

2024

# INVEST FOR CHILDREN

Invest for  
*the future*

[investforchildren.org](https://investforchildren.org)  
[downtv.org](https://downtv.org)

i4c is audited by: 



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# INVEST FOR CHILDREN

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# Invest for the future

## PRESENTATION

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*Understanding diversity  
and working towards  
integration*

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Member of:  **ASOCIACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE FUNDACIONES**

Audited by: 

**INVEST FOR CHILDREN (i4c)** is a non-profit international organization committed to helping differently-abled people and under-privileged children achieve a better quality of life.

i4c works directly with individuals and their families, as well as in collaboration with different Foundations related to health and research, employment, education and sport.

Invest for children applies **Venture Philanthropy**, helping other foundations find recurring revenues.

### What is Venture Philanthropy?

Venture Philanthropy (or Risk Philanthropy) is a field of philanthropy where the models of Risk Capital are applied to foundations and non-profit organizations.



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### Mission statement

The mission of Invest for children is to help differently-abled people and under-privileged children achieve a better quality of life. i4c works directly with individuals and their families, as well as in collaboration with different Foundations related to health and research, employment, education and sport.

### Objectives and purpose

#### We want a society that integrates diversity.

The objective of i4c is to support the social integration of differently-abled people, especially children and youth.

- **i4c promotes and offers programmes to achieve social and work placement inclusion of differently-abled people, including:**
  - » Educational programmes for differently-abled children and youth.
  - » Programmes to create employment for differently-abled individuals.
  - » Programmes to promote culture, leisure and sport activities.
  - » i4c provides prizes and scholarships to promote educational integration and work placement inclusion.
- **i4c supports and collaborates with other foundations that share the same purpose:**
  - » i4c uses communication campaigns to help grow the activities and work of smaller foundations.
  - » i4c provides organizational advice.
- **i4c promotes conferences, seminars and panels related to the foundation's purpose.**
- **i4c publishes reports related to the foundation's purpose.**
- **i4c promotes social awareness campaigns related to the foundation's purpose.**
- **i4c supports, collaborates and participates with entities promoting general social movements.**

i4c promotes any activities that help achieve and fulfill the foundation's purpose.

# Invest for the future

## HOW WE WORK

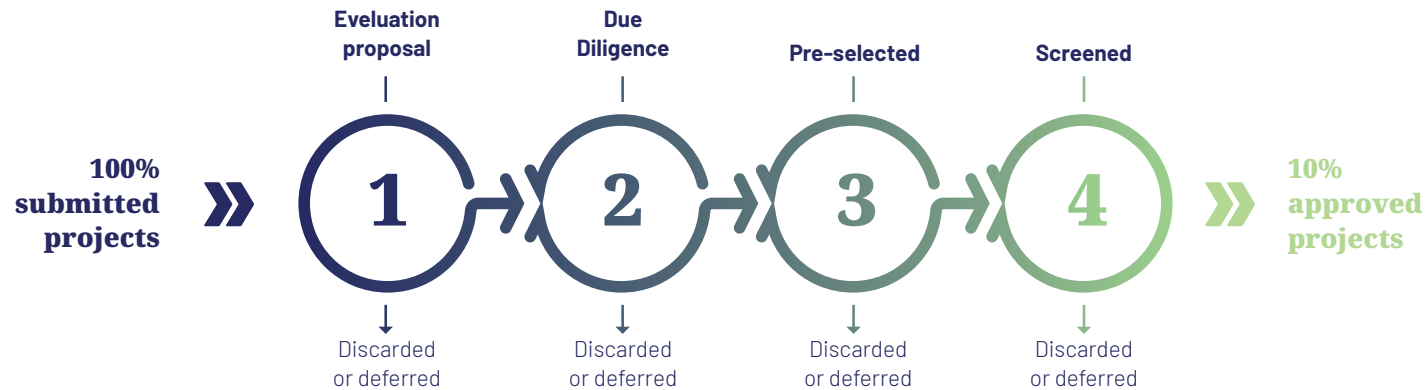
### Methodology and analysis

2023

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Our main objective is to support people with intellectual disabilities in order to achieve a better quality of life

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### Invest for children value chain

#### Phase 1 » Search for and evaluation of foundation projects

Our main focus is on people with intellectual disabilities.

We carry out a proactive search, using the latest available information, for charities supporting people using best practices.

Each organisation must pass a rigorous selection process and due diligence to ensure that its work and mission meet Invest for children's criteria.

#### Phase 2 » Close collaboration and creation of an investment agreement

We commit to selected charities by establishing a close partnership.

We formalise the investment agreements.

We measure and monitor impact.

#### Phase 3 » Working together for the growth and development of the foundation

Invest for children commits to the foundation in order to implement its growth and development.

