



The
Gibson Soto
Foundation

Annual Report 2024



Message from the Board.

Dear students, donors, volunteers, collaborators, and friends of the Gibson Soto Foundation:

With great joy and gratitude, we celebrate our achievements in 2024, our fifth year of operating our facilities in Mexico, La Cima IAP. We are steadfast in our mission and vision, honoring the memory and legacy of our co-founder Thomas Gibson, who fully dedicated himself to this project. This has been a key year for us, as we continue to grow and strengthen our work in favor of young women, reaffirming that education is one of the most powerful tools to break the cycle of generational poverty and build fulfilling, independent lives.

We are proud to share that one more student has graduated, and four students have only one more semester to go to reach graduation, joining the group of women who have already fulfilled their dream of becoming professionals. Alejandra, Lupita, Mayra, and Daniela have not only successfully completed their university studies but have also secured well-paid jobs in their respective fields. Today, they stand as independent, accomplished professionals, able to support their families and serve as role models in their communities.

This year, we also reached the milestone of 14 active students in our program, who benefit from comprehensive support, including housing, nutritious meals, healthcare, transportation, university expenses, weekly personal development workshops, English classes, and individual psychological counseling. Additionally, we had the pleasure of welcoming four new students: MariCarmen, Yesenia, María José, and Ruth, all committed to completing their university studies and breaking the cycle of poverty through education.



Our staff also continues to grow professionally, participating in various courses and workshops that enable us to serve our students even more effectively and with greater quality.

In this annual report, you will find all the details of our students' achievements, along with their testimonies that inspire and demonstrate their commitment, and the impact of our work. We want to take this opportunity to extend our deepest thanks to each one of you—donors, volunteers, collaborators, and friends. None of this would be possible without your continuous support. Thank you for being part of this mission and helping us build a more just future full of opportunities for women.

With gratitude and appreciation,

The Board of Directors.

Patricia Soto, Robert Gibson, Graciela Pliego



SUMMARY OF RESULTS

14 students benefited with:



SAFE HOME



NUTRITIOUS FOOD



MEDICAL ATTENTION



SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

ACADEMIC ADVICE

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

ENGLISH CLASSES

SPORT ACTIVITIES



100% of students successfully completed their school year

The students received:



650 hours of professional volunteering

Total volunteers 77



1,773 hours of human development workshops



531 hours of English classes



They participated in 23,177 hours of university classes

Academic Results

- **Daniela** Graduated with a bachelor's degree in human nutrition.
- **Isabel**. Finished the 7th semester of her bachelor's degree in psychology
- **Evelyn**. Finished the 7th semester of her bachelor's degree in agri-food biosystems engineering
- **Ana**. Finished the 7th semester of her bachelor's degree in veterinary medicine
- **Jessica**. Finished the 10th semester of her bachelor's degree in design and management of logistics networks
- **Dulce**. Finished the 10th semester of her bachelor's degree in educational and curricular management
- **Majo**. Finished the 7th semester of her bachelor's degree in global logistics engineering
- **Dalia**. Finished the 7th semester of her bachelor's degree in educational and curricular management
- **Tere**. Finished the 3rd semester of her bachelor's degree in industrial engineering
- **Rosario**. Finished the 4th semester of her bachelor's degree in global logistics engineering
- **Mariel**. Finished the 4th semester of her bachelor's degree in pharmaceutical chemistry biologist
- **Ruth**. Finished the 3rd semester of her bachelor's degree in business administration
- **Marijo**. Finished the 3rd semester of her bachelor's degree in accounting and finance
- **Maricarmen**. Finished the 2nd semester of her bachelor's degree in veterinary medicine
- **Yesenia**. Finished the 1st semester of her bachelor's degree in environmental engineering



Our Mission:

To serve the world by supporting higher education and full development for bright young women from marginalized communities in Mexico, allowing them to achieve sustainable success for future generations.



Our Vision:

To break the cycle of poverty and achieve the sustainable development of communities through education, uplifting human beings, and generating peace and prosperity.

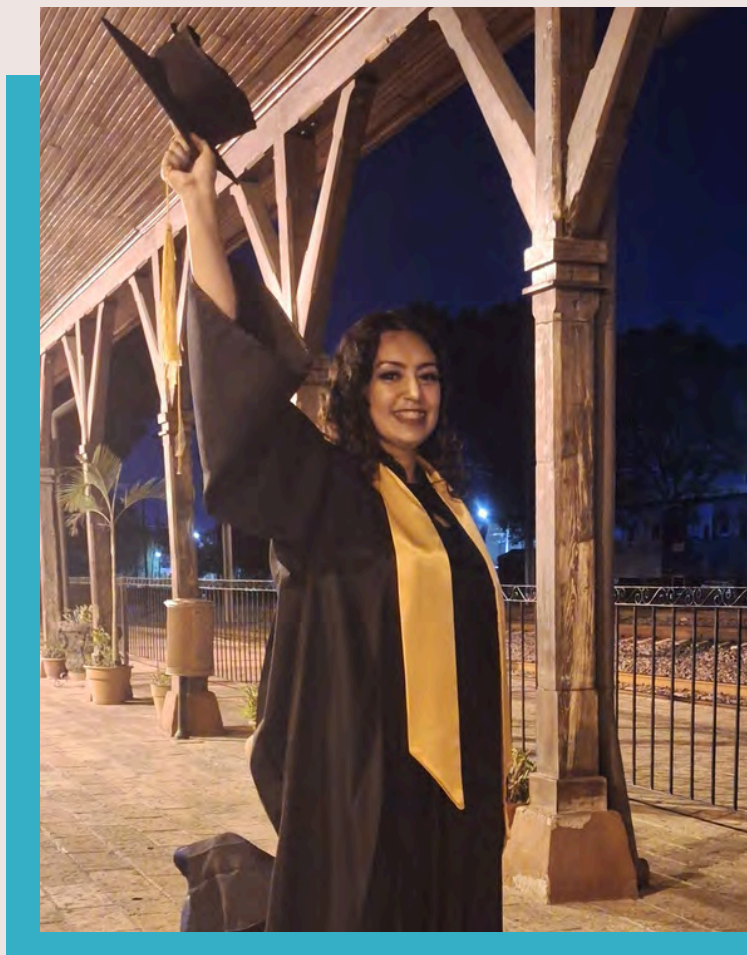


Stories 2024

Success Story: Daniela

We are extremely proud to share the success story of our recent graduate, Daniela, who obtained a Bachelor's degree in Human Nutrition this summer.

