

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Executive Committee of the MLI Board of  
Directors  
March 25, 2025**

The Executive Committee of the Marshall Legacy Institute Board of Directors convened on March 25, 2025, for a special meeting to review and approve the MLI Colombia 2024 Report.

MLI Executive Director, Elise Becker, presented the Executive Committee with the MLI Colombia 2025 Report. The report contained an Operations Report, detailing the impact of MLI Colombia Programs; a Financial Report, detailing the financial statements of the MLI Colombia Branch Office; and a Section on Surplus Allocation and Utilization, providing a recommendation for the utilization of remaining funds in the MLI account for 2025.

The MLI Executive Committee members individually reviewed the Colombia 2024 financial report and unanimously approved the following:

1. The financial report for the MLI Colombia Branch Office from January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024
2. The recommendation to utilize the surplus of funds to facilitate our program activities in Colombia in 2025
3. The operations report which discussed the management and results of the program activities in 2024.

Elise thanked the Executive Committee Members for their review and approval of the MLI Colombia 2024 report and the meeting adjourned.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elise Becker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elise Becker  
Executive Director, MLI  
March 25, 2025

## Annex

### MLI Colombia Report: Presentation to the Board of Directors



## 2024 – COLOMBIA REPORT

### INTRODUCTION

MLI Colombia, established as an international non-profit organization in July 2017 and duly incorporated in the country, serves as an extension of MLI's mission in the United States. The purpose is to help Colombia foster a legacy of peace and stability.

MLI Colombia is dedicated in spreading awareness about the scourge of landmines on affected communities and promoting positive societal transformation by actively engaging in peacebuilding and conflict resolution initiatives. Central to our strategy is the cultivation of youth leadership, as we believe in empowering the next generation to play a pivotal role in creating a safer and more harmonious environment.

By combining our expertise, resources, and collaborative efforts, MLI Colombia endeavors to foster positive change addressing the pressing issue of antipersonnel landmines and conflict in Colombia through impactful humanitarian and sustainable programs.

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1. OPERATIONS REPORT: IMPACT OF MLI COLOMBIA PROGRAMS
2. FINANCIAL REPORT: MLI COLOMBIA BRANCH OFFICE
3. SURPLUS ALLOCATION AND UTILIZATION

### 1. OPERATIONS REPORT: IMPACT OF MLI COLOMBIA PROGRAMS

#### PEACE MAKERS AND PROBLEM SOLVERS – PMPS

*PMPS is a leadership development and intercultural exchange program designed by MLI to unite youth from the United States with underserved communities in Colombia to develop and enhance transformational life skills through practical application. Through experiential learning processes and real-life experiences, youth become active agents of change by addressing social issues and creating positive impact in their own communities.*

- **In March 2024**, MLI welcomed a new cohort of 16 Colombian students into the PMPS program from two schools in the Urabá region: Diocesano Laura Montoya in Chigorodó, Antioquia, and La Provincia School in Carepa, Antioquia. Additionally, 26 U.S. students joined from two schools: Poolesville High School in Maryland and St. Edmund's Academy in Pennsylvania. Together, they engaged in the PMPS curriculum through November and participated in five cross-cultural virtual exchange sessions.

- Guided by their teachers, the student groups successfully developed and implemented community-service projects over a three-month period. The Colombian groups designed and executed two distinct projects that benefited their school communities, reaching more than 600 community members. Meanwhile, U.S. groups have various projects underway, set to conclude in the spring, each aimed at creating a meaningful impact and contributing to community well-being.

## Colombian Initiatives

### *Co-Creating Our Future" – Tackling Dropout Rates and Inspiring Careers*

At **La Provincia School**, 8 students, guided by one teacher, launched a project to address high school dropout rates and foster academic engagement.

Their initiative focused on offering extracurricular workshops for students in grades 6 to 11, providing opportunities to explore their passions and discover sustainable career paths. Through hands-on courses designed to uncover their talents, the project aimed to create a more inclusive and inspiring school environment. By transforming the school into a welcoming and engaging space, the students hope to motivate their peers to stay committed to their education and invest in their futures.



