures for 2025. Investments shown in this report are for highlighted programs and do not represent the aggregate investment total for 2025.

Leading the Development of Impact Ecosystems



As we approach our 50th anniversary, we reaffirm a clear commitment to building impact ecosystems in music education, extended learning time, and other priorities shaped by the realities of Puerto Rico. We are not starting from scratch—this way of working has been in practice for years and is embodied today in the Community of Social Collaboration and Innovation.

We connect organizations and individuals around shared goals, support initiatives that reinforce one another, and learn through collective experience. We prioritize meaningful investments, evaluate with rigor, and make our resources—spaces, knowledge, and opportunities for development—available to create the conditions needed to move forward together and sustain results over time.”

Beatriz Polhamus
Executive Director

TOTAL INVESTMENT

\$1,239,887



Musical Talent Development

WHY MUSIC?

Because at Fundación Banco Popular we firmly believe in the power of music to open doors and create real opportunities for development and employment.

Because we are a benchmark for the world. Puerto Rico is Latin America’s leading exporter of music and ranks among the world’s top ten exporting markets (Luminate Year-End Music Report 2025).



Our educational model is unique in Puerto Rico, operating as an integrated ecosystem of programs that supports each student—from their first experience with a musical instrument to the possibility of becoming a professional who makes a living from music, if they choose.

1 model with 17 integrated programs

- 6 development phases
- 7 partner organizations with expertise in music education
- 5 Fundación Banco Popular proprietary programs
- 4,400+ students impacted each year

Even when students choose other career paths, excellence in music education sets them on a path towards discipline, teamwork, creativity, and sensitivity. These are essential skills that set them up for success and stay with each person throughout their academic, professional, and civic life.



CONTINUING EDUCATION

- 218 alumni registered to participate in workshops and master classes during the year as part of the Continuing Education initiative for alumni.
- Facilitated paid professional opportunities for 77 alumni, generating nearly \$70K in earnings.

Musical Talent Development

MUSICAL PROGRAMS INVESTMENT

\$309,887

ACELERACIÓN MUSICAL

One-week, no-cost residential program for talented youth ages 15-19, focused on performance, music business, and music technology.

Aceleración Musical 8th edition (2025)

- ▶ 65 students
- ▶ from 28 municipalities
- ▶ exposure to 35+ industry experts

The program included a session with salsa legend Willie Rosario, a plenary on orchestral conducting with Yabetza Vivas, a beatmaking and digital production class with Nissi (producer of “Agosto” from Un Verano Sin Ti), a social media workshop with Edgo Cruz, and a talk with internationally renowned Afro-Cuban composer Daymé Arocena, among many others.

INSTAGRAM @aceleracionmusical

New digital presence:

- ▶ We launched the official Instagram account at the start of the 8th edition
- ▶ reaching 1,000+ followers in the first week
- ▶ validating strong interest and engagement across the ecosystem



Musical Talent Development

REVIVE LA MÚSICA

Intrument Donation Project

Since 2006, in partnership with Fundación Luis A. Ferré, we have donated musical instruments to schools and organizations through an open request for proposals process.

2025 impact:

- ▶ 168 instruments
- ▶ 21 schools across 18 municipalities
- ▶ benefiting 1,761 students



The Concert - 15th edition

- ▶ A tradition since 2009: a unique experience and, for many talented students, the first time performing on a professional stage.
- ▶ 63 students performed Caribbean rhythms alongside Daymé Arocena, Grammy-nominated Afro-Caribbean artist at the Pablo Casals Symphony Hall.
- ▶ Participation by alumni and musical directors from previous editions reinforced on-stage learning, intergenerational networks, and the program’s legacy.



MINI GRANTS

For alumni of the ecosystem’s programs to support first musical productions and/or continuing education.

- ▶ 19 grants

Ivanna attended the Cannes Film Festival thanks to a mini grant from Fundación Banco Popular after participating as one the composers of the soundtrack for one of the nominated short films. This valuable opportunity was the result of her participation in the Film Scoring Summer Intensive at the Seattle Film Institute in 2024, a program she was also able to attend thanks to a grant awarded by our Foundation that year.