Daniela is an inspiring, cheerful, enthusiastic, courageous, and determined woman. She hails from a small community in Arroyo Seco, Queretaro, Mexico. From an early age, she demonstrated remarkable strength and commitment to her education, despite the challenges her family faced. Her mother was a homemaker, and her father worked in the fields. With five siblings, Daniela became the first in her family to complete college studies, a significant achievement that marks a milestone in her personal and family history.



Thanks to the unwavering support of our Foundation, Daniela has successfully earned her Bachelor's degree in Human Nutrition. Throughout her journey, she worked at a hospital, honing her skills and gaining invaluable professional experience. The synergy of her academic training, personal growth, and work experience has empowered her to emerge as a dedicated professional committed to her calling.

Daniela's unwavering dedication to the well-being of her community has led her to take action in the face of significant health challenges. During her time in our program, she developed a community project aimed at fostering healthy eating habits among local children, demonstrating her passion for nutrition and her commitment to enhancing the lives of those around her.

Daniela's remarkable achievements were made possible thanks to the unwavering support of volunteers, donors, and collaborators at the Gibson Soto Foundation and our facilities in Mexico, La Cima IAP. Over her 4.5 years in our program, we provided Daniela with an environment that fostered her personal, academic, and professional growth. Daniela's unwavering commitment, coupled with the Foundation's support, has been pivotal in ensuring her journey toward becoming a fulfilled and successful individual, breaking the cycle of generational poverty.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all those who have stood by Daniela on her incredible journey of growth and transformation. Her story stands as a powerful testament to the profound impact of education, unwavering community support, and personal resilience. Daniela's readiness to make a meaningful difference in her community and her continuous personal and professional growth are truly inspiring to us all. Her success is a testament to the power of collective support and unwavering determination.

Stories from our graduated students

Lupita - Bachelor of Music

Graduated from our program in June 2023

My life changed significantly due to my participation in the La Cima IAP program. My current employment situation is very good thanks to what I learned at La Cima IAP and their support in completing my university studies. At La Cima IAP I developed numerous healthy habits, including going to bed early, prioritizing my physical and mental health, eating nutritious foods, and practicing kindness toward myself. These habits have led me to become more responsible and to improve my planning and organization skills. I continue to incorporate these habits into my daily life, and as a result, my quality of life has significantly improved. Now I understand how I manage each area of my life to ensure everything is balanced.



Mayra - Environmental Engineer

Graduated from our program in June 2023

My life has changed significantly because I participated in the La Cima IAP program. Thanks to their support, I am the first person in my family to earn a university degree, and I now have a better job situation than my family. This opportunity is invaluable to me; it serves as a powerful tool to help me forge my path in life.

I am applying what I learned in the La Cima workshops to my professional development because I have a job that involves significant responsibility and the analysis of important matters. Another transformative experience for me was the time spent with the other students at La Cima. After relocating to another state, I noticed that I had developed skills in responsibility and maturity. I learned to overcome my fear of making decisions, to embrace new experiences, and to take on challenges.



Stories of students about to graduate

Jessica

Pursuing a bachelor's degree in Design and Management of Logistics Networks

This year, I want to express my gratitude to the Gibson Soto Foundation for their trust and support in my professional development. I am thankful for having a safe and comfortable home, and for the healthy meals they provide, which contribute to my well-being. Living with other girls on the same academic journey creates a supportive atmosphere.

I appreciate the financial assistance for tuition, school materials, and transportation to university, as well as their concern for our safety. The foundation has helped me grow both professionally and personally through human development workshops, which teach us to manage our emotions and set monthly goals in areas like physical health, mental health, and academics.

I have learned valuable skills like creating an effective resume and developing a concrete exit plan for my future. The training on personal finance management and the opportunity to organize a community project have also been beneficial.

Overall, my time with the Gibson Soto Foundation has allowed me to maintain a good academic average and progress toward graduation while improving my health and lifestyle habits.