### *"The Room of Emotions" – Promoting Emotional Well-being*

At **Diocesano Laura Montoya School**, 8 students, with two of their teachers, revamped a socio-emotional project to address academic stress and foster emotional well-being by creating a space where students can manage their emotions, build healthy relationships, and strengthen peer support networks.

Students developed and led four workshops to help peers understand and moderate their emotions oriented to 6th to 7th grade:

1. How Do I Feel and Why?
2. Experiences That Have Made Me Feel
3. How I React to Different Emotions
4. Applying What I've Learned

The workshops focused on self-awareness and emotional regulation, empowering participants to navigate personal and academic challenges effectively.



## U.S. Initiatives

In the United States, students are working on various community projects that are set to conclude in the spring. These initiatives aim to address unique local needs and continue the tradition of making meaningful contributions to society.



**Poolesville High School** is addressing pollution from local storm drains that endangers nearby ecosystems and bays. To combat this, students are accurately labeling drains to encourage correct waste disposal and decrease littering, thereby promoting environmental stewardship and safeguarding waterways for future generations.

**St. Edmund's Academy** is keen on contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals and being part of the solution to improve local issues. Seventh graders are divided into smaller groups, choosing issues they are passionate about and determining the best initiatives to address them. They are researching, learning, and taking action.



## CHILDREN AGAINST LANDMINES PROGRAM – CHAMPS

*CHAMPS Colombia unites students in mine-affected rural in Colombia with peers in the U.S. with the shared goal of fostering cultural exchange, raising awareness of the landmine issue, and teaching collaboration to address this problem. Also, through dialogue and collaboration, CHAMPS aims to nurture a sense of global citizenship among these young students, fostering a future generation that values cooperation, empathy, and cross-cultural understanding.*





***In May 2024***, the 2023-2024 CHAMPS program successfully concluded, bringing together students from elementary schools in remote rural areas of Urrao, Antioquia, Colombia, and an elementary school in Ellicott City, Maryland, USA.

A total of 55 students—44 in Colombia and 11 in the U.S.—participated in five virtual sessions focused on leadership, perspective, empathy, inclusion, and stereotypes. The program also fostered discussions on cultural aspects of the students' communities and raised awareness about landmines. Highlights included a guest speaker on landmine issues and a special demonstration by MLI's K9 Ambassador, Rico.

***In October 2024***, MLI warmly welcomed students for the 2024-25 cohort from a new private school in Bogotá, Colombia—Gimnasio Femenino—and from our newest partner municipality, Divino Niño in Puerto Asís, Putumayo, in southern Colombia.

These students, representing both an urban center and a rural community, are engaging with peers from MLI's longtime U.S. partner, Glenelg Country School in Maryland. In 2024, they connected virtually twice, exchanging insights about their communities and traditions, fostering cross-cultural understanding, and building meaningful connections.

Looking ahead to 2025, CHAMPS remains committed to fostering cultural exchange and increasing awareness about landmine issues, striving to build a global community that values diversity and works together to address shared challenges.



## 2. FINANCIAL REPORT: MLI COLOMBIA OFFICE

MLI Colombia holds a savings bank account with Davivienda, a local financial entity, to fulfill potential requirements for administering grants that may exclusively be funded in Colombia. The account was established in 2019 with a patrimonial provision of COP \$50,000. In 2020, an additional COP \$100,000 was recorded as a donation. Of this amount, COP \$30,000 was utilized to cover financial and banking expenses associated with the entity's savings account.

From January 1st, 2024, through December 31st, 2024, MLI Colombia's financial composition was as follows:

### **BALANCE SHEET (COP\$)**

#### **ASSETS**

Current Assets	
Cash	\$114,762
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$114,762</b>

#### **LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

LIABILITIES	\$0
NET ASSETS	\$114,762
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$114,762</b>

### **STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (COP\$)**

<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>	<b>\$105</b>
Dividends	\$105
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$105</b>
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$114,657
<b>NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$114,762</b>

## 3. SURPLUS ALLOCATION AND UTILIZATION

To support ongoing activities in Colombia throughout 2025, the remaining funds in the account will be utilized for covering office administrative operation expenses or any essential financial requirements for the successful implementation of the CHAMPS and PMPS programs.