Musical Talent Development

Organization	Municipality	Project Title	Grant
Asociación de Padres y Amigos de las Orquestas Secundarias y Superiores	San Juan	The Support Network for Children and Young Musicians is a program for developing musical arts skills and strengthening civic values.	\$40,000
Conservatorio de Música		The project Una Orquesta En Mi Escuela seeks to expand and enhance the offerings of the Programa Música 100x35 at the six public school campuses where it currently provides services.	\$40,000
Corporación de las Artes Musicales		Through hands-on workshops and opportunities to perform with the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra (OSPR), participants are given a space where they can broaden their knowledge of the orchestral repertoire.	\$40,000
Coro de Niños de San Juan		The educational program of the Coro de Niños de San Juan is geared toward musically talented students between the ages of 5 and 18 from the metropolitan area and neighboring towns in Puerto Rico.	\$40,000
Fundación Música y País		Música para Todos provides access to music education for children and young people in schools, giving them the opportunity to discover the wonderful world of music by learning its language and how to play instruments.	\$40,000
Make Music Happen		The Berklee en Puerto Rico program seeks to impact Puerto Rican young musicians between the ages of 14 and 18 who meet the audition requirements.	\$40,000
Taller Folklórico de la Montaña	Orocovis	The Fundación Banco Popular investment is used to cover expenses related to hiring teachers and resources for music workshops and the continued broadcast of the cultural program Voces de la Montaña.	\$30,000
TOTAL			\$270,000

Extended Learning Time School Network

EXTENDED LEARNING TIME SCHOOL NETWORK

Fundación Banco Popular prioritized Extended Learning Time (afterschool) as a high-impact intervention—protecting children during critical hours while advancing learning. Evidence shows that well-designed programs drive gains in reading and math, deepen school engagement, and produce sustained community impact.

With that vision, we shifted from supporting individual programs to a more intentional network strategy, enabling closer collaboration with partners and more consistent, high-quality student experiences.

2025 Progress

- Assessed capacities and opportunities together
- Worked alongside organizations in their educational spaces
- Identified shared priorities to guide future work
- Activated community resources and volunteerism

TOTAL INVESTMENT

- represents 22% of the grant portfolio
- funds, on average, 38% of each program’s budget

\$660K



Extended Learning Time School Network

Organization	Municipality	Project Title	Grant
Asamblea Familiar Virgilio Dávila	Bayamón	The Educational, Sports, Technological and Social Program offers academic, sports, technological and social services during extended school hours to children and youth from Virgilio Dávila Residential and nearby communities in Bayamón.	\$30,000
Asociación Pro-Juventud y Comunidad de Barrio Palmas	Cataño	The Famiporte Educational and Service Learning Program provides support to K-8th grade students with interactive activities that reinforce academic skills and socio-emotional well-being.	\$30,000
Boys & Girls Clubs de Puerto Rico	San Juan	Triple Play: A Game Plan for Mind, Body and Soul is an evidence-based comprehensive wellness program developed by Boys & Girls Clubs of America in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.	\$50,000
Caras of the Americas (Caras con Causa)	Cataño	Estudia y Crece (Study and Grow) is an afternoon program that impacts low-income students from grades 1st-5th. The programming supports comprehensive development through tutoring, extracurricular, sports and community service activities, and emotional health programs that foster self-esteem, resilience and collective awareness. Additionally, La Escuela con Causa is one of the two Alliance Schools of the Department of Education in Puerto Rico and seeks to drive community development to eradicate poverty through education, environment and economic development together with communities in Cataño and Guaynabo.	\$75,000
Casa de Niños Manuel Fernández Juncos	San Juan	The Dream Builders project offers comprehensive training services to residents who have been victims of abuse and removed from their families by the State through individualized remedial education during extended hours and psychological services.	\$30,000
Casa Juan Bosco	Aguadilla	Tiempo Libre: Tiempo para Crecer is a project for children and youth with a study program for homework assistance, school projects, reading and writing skills, school visits as well as family integration.	\$25,000
Centro Comunitario Rvda. Inés J. Figueroa	Guaynabo	The Programa Precoz is an extended-hours project that provides educational and socio-emotional support activities to kindergarten through 8th grade students. The mission of this program is for students to develop academic independence, skill mastery and motivation towards studies.	\$35,000
Centro de Servicios Ferrán	Ponce	The Tutoring and Library Program serves children and youth from impoverished communities in Ponce through tutoring, psychological services, recreational activities and art workshops.	\$25,000
Centro María Mazzarello (Alespi)	Orocovis	Las Tardes en Alespi project provides recreational-educational services during extended hours including tutoring, nursing, social worker case management, arts and sports development impacting 140 children and youth students in the Orocovis area.	\$40,000