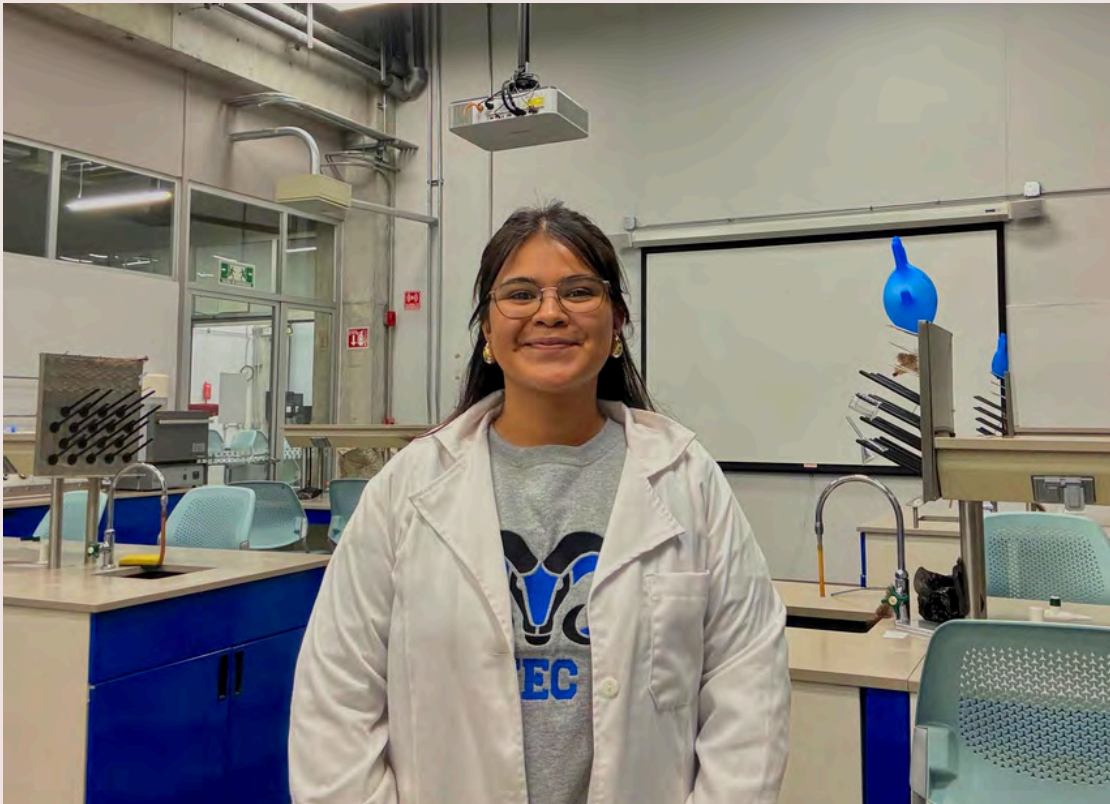


Evelyn

Pursuing a bachelor's degree in Agri-Food Biosystems Engineering

This year, 2024, has posed challenges, yet I have immensely enjoyed my journey as I approach graduation. The word that encapsulates my experience is “thank you.”

I am deeply grateful to the Gibson Soto Foundation for its invaluable support in my academic and personal development. The courses and workshops have strengthened my self-esteem, enhanced my leadership skills, and equipped me to face the future with confidence.



The foundation has been a vital pillar in my life, nurturing my passion for social and community work. With the tools I've gained, I aim to give back to my community. As I near graduation, I feel satisfied and hopeful for the next stage filled with opportunities for growth.

Initially uncertain about my ability to stay focused, I learned to organize myself, overcome fears, and tackle challenges confidently. Graduation is not just a degree to me; it represents years of effort and growth.

Throughout this process, I have also achieved significant personal development, learning to understand my emotions and make clearer decisions. The safe environment provided by the foundation has helped me develop crucial skills such as assertive communication and teamwork, improving both my academic performance and daily interactions. I feel more resilient and capable of managing my emotions than ever before.

Isabel

Pursuing a bachelor's degree in Psychology:

I am incredibly grateful to the Gibson Soto Foundation for the opportunity to be part of this special community. Thank you for helping me pursue my dream of becoming a professional who can make a difference and inspire others. I truly appreciate your hospitality, the human development workshops, the food, and the personal support; this assistance has been essential for me during this year. Thank you for your mission to transform the lives of young students.



Talking about the most significant things of 2024 is complicated, not because of a lack of experiences, but because there are so many that they would not fit in a few pages. Since the beginning of the year, I have faced various challenges. I officially began my internship, which I had been looking forward to as it would be one of my first experiences in the professional world. Capital Humano welcomed me, providing an opportunity to closely observe the recruitment and selection process. Additionally, I was able to express my creativity by designing job postings and contributing to other projects. I learned how to manage my time effectively while working from home, using my free moments to complete tasks, study, and fulfill my responsibilities within the organization.

Thanks to my perseverance and consistency, I was able to adapt and successfully fulfill all my responsibilities. In the training area, I provided support in organizing training sessions and certifications for operators. This experience deepened my understanding of employee development and growth processes while allowing me to contribute to the overall growth of the company.

My personal growth was also significant. Working in various places taught me the importance of believing in myself and recognizing that I can succeed in any environment I choose. I learned to identify my limits and accept that I don't have to excel at everything, which has helped me avoid placing unrealistic demands on myself. Additionally, I have grown in how I relate to others, cultivating meaningful connections both in professional settings and during social activities. I've come to understand that you never know when you might encounter those individuals again.

Family has always been essential to me. I have learned to communicate my feelings to them more often, and I deeply value their unconditional support. I am truly grateful for each of them, as their role in my life goes far beyond that of just family.

Financial independence is also very important to me. Through my internship earnings, I've prioritized saving and become more aware of my finances, which brings me closer to achieving my independence.

Dulce

Pursuing a bachelor's degree in Educational and Curricular Management

I am extremely grateful to the Gibson Soto Foundation for all the tools and support they have provided me this year. Thanks to their guidance, I have improved key aspects of my life, particularly in terms of time and money management. With the foundation's assistance, I have learned to organize my resources more efficiently, which has enabled me to achieve a better balance between my academic and personal responsibilities. Learning to manage my finances has been especially valuable; it has taught me to plan and prioritize my expenses, leading to greater stability and financial peace of mind as a student.



In addition to providing management knowledge, the Gibson Soto Foundation has positively impacted my physical and emotional well-being. Thanks to their guidance, I have begun incorporating healthy habits into my daily routine, such as maintaining a balanced diet and engaging in regular physical activity. These changes have significantly improved my health and, consequently, my quality of life. I previously underestimated the influence that healthy habits can have on overall well-being, but now I understand that taking care of my health is essential for performing better in all areas of my life.

