

## With the program called Supportive Contribution to Technology and Connectivity, Congregación Mariana Trinitaria combats educational lagging

As they do not own a computer, a tablet, or a smartphone;  
thousands of students dropped out of school during the  
COVID-19 pandemic.

Congregación Mariana Trinitaria (CMT), a non-profit organization which was founded almost 25 years ago by the Doctor Honoris causa Catalina Mendoza Arredondo, day after day makes big efforts to improve the quality of life of Mexican families who live in vulnerable situations.

Through its Welfare Ecosystem Model, this civil society has benefited a huge number of people with the programs included in the 11 Welfare Networks. This way, it was possible to develop successful actions, solutions, strategies, and public policies to assist and combat the main problems that society might face.

As we all know, since the COVID-19 pandemic started and the lockdown was the final decision made by the different Health Departments in the country and the World Health Organization (WHO), we suffered from adverse consequences in different areas of human development like employment and economics, however the most affected issue in Mexico was undoubtedly the educational one.

In the country there are 38 million students, and 12.5 of them are between 18 and 23 years old. They all will become the potential market for higher education in Mexico according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

In the educational areas, not all the students are able to finish their studies due to multiple reasons, the most important ones are: the lack of economic resources, the rural areas they live in, the social backwardness they face, among many others.

Despite the fact that last August 30, 25 million students came back to school according to official data published by the Secretary of Public Education (SEP); there were also thousands of students who decided to continue with their online classes due to the pandemic.

That institution also made official the fact that in the last school year there were a total number of 5.3 million students who dropped out of school because they did not have enough money, they lacked a device to get connected to their classes, and they did not have any network available to connect to the internet, and in other cases, they did not continue as they thought that online education was not functional.

“In this project, people are not  
important for the things they own,  
they are important for the things they  
do and the legacy they leave behind”.

Dra. H. C. Catalina Mendoza Arredondo, Founder of  
Congregación Mariana Trinitaria.

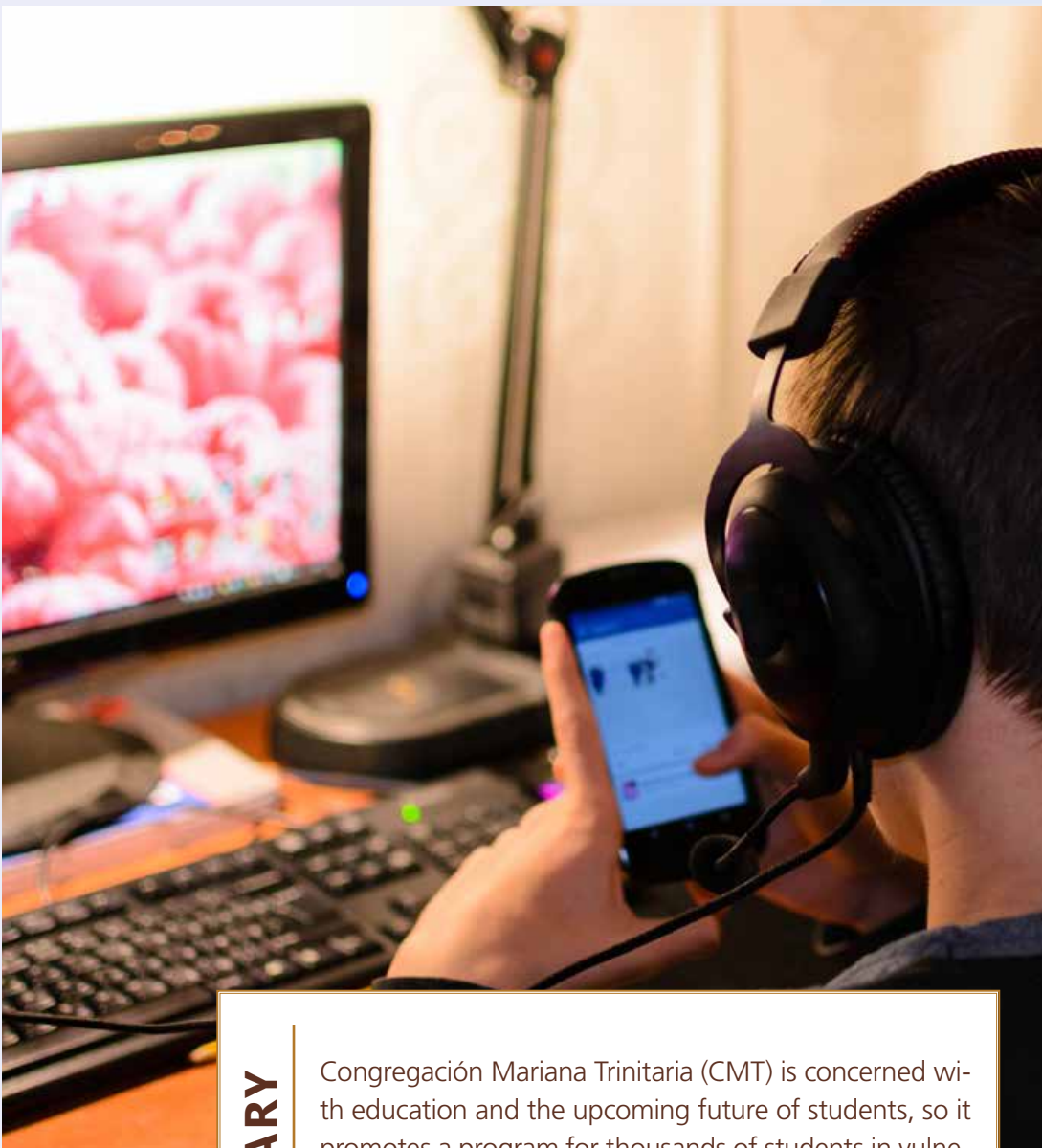


### Rescuing online education

Congregación Mariana Trinitaria (CMT), noticed that the digital gap was increasing considerably in the country. Despite all the support given through the Network of Education, it developed and promoted the Program called Supportive Contribution to Technology and Connectivity.

This program was created with the purpose of helping the students who were not able to continue their studies because they did not have either a cellphone or a computer with a high-quality connection to the internet. Now, they are able to continue with their education and to make progress in academic matters.

According to CMT, 20 million 846 thousand 650 families will get benefits from subsidies related to technology and connectivity. This way, it will be possible to help and support thousands of students in Mexico, and in the meantime, educational lagging and social backwardness will also be combated.



#### SUMARY

Congregación Mariana Trinitaria (CMT) is concerned with education and the upcoming future of students, so it promotes a program for thousands of students in vulnerable situations so that they could continue their studies and they could also have better living conditions in the long term.

“With respect, hard work, and trust we demonstrated that it is possible to  
combat poverty”.

Dra. H. C. Catalina Mendoza Arredondo, Founder of Congregación Mariana Trinitaria.

Actions are not limited, as CMT is aware that not only students get benefits from this program, but any person who needs it can get benefits too; either entrepreneurs, or people in communities and schools, and so on.

### Partnerships to encourage education

CMT and the most important university in the state of Zacatecas became partners so that the 40 thousand students in that institution get benefits from this program.

The Principal of this University, Rubén de Jesús Ibarra, decided that the students will continue their studies in the online modality, due to the risk of COVID-19 in case students go back to the classrooms. So, he was convinced that the university and CMT should become partners to keep on promoting education.



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