Extended Learning Time School Network

Organization	Municipality	Project Title	Grant
Club de Lucha Olímpica Sparta	San Juan	The Club Sparta Tutoring and Sports program aims for its participants to have good academic performance, pass grade levels and obtain their academic diploma until they get a sports scholarship that allows them to continue their studies.	\$50,000
Fundación de Niños de Puerto Rico (antes San Jorge Children’s Foundation)	San Juan	The Hospital School Education Program offers classes to patients with chronic or mental health conditions so they can continue their studies and achieve their academic goals.	\$40,000
Hogar de Niñas de Cupey	San Juan	The Ampliando Tu Horizonte Project is a complementary educational program for comprehensive education that provides interdisciplinary and individualized learning resources and provides student support services to improve academic performance.	\$40,000
Hogares Teresa Toda	Loíza	De Vuelta a Clases is an academic educational initiative during extended hours for young female residents of the Home who have been removed from their families by the State.	\$25,000
Instituto Especial para el Desarrollo Integral del Individuo, la Familia y la Comunidad de Guánica	Guánica	The Integrated Fine Arts Education project offers extended-hours services for children and families in the south, including tutoring, creative workshops and psychosocial support.	\$30,000
Instituto Santa Ana	Adjuntas	The Virtual Classes and Academic Tutoring program supports girls ages 5 to 14 who have suffered physical and emotional abuse through tutoring, psychological support, and recreational activities.	\$25,000
Juan Domingo en Acción	Guaynabo	The educational program for early childhood focuses on skill development, knowledge and learning through play.	\$25,000
Niños de Nueva Esperanza	Toa Baja	The Compassion-Fund model supports the comprehensive development of children in poverty through academic tutoring with support in key areas such as physical and emotional health. The model adapts to individual needs of each child; and is the only one working with this approach in the region.	\$30,000
Oratorio San Juan Bosco	San Juan	Cantera de Talentos (Talent Quarry) is the comprehensive education program for talented children and youth from the vulnerable Cantera sector to improve their academic performance through supervised studies, tutoring and extracurricular sports and artistic activities.	\$25,000
Programa de Apoyo y Enlace Comunitario	Aguada	The Comprehensive Educational Services Center supports children and adolescents in Aguada using a Life Skills model focused on academic support and psychosocial support.	\$30,000
TOTAL			\$660,000

The Foundation headquarters is also a

Community of Collaboration and Social Innovation (CCIS)

AN ECOSYSTEM IN PRACTICE

The Community represents our approach to leading impact ecosystems: weaving networks together, sharing infrastructure, and learning alongside those closest to the communities. For more than eleven years, this coworking space—located within our Foundation building—has brought together nonprofit organizations and social-innovation-driven microenterprises to work, learn, and collaborate around a shared purpose.

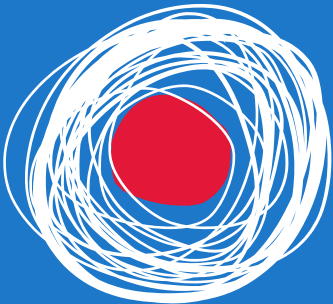
It operates as a mini-ecosystem: connecting capacities and projects, providing shared spaces and logistics, and sustaining a vibrant community life through a community board that represents its members and meets on a biweekly basis.

2025 Achievements

- ▶ 27 active organizations occupying 45 desks. (17 of which the space serves as main headquarters)
- ▶ 25 sustained collaborations among members.
- ▶ 1,000+ meetings, workshops, and community events held.

A facilitated working session by Seriously Creative was one of the activities with most participation from the Community





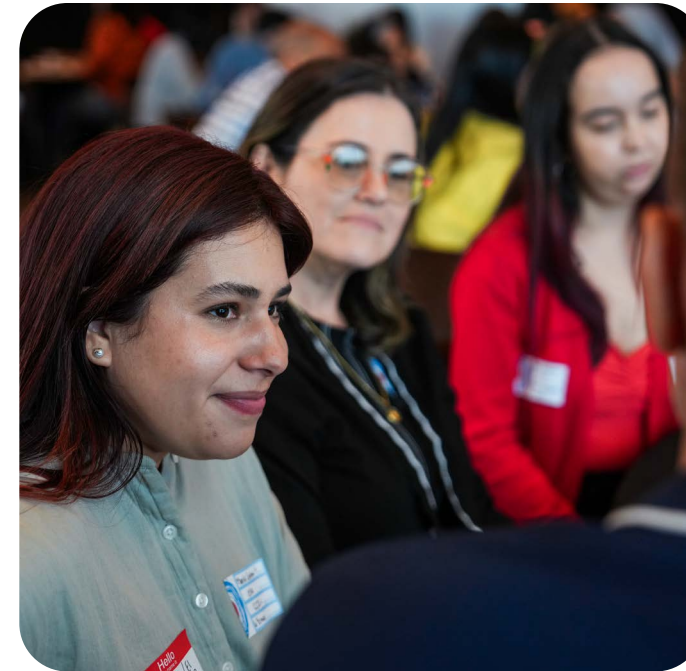
Throughout the year, the schedule of community activities included: Cafecito breaks, book presentations, professional workshops, salsa classes, and a session facilitated by Seriously Creative to collectively define the work plan for the new strategic plan leading up to Fundación Banco Popular’s 50th anniversary, as well as an end-of-year celebration.