These lessons have transformed me and given me a broader perspective on the integral development of a person. Today, I can confidently say that I am better prepared, both professionally and personally, to face the challenges that may arise in the future. I feel that I have grown in ways I never imagined, and I am motivated to continue improving and contributing my best in any environment I find myself in. Without a doubt, the support and encouragement from the Gibson Soto Foundation have been crucial in this process, and I am grateful for every lesson they have imparted—lessons that I will carry with me forever.

In life, we constantly face challenges that encourage us to grow. These obstacles can arise at any time, and it is our will, dedication, and effort that determines our ability to overcome them, learn from them, and emerge stronger. This year has been an enriching experience for me, filled with valuable lessons about the importance of strength, both personally and professionally.

On a personal level, I have also focused on various aspects of my life to give my best, not only in the professional sphere but also to the important people around me: my family, classmates, friends, and colleagues at the Gibson Soto Foundation. This journey has involved self-discovery and self-evaluation, providing me with the opportunity to reflect on my strengths and areas for improvement. As a result, I have uncovered new skills and reinforced the qualities that will help me become a better human being and professional.

Meet our new students

Ruth

Pursuing a bachelor's degree in Business Administration

I grew up in a group home from the age of five. I watched as friends came and went, and I often wondered if I would ever get out, if I could live differently. I dreamed of changing the course of my life and directing it toward a better future—one where I could travel, have a good job, start a family, and fulfill my aspirations.

It was a little scary at first, but I have lost my fear and transformed it into excitement. Now, I'm on a path where many people encourage me to continue and help me understand the consequences of the decisions I make. I am very grateful to the Gibson Soto Foundation; it motivates me and gives me the strength to pursue my dreams.



At the end of each school year, I reflect on every laugh, friendship, mistake, discussion, and new topic I've learned. Each of these moments represents the steps I'm taking forward in my life. This year, I made a significant change by leaving the group home, and I am preparing myself to one day return and inspire the children who might think the same way I did when I was younger. I want to show them that it is possible to succeed, and if I can do it, they can too.

What I cherish most about being part of the Gibson Soto Foundation is the opportunity to learn many important life lessons. I believe that my efforts will yield great results in the future. I hope to look back and see the little girl who, with all her heart, wanted to fulfill her dreams and reassure her that she is doing very well.

Every day, I learn new things. The Gibson Soto Foundation is providing me with the tools to identify and apply new knowledge for my personal development. I can distinguish what is good or bad for me and recognize that my decisions have consequences. The foundation offers us healthy food to prevent illnesses and, most importantly, teaches us to appreciate and take care of our bodies. We also learn about co-responsibility, which I believe is essential for fostering respect and harmony in group settings.

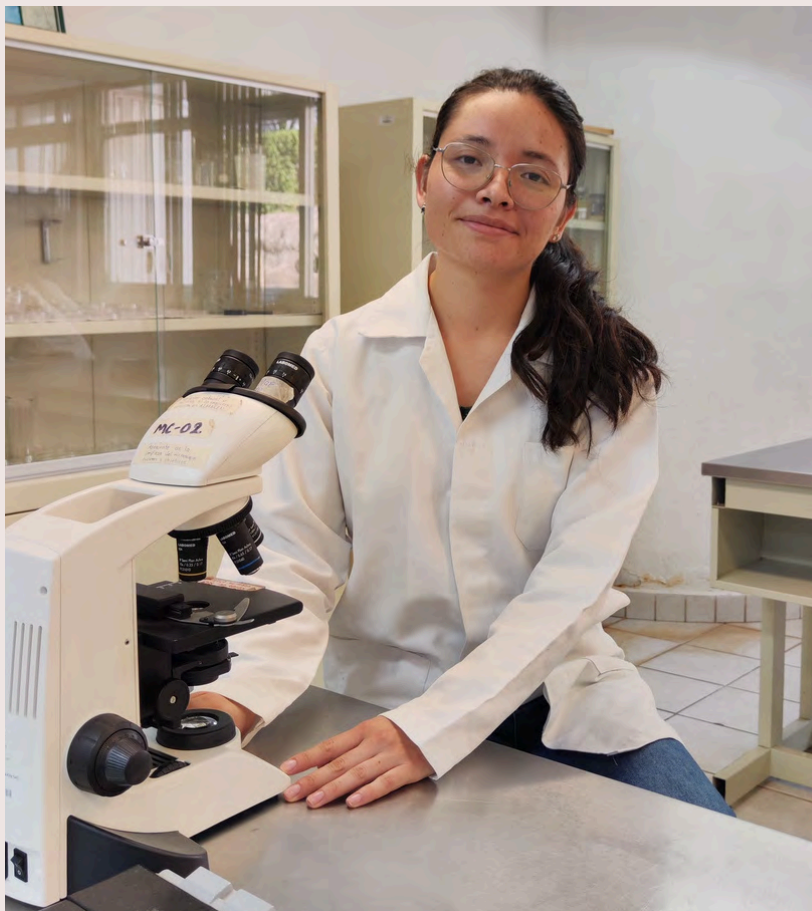
I am very grateful to the Gibson Soto Foundation for opening its doors and allowing me to finish my studies. They have taught me that there are other ways of living. I appreciate the English classes and the sense of community I have found both inside and outside the house, where I can share and discuss my experiences and questions on various topics. The most important thing is that I can accomplish everything I set out to do. Words cannot express how thankful I am to the Gibson Soto Foundation.

Maricarmen

Pursuing a bachelor's degree in Veterinary Medicine

I want to express my gratitude to the Gibson Soto Foundation for supporting my goal of becoming a veterinarian. Their assistance is helping me grow into a strong woman, equipped with the resources needed to face the challenges that could hinder my progress.