The Foundation headquarters is also a

Community of Collaboration and Social Innovation (CCIS)

WHO ARE THE NEIGHBORS OF THE COMMUNITY ECOSYSTEM?

- ▶ Areyto Ballet Folklórico Nacional
- ▶ Causa Local
- ▶ Causa Strategies
- ▶ Ciencia Puerto Rico
- ▶ Ciegos con Visión
- ▶ Coalición Legal para Puerto Rico
- ▶ Centro de Conservación y Restauración de Puerto Rico
- ▶ Coordinadora Moriviví
- ▶ Departamento de la Comida
- ▶ Escuela de Liderazgo Político y Comunitario
- ▶ Fundación Música y País
- ▶ Instituto Nueva Escuela
- ▶ Jóvenes de Puerto Rico en Riesgo
- ▶ Lead Collaborative
- ▶ Lectores para el Futuro
- ▶ Licenciada Ataveyra Medina
- ▶ Mentes Puertorriqueñas en Acción
- ▶ Museo de Arte de Ponce
- ▶ Nuestra Escuela
- ▶ Red por los Derechos de la Niñez y la Juventud de Puerto Rico
- ▶ Sembrando Sentido
- ▶ Taller Salud
- ▶ Threshold.world
- ▶ Vitrina Solidaria
- ▶ Wildflower Foundation



The CCIS community came together in volunteer service to accompany—alongside Ciegos con Visión—blind participants during the International White Cane Day walk.

Excellence in Education

WHY THIS APPROACH?

Because we keep alive the vision of our founder, Rafael Carrión Jr., who affirmed that education is the greatest wealth. We believe that investing in education is an act of collective vision: building opportunities for excellence today to secure a better future tomorrow. We begin with a clear conviction: a person's level of education is directly linked to their quality of life.

TOTAL INVESTMENT

\$3,894,630



Areas of Philanthropic Investment

INTEGRATED SUPPORT FOR ACADEMIC EDUCATION

Programs expand what schools offer—through the arts and experiences that promote expression and movement—especially for students with limited access to high-quality opportunities. They support talent exploration, strengthen academic skills, and foster a sense of belonging.

INVESTMENT

\$560,000





Areas of Philanthropic Investment

INTEGRATED SUPPORT FOR ACADEMIC EDUCATION

Organization	Municipality	Project Title	Grant
Andanza	San Juan	Danza con Andanza offers scholarships at its school and weekly dance workshops to children and adolescents from low-income communities to contribute to their personal and academic development.	\$50,000
Carlos Beltrán Baseball Academy	Florida	The Teacher Retention and Recognition Program recognizes that educational quality depends not only on material and curricular resources, but fundamentally on the quality of the teaching staff providing that education. By retaining highly trained and committed teachers, they ensure their students receive quality education.	\$30,000
Centro Esperanza	Loíza	Educando con Montessori del Mar y Melodías de Esperanza (Educating with Montessori of the Sea and Melodies of Hope) facilitates learning experiences and skill development in the use of musical instruments for children and youth from low-income backgrounds in Loíza and adjacent areas.	\$35,000
Colaborativo PR	Loíza	The Post-Secondary Access Project by Colaborativo PR aims to increase planning opportunities for university life for high school students in Loíza, Puerto Rico.	\$53,000
Escuela Montessori San Cristóbal	Caguas	Integrarte supports children in social disadvantage using Montessori philosophy and strategies for trauma treatment, emotion management through art, reading and practical activities.	\$47,000
Foundation for a Better Puerto Rico	Culebra	Abbie's School is an alternative private school that provides bilingual, environment-centered education in Culebra to more than 40 children between ages 5 to 18.	\$50,000
The Jane Stern Dorado Community Library	Dorado	Community Libraries Network is an initiative that provides library services and access to information for families, children, youth and adults from low-income communities in the nine libraries across six towns that make up the Network.	\$25,000
Jóvenes de Puerto Rico en Riesgo, Inc.	San Juan	The Socio-Educational Services Continuum project offers academic, emotional support, and leadership mentoring to youth and low-income families in San Juan, Canóvanas, Juncos and Naguabo.	\$50,000
Mauro	San Juan	The Art Educating and Transforming for All (AETT) project integrates education with art and culture, aimed at elementary school children in economically and socially disadvantaged communities.	\$25,000
Mentes Puertorriqueñas en Acción	San Juan	The Agent of Change Empowerment and Retention Program (PARACa) is a social action and leadership development internship focused on university students and young professionals to develop agents of change for Puerto Rico.	\$35,000