This year, the achievements I have made through the Gibson Soto Foundation have allowed me to develop as an individual. I have been participating in various human development workshops, and I feel a responsibility to share the knowledge I've gained with my community. For instance, I've learned about financial literacy, and by sharing this information with others, I can positively impact their lives. In turn, they can pass on this knowledge to others, creating a positive and supportive network.



I have developed a greater sense of responsibility and teamwork from living with others. Collaborating effectively fosters positive outcomes, and daily interactions with multiple people have taught me the importance of working as a team. On a personal level, I've learned to better identify and understand my emotions. Recognizing how I feel helps me address negative emotions or allow them to pass, as I know they typically last only about 45 seconds, and we can experience a multitude of emotions each day.

Financially, I have gained a more positive outlook on the future. One of my key goals is financial freedom, and I am at an ideal age to explore ways to increase my income to achieve this objective. I am acquiring knowledge about investment opportunities and efficient saving strategies.

Additionally, I have become more conscious of taking care of my body since I only have one life. I must eat healthily, stay hydrated, get enough sleep, and avoid foods that are detrimental to my nutrition. I strongly believe in the phrase Healthy body, healthy mind, and I make it a priority to exercise regularly to ensure I am taking care of my body.

I want to express my gratitude to the Gibson Soto Foundation for allowing me to be a part of this amazing organization. Thanks to their support, I can focus on my academic and professional goals without worrying about financial difficulties. Additionally, I greatly appreciate the chance to grow personally and socially. I am thankful for the English classes, which will assist me in my degree and future career, as well as for the home, healthy food, and human development workshops.

Yesenia

Pursuing a bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering

I believe that life often puts us in the right places to help us fulfill our dreams and encourage us not to give up on them. This year, I became part of the Gibson Soto Foundation, which feels like a second family to me. I've realized that all the effort and dedication I put into my goals can open many doors for my future. Honestly, I never imagined I would achieve everything I have built today.



Stories 2024

Life has taught me to believe in myself. Even when I make mistakes, I understand that giving up is not an option; I must always move forward. It's important to remember that what we give often comes back to us. In my personal growth, I have increasingly focused on solidarity. Moving away from my family has significantly increased my maturity. I truly appreciate all the experiences I have gone through because they have shaped me into the person I am today—one with greater vision and dreams to fulfill.

I look forward to continuing my personal growth, increasing my self-esteem, leadership skills, and camaraderie. Academically, I want to improve my English, as knowing another language opens up a world of possibilities. I also hope to continue learning about financial matters to achieve a comfortable retirement in the future.

Being at the Gibson Soto Foundation has helped me realize that they prepare us to be women capable of facing the challenges of life. I want to express my gratitude to them for believing in my potential to do great things. I am thankful for being selected to participate in their program. In the short time I have been here, my life is beginning to turn around 180 degrees. The workshops I have attended are expanding my knowledge for my personal and professional development, as well as for taking better care of my health.

With all my heart, I would like to thank the Gibson Soto Foundation and everyone who believes in me. They motivate me to keep moving forward so that I can eventually give back all the support I have received. I want to be an example for many women, showing them that they can embrace different lifestyles and see the world from new perspectives.

Marijo

Pursuing a bachelor's degree in Accounting and Finance

I am incredibly grateful to the Gibson Foundation for the opportunities it has provided. Through various workshops and activities, I've explored aspects of my life that I hadn't considered before, learning the importance of healthy eating and expressing my emotions. The Conscious Movements workshop particularly helped me connect with myself and release emotional tensions, paving the way to inner peace.



Stories 2024

The Gibson Foundation has also been vital in developing my teamwork and leadership skills. I've learned to listen, understand, and collaborate effectively, realizing that leadership involves inspiring and supporting others in their growth. This environment has equipped me with valuable knowledge and tools that I apply in my personal and professional life.

This year, 2024, has brought significant personal and academic transformations, largely due to the foundation's support. I focused on emotional management, learning to accept my feelings and fostering patience and perseverance with the concept of yet.

The workshops have improved my ability to handle adversity positively and helped me set boundaries for my well-being. Additionally, I made progress in my physical health by committing to regular exercise, which has enhanced both my body and mind, providing me with more energy for daily challenges.

Stories

Ana

Pursuing a bachelor's degree in Veterinary Medicine

I am truly grateful to the Gibson Soto Foundation for the opportunities it has provided me over the past three years. This support has been invaluable not only academically and financially but also in helping me connect with friends and colleagues whom I deeply appreciate. I value the encouragement I have received since my arrival, as well as the friendships that have formed; they have been there for me in times of need, just as I have been there for them.



Additionally, I am thankful for my personal development. The workshops I have participated in have taught me valuable lessons that have prompted deep reflection. This growth has inspired me to work every day towards becoming a better person and improving myself.

In 2024, I had several experiences that I would like to highlight. My greatest achievements included completing another semester of university, bringing me more than halfway through my degree. The opportunity to continue developing as a professional has been invaluable.

Another significant accomplishment in 2024 was the chance to carry out a community project in my hometown. This was a new experience for me, as I had never before presented in front of a younger, unfamiliar group. The responsibility of providing them with accurate and valuable information weighed heavily on me, as the takeaway for the high school teenagers depended on my performance. To be honest, I was quite nervous about the outcome, but in the end, everything went well. I truly hope that the young people benefited from that presentation.

Additionally, I took the step to embrace new experiences and leave my comfort zone. I dyed my hair the color I had always wanted and began practicing a sport like swimming, among other things.

In terms of personal growth, one significant area for me has been academics. Each semester, I acquire new knowledge that will be beneficial in my adult life. I enjoy observing my progress and connecting new information with what I have previously learned. This process inspires me to continue learning and seeking out more knowledge.

Another area where I have grown this year is in interpersonal relationships. I've had the chance to meet more people and deepen my connections with those I already knew, but not on such a profound level. I work on strengthening this aspect of myself daily, as I find it challenging to create new ties. However, once these connections are established, I am truly grateful for the friendships and wonderful individuals I have encountered along the way.

Dalia

Pursuing a bachelor's degree in Educational and Curricular Management

I am deeply grateful to the Gibson Soto Foundation for its fundamental support in my development process. The Foundation has equipped me with the tools to explore my capabilities and helped me understand that growth involves learning from mistakes. Thanks to this support, I have gained resilience and a clearer vision of my goals.



One of my key achievements this year was surpassing my organizational and responsibility goals in my education. I successfully balanced my time between university, loved ones, and personal well-being, which allowed me to fully enjoy each moment.

I also strengthened my communication and leadership skills by stepping up to lead a team. This experience pushed me out of my comfort zone and helped me express my ideas more confidently, which has been vital for my growth.

Additionally, I learned to be patient with myself. I realized the importance of taking time to reflect on experiences without judgment, leading to greater inner peace and a positive approach to challenges.

In my interactions with friends, family, and colleagues, I've worked to understand their perspectives and offer genuine support—a significant improvement for me. I'm gradually becoming better at engaging with others from the heart.

Rosario

Pursuing a bachelor's degree in Global Logistics Engineering

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Gibson Soto Foundation for shaping me into the person I am today. This past year has been one of significant growth for me; I have become a more mature, independent, and resilient woman. I have developed valuable skills and noticed a profound personal change in myself, allowing me to approach complicated situations with a new perspective.

I am thankful for the unwavering support I've received every step of the way. The foundation has reinforced my strengths in various areas and offered workshops that contribute to my professional and personal development. I'm also grateful for the free English classes and the provision of a healthy, balanced diet. Most importantly, I appreciate the foundation's companionship as I navigate the challenges that life presents. It is truly a privilege to be part of such a wonderful institution.



This year, 2024, has been a significant period of learning for me in school, work, and my personal life. I have undoubtedly achieved things I never thought possible at my young age. One of my biggest fears, aside from not getting into college, was maintaining a good GPA. I constantly worried that it would be complicated, that my grades would suffer, and that I would disappoint my parents. However, by setting a goal and staying focused, I have managed to maintain good grades. I am proud to say that I am one of the students with the highest GPA in my group, which brings me immense joy and makes my parents even happier.

Another achievement I cherish is my growth into the woman I am today. I have learned to embrace solitude because I understand that being alone is not a negative experience. I have learned to acknowledge and accept every emotion I feel, recognizing that it is natural to experience both good and bad feelings—no emotion is inherently bad.

I have also learned to set boundaries and distance myself from people who do not contribute positively to my life, prioritizing my peace of mind.

The areas in which I have grown the most personally are physical, emotional, and spiritual. Physically, I try to exercise almost daily, even if it's just for half an hour. Emotionally, I am supported by the love of my parents, friends, and most importantly, my self-love. One of my biggest struggles was not appreciating myself as I am, but now things have changed, and I realize many people have always seen my worth, even if I couldn't see it myself.

Spiritually, I have experienced significant growth as well. Staying connected with nature during stressful times has helped my mind relax and reduced my tendency to overthink. Music has become a vital outlet for expressing those feelings that are difficult to articulate. Additionally, meditating and reading have helped me find peace and harmony within myself.

Maribel

*Pursuing a bachelor's degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry
Biologist*

I arrived at the Gibson Soto Foundation just a year ago, and it has been a year filled with numerous experiences, learnings, and achievements. First and foremost, I consider my ability to continue my university studies to be a significant accomplishment. Unfortunately, there are still limitations on education for women today, largely due to various stereotypes. However, thanks to the support and numerous workshops provided by the foundation, we have been motivated to dismantle these stereotypes. This effort not only helps us break free from cycles of financial poverty but also addresses the mental barriers imposed by outdated ideologies.



Another achievement I am proud of is the improvement of my conversational fluency in English, thanks to the high-quality classes offered at the foundation. I firmly believe that mastering a second language opens many doors for a brighter professional future.

The Gibson Soto Foundation is not just a place that fosters our educational growth; it also nurtures our personal and social development. Today, I can confidently say that I am much more empathetic, supportive, altruistic, and independent than I was a year ago. The foundation has continually encouraged me to become the best version of myself, providing me with the tools needed to strengthen my leadership skills, gratitude, self-love, and self-esteem.

I am grateful to the Gibson Soto Foundation for believing in me from day one and for trusting that I am capable of achieving my goals. My ambition is to graduate as a Pharmaceutical Chemist Biologist to promote women's participation in the exciting world of science, and to serve as a role model for others to follow in building a new legacy in this field.

I appreciate the foundation for providing me with shelter, healthy food, basic necessities, and school supplies, enabling me to thrive in my various pursuits. Thank you for supporting me not only physically but also mentally, by offering resources and guidance to care for myself. They have emphasized that maintaining good mental health is one of the best assets I can have for achieving academic success and demonstrating self-love, care, and value.

María José

Pursuing a bachelor's degree in Global Logistics Engineering

Thanks to the Gibson Soto Foundation's support, I have continued my university studies without worrying about my basic needs. They provide me with a secure and comfortable home, financial assistance for my educational expenses, and opportunities to engage in workshops and activities that enhance my comprehensive training.

During this year, they offered me several personal growth workshops that helped me enhance my self-esteem, improve my communication skills, and strengthen my emotional intelligence. I had the opportunity to engage in physical activities that helped me relieve stress and maintain my health. The support I received from the Gibson Soto Foundation has been essential, and I cannot express my gratitude enough. Without their assistance, many of my achievements might not have been possible.