Areas of Philanthropic Investment

Organization	Municipality	Project Title	Grant
Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Puerto Rico	San Juan	Creative and Civic Coexistence: MAC Educational Alliance is a project designed for the benefit of the school community at Rafael M. de Labra Accredited School, offering six curricular integration educational modules through fine arts focused on academic subjects of science, English and Spanish.	\$40,000
Museo de Arte de Ponce	Ponce	Puerto Rico Mío is an educational program that, through visual arts development, seeks to improve academic achievement, prevent school dropout and increase participation and empowerment of the student community at La Carmen School in Maricao.	\$40,000
Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico	San Juan	The Art, Ecology & Sustainability project is implemented to develop educational experiences that strengthen the interdependence between arts, ecological sensitivity and sustainable development.	\$40,000
Vimenti	San Juan	The Vimenti Ama Crecer project seeks to strengthen and expand components of the model aimed at the adequate integration of holistic services for students, for their academic improvement and future development.	\$40,000
TOTAL			\$560,000



Areas of Philanthropic Investment

ALTERNATIVE MODELS

We invest in initiatives that operate alongside the traditional education system, testing new ways of teaching and learning that are replicable across contexts. By connecting sectors, these efforts address systemic challenges and elevate education quality over time.

INVESTMENT

\$530,000



Organization	Municipality	Project Title	Grant
Beta-Local	San Juan	Through the Iván Illich Open School, they promote content creation and workshop offerings provided by resident artists and cultural managers starting from visual arts, plus development of knowledge exchange spaces and collaborations.	\$25,000
Centro De Investigación Y Política Pública- ABREPR	San Juan	Transparency and Comprehensive Education through Accessibility of Public Information: AbrePR, a social innovation project that uses data analysis and technology to facilitate access to public information in a clear and accessible manner.	\$50,000
Ciencia Puerto Rico	San Juan	Prototype of an Educational Catalog with resources contextualized to Puerto Rican culture, created by Puerto Rican scientists around the world, aligned with educational standards and easy to integrate into the classroom (videos, articles, talks, lessons, videos, radio capsules).	\$45,000
Instituto Nueva Escuela	San Juan	Public Montessori school transformation project and community organizations for the establishment of resilient practices.	\$100,000
Lead Collaborative	San Juan	The Lead Leadership Institute trains public school principals through evidence-based practice developed at Harvard University and adapted for the Puerto Rican context.	\$50,000

Areas of Philanthropic Investment

Organization	Municipality	Project Title	Grant
Lectores para el Futuro	San Juan	The Dyslexia Intervention Program in Spanish (PRIDE) aims to complete the second phase of the intervention pilot for students with dyslexia by adapting the Orton-Gillingham approach to Spanish to be used by any educator to teach all types of students.	\$50,000
Nuestra Escuela	Caguas	Alternative community school that supports youth ages 12 to 21 who have left the public education system, helping them achieve their goals with a creative curriculum, varied activities designed by students and a highly committed and trained professional team.	\$75,000
Politécnico Amigó	San Juan	The Realizando tus Sueños (Realizing Your Dreams) program aims to provide an academic program for 7th-12th grade; and a vocational program to young people between ages 16-21 who are out of school or at risk of academic failure.	\$45,000
Proyecto de Educación Comunal de Entrega y Servicio	Humacao	The Hope-Forging Leadership project is part of the P.E.C.E.S. Accredited Alternative High School, a proven and evidenced model with consistent achievements that also has twenty-one (21) years of accreditation and extraordinary experience transforming individuals and families.	\$60,000
The Wildflower Foundation	San Juan	The Trauma-Sensitive Montessori Project for Mothers and Infants, in collaboration with Casa de la Bondad Home in Humacao, focuses on developing a Montessori environment for mother and infant through which it will provide service to women of different ages who are victims of domestic violence as well as their children.	\$30,000
TOTAL			\$530,000



Areas of Philanthropic Investment

SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD AND INDEPENDENT LIVING FOR ADULTS

Investing in organizations with deep expertise in special education builds strong learning foundations and fosters autonomy—enabling full participation in society and expanding access to high-quality educational opportunities.

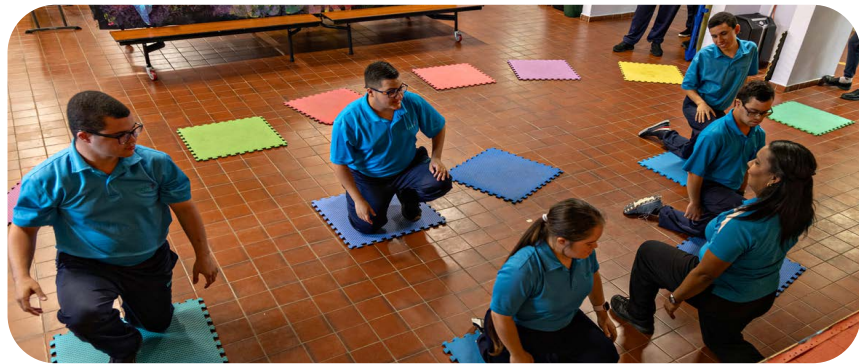
INVESTMENT

\$220,630



Areas of Philanthropic Investment

SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD AND INDEPENDENT LIVING FOR ADULTS



Organization	Municipality	Project Title	Grant
Asociación Mayagüezana de Personas con Impedimentos	Mayagüez	The BRILLO program offers education for adults with intellectual disabilities, helping them develop skills for independent living and explore vocational options.	\$35,000
Centro de Ayuda y Terapia al Niño con Impedimento (AYANI)	Moca	Creando Esperanza AYANI (Creating Hope AYANI) serves young adults age 21 or older with developmental disabilities to strengthen practical independent living skills and reduce physical and emotional abuse that participants receive.	\$25,000
Centro Margarita	Cidra	The Margarita Sport Clinic Program seeks to offer physical activities and adapted sports to children and youth with special needs, developmental disabilities and/or diagnoses, between ages 4 to 25.	\$25,000
Colegio de Educación Especial y Rehabilitación Integral (CODERI)	San Juan	The Creative Movement Program provides educational and recreational spaces based on a modified curriculum developed in fine arts teaching through dance classes, clubs and workshops for students/participants.	\$30,630
Fundación Puertorriqueña Síndrome de Down	San Juan	The Art and Dance Workshop helps people with functional diversity develop artistic and social skills through visual arts and teamwork.	\$30,000
Instituto Psicopedagógico de Puerto Rico	Bayamón	The Independent Living Habilitative Day Program aims for 50 people with intellectual disabilities and developmental deficiencies served at the Institute to strengthen basic and instrumental independent living skills for daily life.	\$35,000
SER de Puerto Rico	San Juan	Montessori SER de Puerto Rico seeks to provide families with the alternative of access to an education and integrated services program of the highest quality in a single physical facility.	\$40,000
TOTAL			\$220,630

Rafael Carrión, Jr. Academic Excellence Award

INVESTMENT

\$103,000

Fundación Banco Popular and the College Board recognized 101 students with the highest scores on the College Board and Advanced Placement exams.

2025

- 101 students received \$1,000 = \$101,000
- 2 teachers nominated by their students and awarded \$1,000
- 72% of awardees will continue their studies in Puerto Rico



Keynote speaker: Deborah Martorell, the first Puerto Rican meteorologist to travel to space.



21 years honoring
Academic Excellence
in PR

↓

2,008 STUDENTS
36 EDUCATORS
\$2,003,000



Models of Excellence

CASA DE NIÑOS POPULAR

A nonprofit Montessori preschool established in 2016 by Fundación Banco Popular in Hato Rey, serving children ages 1.5 to 6 from both Popular employees and surrounding communities. The model currently operates across two centers. In 2025, a second school opened in Carolina in partnership with the Municipality of Carolina, positioning the initiative as a strong example of collaboration across the public sector, community, and philanthropy to advance early childhood education in Puerto Rico.

INVESTMENT

\$140,000



We inaugurated the second school of our model — Casa de Niños Carolina — and this milestone represents much more than the opening of a campus. It is an act of collective vision: building educational excellence, with high standards, educators who are compensated with dignity, and a new educational culture that places the student at the center from the very beginning.”
Richard Carrión, President



Models of Excellence

CASA KAI

A sister organization of Fundación Banco Popular that advances a model of educational excellence through arts programs and workforce training, creating opportunities for academic success and sustainable employment, while revitalizing a historic space in Santurce as a community asset.

2025 Results

- ▶ Casa Kai is establishing itself as a hub for afterschool creative and professional development programs
- ▶ 220+ participants among youth and adults
- ▶ Free workshops with expert practitioners
- ▶ Workforce certification courses

INVESTMENT

\$2,250,000



Community Development and Social Innovation

We work in partnership with community leadership, investing resources and strategic support to build capacity, unlock opportunities, and advance sustainable solutions designed and led by the communities themselves.