This year has been truly significant for both my academic and personal life. I successfully completed my Technical Superior University (TSU) degree in Supply Chain Logistics at the Technological University of Querétaro, an achievement that required a great deal of dedication and effort. However, I didn't stop there; I also made progress by continuing my studies for a degree in Management and Administration of Logistics Networks. Both achievements represent my perseverance and passion for professional development. Every subject, team project, and exam has contributed to a process that fills me with satisfaction and pride.

This year has been a significant period for my personal growth, particularly in strengthening key areas of my life. One of the most important areas of growth was my sense of responsibility and my time management skills. Juggling my studies, internships, and personal tasks required me to learn how to balance all my activities without neglecting any of them.

Additionally, I developed my resilience. There were moments when I felt fatigued and doubtful, but I consistently found the motivation to keep pushing forward. Through this experience, I discovered a perseverance within myself that has made me stronger and better prepared for future challenges.

Tere

Pursuing a bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Gibson Soto Foundation for playing a vital role in my personal and professional growth. Thank you for accompanying me on this journey, providing a supportive space, and offering me new opportunities. I deeply appreciate your belief in my abilities, which has been instrumental in helping me achieve my goals. Because of the Gibson Soto Foundation, I am realizing my dreams and discovering new facets of myself.



The year 2024 has been filled with challenges, but it has also brought achievements that fill me with pride. Throughout this year, I have learned valuable lessons in various areas of my life, both academically and personally. I was encouraged to explore new activities, such as participating in a painting workshop, which helped me discover a form of expression and creativity that I had not previously considered.

Additionally, I took control of my finances by starting to save with greater discipline and establishing a personal budget—something I had never done before. This effort was reflected in my studies as well; I managed to improve my grades, which motivated me to continue learning and set new academic goals.

On a personal level, I experienced a significant shift in my mindset. I learned to better manage my emotions and face challenges with a more resilient attitude. I became more organized, setting clear goals and working consistently to achieve them. This approach helped me develop a more positive outlook and stay calm in the face of difficulties, allowing me to move forward effectively in both my academic and personal pursuits.

Without a doubt, one of the areas in which I have grown the most is on a personal level, as I have noticed a significant change in both my physical and mental health. I have prioritized maintaining calm, and that focus has contributed to improvements in various aspects of my life.

TESTIMONY 2024

By Daiysi Palomares. General coordinator of our human development program at La Cima IAP

My experience in 2024 as the Coordinator of La Cima IAP has presented both significant challenges and valuable learning opportunities. This year, we implemented a new selection process and welcomed four new students eager to continue their professional development, each with a bright future ahead. It is complex to define the ideal profiles of these young individuals—not only those who have the drive to succeed and leave a legacy but also women committed to “going further” and empowering their communities through systemic leadership.

Once selected as beneficiaries of our program, these students embark on a journey filled with new experiences and transformative energy. This process fosters complementary skills, capacities, motivations, and dreams in pursuit of a common goal.

Throughout the year, I have found great fulfillment in witnessing the growth of each student at their own pace. My role is to guide and support them in developing their holistic potential and strengthening their identities. Accompanying students through their university journey—where they transition from adolescence to independent adulthood—is invaluable. This stage is crucial for shaping their life projects and can serve as a turning point in their search for a fulfilling and happy life.



As the program coordinator, one of my primary objectives is to ensure the well-being of our students, helping them maintain balance across all areas of their lives. Additionally, I strive to provide them with opportunities that encourage them to look beyond their immediate surroundings and inspire them to explore the deeper meanings behind each experience they encounter.

This year, we proudly supported 14 beneficiaries. This number reflects not just individuals, but a significant impact on hundreds of people in the short, medium, and long term, considering all the communities in which our students are involved. I take great pride in their achievements, as they also represent the hard work of everyone in our organization, dedicated to ensuring our beneficiaries make positive contributions to their environments.

Lately, I have been pondering the possibility of establishing several “La Cima” programs in each state of our country. I often tell the girls, “La Cima” is a unique place in the world that we have the privilege to be part of. What do we want to do with this opportunity? How can we extend the “La Cima” experience to other areas, allowing more women like us to benefit?

I feel fortunate to be surrounded by incredible people who provide various perspectives toward achieving our common goal. They inspire me to continually rebuild a “new Daiysi” each day—a person dedicated to education, psychology, mental health, and creating a better world for all living beings.

I carry a profound sense of responsibility to be a role model for other women, coupled with a strong social commitment to transforming lives through the knowledge I possess, the lessons I am learning, and the journey I am forging along this road of life.

Our program aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 UN Agenda

As an Institution, we want to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and we support the following objectives and goals:

End of poverty



Goals we align ourselves with:

By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for everyone in the world, currently measured by a per-person income of less than US\$1.25 per day.

By 2030, reduce by at least half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.

Quality education



Goals we align ourselves with:

By 2030, ensure equal access for all men and women to quality technical, vocational and higher education, including university education

By 2030, significantly increase the number of young people and adults who have the necessary skills, particularly technical and vocational, to access employment, decent work and entrepreneurship

By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for vulnerable people, including people with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations

Gender equality



Goals we align ourselves with:

Ensure the full and effective participation of women and equal leadership opportunities at all decision-making levels in political, economic and public life

Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of its review conferences .



OUR PROGRAM

Profile of our students:

- The student must have maintained a grade point average during all 3 years of high school within the top 20% of her generation.
- Total family income must be considered at or below the poverty level.
- The student must have the full support of her parents or guardians to continue her university studies and to be part of The Gibson Soto Foundation program.