TOTAL INVESTMENT

\$776,758



Areas of Philanthropic Investment

COMMUNITY DEVELOPTMENT

Organization	Municipality	Project Title	Grant
Agua, Sol y Sereno	San Juan	The Agua, Sol y Sereno workshop school project: in Vieques, La Fondita de Jesús and Santurce will carry out a community insertion in three different sectors including: the town of Vieques through the Vieques Women's Alliance, homeless people through The Street Orators of La Fondita de Jesús and communities near their headquarters in Santurce.	\$25,000
Asociación de Comunidades Unidas Tomando Acción Solidaria	Toa Baja	CRECE: Resilient Community with Education, Connectivity and Empowerment, is a transformative initiative born from and for the communities of Barrio Ingenio, Villa Calma 1, Villa Calma 2 and Villas del Sol in Toa Baja through three pillars: participatory education, technological training and food security.	\$30,000
Centro de Adiestramiento para Personas con Impedimento	Aibonito	The Labor/Business Transition Services Project for People with Functional Disabilities serves people with significant disabilities age 18 or older to guide them toward self-management, entrepreneurship and/or obtaining competitive employment using hydroponics as a base.	\$35,000
Centro de la Mujer Dominicana	San Juan	The Aprendiendo Juntas (Learning Together) Project offers digital training to migrant women, many of whom are victims of violence and sexual assault, who face disadvantages due to their education level and lack of employment. It integrates educational support for their school-age children and group psychological support.	\$50,000
Centro de Microempresas y Tecnologías Agrícolas Sustentables Yauco Inc. (CMTAS)	Yauco	Through the training of Anaerobic Biodigester Brigade Technicians, they are developing a new industry that will allow increasing the construction of biodigesters in other communities to solve environmental situations and create jobs.	\$30,000
Centro Sor Isolina Ferré - Caimito	San Juan y Ponce	The Hacia Adelante (Moving Forward) Program initiative aims to accelerate the growth of small businesses through training, empower entrepreneurs with knowledge and tools that allow them to build competitive businesses; and strengthen Puerto Rico's economy by driving sustainable businesses that contribute to community well-being.	\$35,000
Coalición Legal Para Puerto Rico	San Juan	Coalición Legal, travels the Island seeks to decentralize its legal services and training offerings to nonprofit organizations with an emphasis on identifying efforts with service needs in rural areas, as well as Vieques, Culebra and the diaspora.	\$35,000
Corporación La Fondita de Jesús	San Juan	Konect@os is a digital education and library service project for people over 50 years old with limited economic resources and mental health conditions in San Juan.	\$40,000