OUR PROGRAM

Students receive:

- Payment of all college expenses
- Safe and dignified housing
- Nutritious and healthy diet
- Preventive healthcare services
- Academic advice
- Comprehensive human development program
- Psychological support
- English language classes
- Support for recreational, sports, and artistic activities



Our comprehensive Human Development program is divided into 4 development areas:

- Academic and Professional Development
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Comprehensive Physical Health
- Social, Cultural and Community



RESULTS BY AREA

Academic Results

- **Daniela.** Graduated with a bachelor's degree in human nutrition.
- **Isabel.** Finished the 7th semester of her bachelor's degree in psychology
- **Evelyn.** Finished the 7th semester of her bachelor's degree in agri-food biosystems engineering
- **Ana.** Finished the 7th semester of her bachelor's degree in veterinary medicine
- **Jessica.** Finished the 10th semester of her bachelor's degree in design and management of logistics networks
- **Dulce.** Finished the 10th semester of her bachelor's degree in educational and curricular management
- **Majo.** Finished the 7th semester of her bachelor's degree in global logistics engineering
- **Dalia.** Finished the 7th semester of her bachelor's degree in educational and curricular management
- **Tere.** Finished the 3rd semester of her bachelor's degree in industrial engineering
- **Rosario.** Finished the 4th semester of her bachelor's degree in global logistics engineering
- **Mariel.** Finished the 4th semester of her bachelor's degree in pharmaceutical chemistry biologist
- **Ruth.** Finished the 3rd semester of her bachelor's degree in business administration
- **Marijo.** Finished the 3rd semester of her bachelor's degree in accounting and finance
- **Maricarmen.** Finished the 2nd semester of her bachelor's degree in veterinary medicine
- **Yesenia.** Finished the 1st semester of her bachelor's degree in environmental engineering



Social Impact

- We impacted the lives of 14 university students by providing all the means to successfully continue their university studies
- The students received hours of human development courses
- The students received hours of English classes
- Daniela graduated with a Bachelor´s Degree in Human Nutrition
- We received 4 new students:
 - Ruth, pursuing a bachelor's degree in Business Administration
 - Marijo, pursuing a bachelor's degree in Accounting and Finance
 - Maricarmen, pursuing a bachelor's degree in Veterinary Medicine
 - Yesenia, pursuing a bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering



Social Impact

- We included more than 77 volunteers and students offering social service for our institution
- We received more than 650 volunteer hours



Remodeling our facilities in Mexico.

This year, we remodeled our facilities in Mexico, La Cima IAP, to create a private space dedicated to psychological counseling and a space to welcome the 4 new students.

Mental health is essential for the well-being and development of our students. Having a private space for psychological sessions ensures they receive the necessary support in a safe and confidential environment, helping them overcome challenges and strengthen their emotional well-being.

The remodeling has also enabled us to welcome four new students, allowing us to expand our reach and support more young women in breaking the cycle of poverty through education. La Cima IAP continues to grow, and we are more committed than ever to providing our students with educational and personal development opportunities.



Reforestation of Green Areas.

We are thankful to the group of 50 volunteers from IMI Precision Engineering Norgren for reforesting the garden of La Cima with 29 trees, contributing to a better future. Trees play a crucial role in our environment and climate. They provide oxygen, reduce carbon dioxide, enhance air quality, and create habitats for wildlife.



Nutrition Program

During 2024, we continued to strengthen our nutrition program with a comprehensive approach aimed at creating healthy and sustainable habits. Our students participated in a program that included two workshops led by nutritionists, along with individual body composition assessments. This year, we also reviewed and adjusted the menus designed by specialists to better meet our students' nutritional needs.

In the workshops, our students learned about the different food groups and their impact on the body. They explored the importance of proper nutrition, exercise, rest, and being attentive to their body's signals for their overall health. Additionally, they acquired tools to differentiate between emotional hunger and physiological hunger, applying mindfulness techniques to enhance their ability to make informed food choices.

This program not only contributes to their current well-being but also encourages self-care practices that will have a positive impact on their quality of life in the long term.



Institutional Growth

Our staff participated in courses and renewed agreements and certifications:

- February 2024. Renewal of Social Service agreement with ITESM
- April 2024. Renewal of Registration with the Querétaro Private Assistance Board
- May 2024. Leadership Skills Workshop. Taught by Fundación Merced AC
- April to June 2024. Human Development Program for leaders. Taught by Fundación Merced Querétaro AC
- July 2024. Renewal of the Accreditation in Institutionality and Transparency granted by the Mexican Center for Philanthropy CEMEFI
- September 2024. Training for educators. Taught by JuventudES
- September 2024. Seminar of NGOs of Bajío. Taught by Fundación Merced Querétaro AC
- October 2024. Introduction to Artificial Intelligence for NGOs. Taught by Trascendencia Social.



Thanks to our generous donors, during 2024 we also supported 3 other Foundations in Queretaro

Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to the incredible generosity of our donors. Thanks to their unwavering support, we not only covered the complete program costs for 14 remarkable young women at La Cima IAP in Queretaro, Mexico, but also extended our impact to support other three nonprofits in Queretaro whose missions align closely with our values.

Senderos IAP: This organization offers a nurturing home for orphan boys with disabilities. Through an inclusive environment, Senderos promotes their development, providing essential tools for healthy growth and the expression of personal abilities and skills, fostering functionality, and encouraging collaboration to create a better world.

Asociación Maximiliano María Kolbe: This association provides a caring home for girls, adolescents, and adults with permanent mental deficiencies who have endured physical and mental violence and abandonment.

Mexico Home for Boys: This organization provides a nurturing home and education for orphan boys, offering them a supportive environment to grow, learn, and thrive.

Together with our donors, we're fostering positive change, creating a ripple effect of transformation, and making a meaningful difference in the lives of those we touch. Our gratitude knows no bounds for each donor who has played a pivotal role in this shared journey of empowerment and community development.



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The Gibson Soto Foundation is a 501c3 in the United States and La Cima a registered Private Assistance Institution (IAP) in Mexico.

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