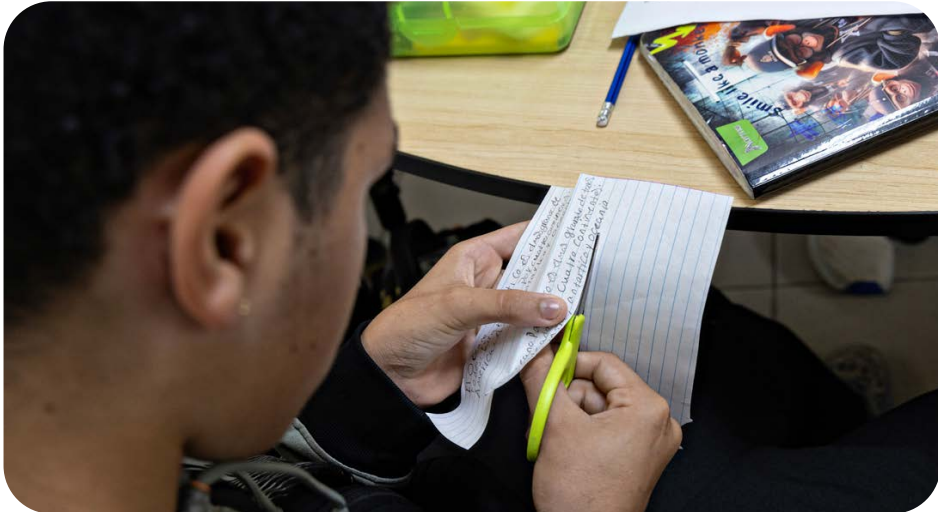


Areas of Philanthropic Investment

Organization	Municipality	Project Title	Grant
Grupo de las Ocho Comunidades Aledañas al Caño Martín Peña (G-8)	San Juan	The Community Leading Program is aimed at strengthening leadership skills and community organization processes among residents of Barrio Obrero (Oeste and San Ciprián), Barrio Obrero-Marina, Buena Vista-Santurce, Cantera Peninsula, Parada 27, Las Monjas, Buena Vista-Hato Rey and Israel and Bitumul.	\$60,000
Instituto del Desarrollo de la Juventud	San Juan	Building the capacity of the IDJ seeks to provide the organization with key human resources to ensure its sustainability and, with it, the continuity of generating data on child poverty that informs government, other nonprofit organizations and citizens in general.	\$50,000
Instituto para la Investigación y Acción en Agroecología	Cayey	El Josco Bravo Agroecology School: is an agricultural education and production project created from the agroecological movement to learn from action, helping in training processes for people interested in agroecological practice and generating an ecology of knowledge to achieve food sovereignty from participatory logics and sustainable lifestyles.	\$25,000
Mujeres de Islas	Culebra	Sazón is an exquisitely equipped space, solar powered that has all the equipment for the culinary school/community kitchen to be a success impacting over 400 people in Culebra.	\$30,000
Parceleras Afrocaribeñas Por La Formación Barrial	Carolina	La Conde is a cultural resistance space that promotes the right to stability. With this project they promote the organization's vision and mission, managing innovative, cultural, artistic and ecological programs for social and anti-racist justice to foster neighborhood creativity.	\$25,000
Plenitud Iniciativas Ecoeducativas	Las Marías	The Programmatic and Organizational Impulse project at Plenitud PR for Community Development in Las Marías and the Central-West Region of Puerto Rico seeks to increase community member participation in trainings dedicated to strengthening their resilience and sustainability skills.	\$30,000
Red por los Derechos de la Niñez y la Juventud de Puerto Rico	Juncos	La Red offers direct services such as support to young survivors of violence, early childhood development programs like Head Start and Early Head Start, and trains professionals and communities to prevent child abuse; and promotes public policy changes to eliminate barriers affecting children and their families.	\$50,000

Areas of Philanthropic Investment

Organization	Municipality	Project Title	Grant
Taller Comunidad la Goyco	San Juan	A micro-entrepreneurship project that works as the vehicle for the neighbors to aspire for their projects to grow as a result of a training program that includes mentoring in the permitting process, work plan and financial advice.	\$30,000
Taller Salud	Loíza	Acuerdo de Paz (Peace Agreement) is an evidence-based project that seeks to reduce violence in Loíza by changing behaviors and community rules. Local residents act as conflict mediators and coordinate recreational, sports and cultural activities.	\$75,000
True Self Foundation	San Juan	Camp 4Respect is a camp for LGBTQ community youth focused on fostering resilience, leadership and employability.	\$30,000
Vitrina Solidaria	Fajardo	El Yunque Emprende (El Yunque Entrepreneurs) is a business acceleration program created in 2016 that seeks to develop spaces for solidarity and sustainable economic activity within the region of nine municipalities that make up El Yunque National Forest.	\$40,000
TOTAL			\$725,000



Community Development and Social Innovation

FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS

We celebrated the program’s 10th Annual Convening, bringing together more than 65 leaders from partner organizations in a space for support, practical tools, and reflection in the face of the nonprofit sector’s current challenges.

INVESTMENT

\$31,758



To be an artist is to be Puerto Rican and to be Puerto Rican is to be an artist... By necessity, we must invent and reinvent ourselves over and over again.”

Antonio Martorell, guest workshop leader



CIMARRONA FUND

In partnership with Taller Salud and Banco Popular, we continued implementing a pilot program of guaranteed personal loans for survivors of domestic violence that promotes autonomy and financial inclusion.

Impact:

- ▶ 22 guaranteed loans backed by a \$100,000 revolving collateral fund
- ▶ 100% current repayment rate; 30%+ accessed other financial products
- ▶ 100% received financial education and specialized support



Employee Engagement

The Foundation's work is significantly supported by the participation of Popular employees, who combine their financial generosity with a strong commitment to community volunteerism.



Employee Engagement

2025 IMPACT

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION

5,900+ employees contributed biweekly to the Foundation

\$803,277

VOLUNTEERISM

24% participation

9,407 volunteer hours



Employee Engagement

RAFAEL CARRIÓN, JR. SCHOLARSHIP FUND

For more than three decades, the Rafael Carrión, Jr. Scholarship Fund has been a vital source of support for the college education of the sons and daughters of Popular employees and retirees. With the investment made in 2025, the Fund has awarded a cumulative total of 5,578 scholarships, representing an investment of \$8.92 million, expanding access to postsecondary education and easing the financial burden on hundreds of families.

2025 Impact

- ▶ 284 students benefited
- ▶ 57% are enrolled in the UPR system
- ▶ 34% attend private universities in Puerto Rico
- ▶ 9% attend universities in the United States

INVESTMENT

\$479,657

JUAN A. CRUZ HERRERA EMPLOYEE EMERGENCY FUND

Provides immediate financial support to Popular employees facing unforeseen emergencies. The fund honors Juan, remembered by his colleagues for his creativity and commitment, who upon his passing in 2007 designated the Fund as the beneficiary of his life insurance. His gesture helped strengthen this initiative, which since its creation has provided more than \$1.3 million in assistance and brought stability to hundreds of employees in their most difficult moments.

2025 Impact

- ▶ \$28,445 in aid to 8 employees



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We thank the members of the Board for their commitment and dedication to Fundación Banco Popular

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