Follow-up meetings are held quarterly to track the progress of each organisation and an annual appraisal is also carried out.

#### Phase 4 » Increased social value and finalising the agreement

There is a clear initial agreement on strategy, objectives and an exit plan.

Invest for children acts as an advisor, bringing foundations together in order to achieve social impact that continues beyond our social investment.



### Projects



[aurafundacio.org](http://aurafundacio.org)



[sjdhospitalbarcelona.org](http://sjdhospitalbarcelona.org)



[fundacionelenabarraquer.com](http://fundacionelenabarraquer.com)



[blumbuilder.org](http://blumbuilder.org)



[terral.org](http://terral.org)



[apneff.org](http://apneff.org)



[downtv.org](http://downtv.org)



[sindromedown.cat](http://sindromedown.cat)



[mifundacionalex.org](http://mifundacionalex.org)

# Invest for the future

## PROJECTS

### Employment

Employment is the most important element of social integration, even for people with disabilities. Employment improves the autonomy and independence of individuals with intellectual disabilities. Therefore, Invest for children is committed to this sector by making entrepreneurs aware of the benefits of hiring people with disabilities.”

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*Employment improves the autonomy and independence of people with intellectual disabilities*

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## Collaboration with Aura Foundation

aurafundacion.org

Since 2012, Invest for children has been committed to work placement inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities through the Aura Foundation project.

**Aura Foundation** was established in October 1989. It is a non-profit organization, initially established as an association and since 2004 as a foundation. It has been the first Supported Employment programme in Spain, pioneering the implementation and development of this methodology.

The foundational purpose of Aura Foundation is to provide the necessary resources to individuals with Down syndrome and other intellectual disabilities, enabling them to receive appropriate training to be included both in the workforce and in society, offering the opportunity to perform real work in a regular company and to adapt appropriately to the work environment. Invest for children financially supports them to carry out this work with the aim of increasing the number of beneficiaries of this foundation.

Aura Foundation has decided to expand its vocational training and its offer of online training courses so that participants can acquire learning with the maximum possible autonomy, with continuous support from the trainer who provides the necessary tools, and with continuous interaction with their peer group, which facilitates the teaching-learning process.

Aura Foundation offers different programmes for the work placement inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities:

- **Aura Inicial:** This is a program that precedes vocational training and complements school education or the completion of Vocational Training Programs for Employment Integration (PFIS, by its initials in Spanish). It works in groups of 2 to 4 people, ensuring that



there is maximum affinity among participants in terms of their interests, abilities, and skills, and matching them according to age. The goal is for the participants to acquire learning with the maximum possible autonomy, with continuous support from the trainer who provides the necessary tools, and with ongoing interaction with their peers, which facilitates the teaching-learning process. This program focuses on different essential areas for the stage of maturity that participants are experiencing and is suitable for increasing their autonomy.



- **Continuous Training:** This is a space offered to users who participate in Aura Foundation as an essential complement to labor integration. Today, continuous training is considered both a right and a duty for all citizens to seek to improve their skills throughout their lives. In the case of adults with cognitive difficulties, continuous training is essential for maintaining acquired competencies and acquiring new knowledge. This enables them, alongside normalized employment, to be active, participative, and responsible citizens.

- **Supported Living Programme:** This programme focuses on providing the opportunity for individuals to live in a normalized environment with university students, learning to live and take on responsibilities that come with sharing a home with others. Personal supports and close monitoring by a team of professionals are offered to help the individual manage activities of daily living in their home and society, ensuring well-being and safety conditions.

- **The Club:** A space where participants of Aura Foundation can discuss and advocate for their rights. It is a self-managed group that represents the voice, values, breaking the silence, and one of the beginnings of equality for people with disabilities. Self-representation and mutual assistance among peers, following the Canadian model of “Self-advocacy” from the early PEOPLE FIRST groups, imply that members of THE CLUB act as representatives of all participants of Aura Foundation advocating for their rights and assisting their peers. The self-advocacy movement regarding people with disabilities, in basic terms, consists of being able to speak for oneself.

- **Research:** The Neuropsychology programme was established in 2006 in response to the need to study and longitudinally monitor the neuropsychological characteristics of Aura Foundation participants. The Neuropsychological Monitoring Screening (SAS-NPS) tool is used to collect information on cognitive, behavioral, and emotional indicators, enabling precise prevention and detection of changes that may occur. Additionally, cognitive stimulation programmes have been implemented for years with the aim of maintaining and/or enhancing participants' abilities.

For the past five years, Aura Foundation has been coordinating a multicenter study with Ramon Llull University (Blanquerna), involving 23 Spanish institutions and 2 Ibero-American institutions. These institutions are also using the Neuropsychological Monitoring Screening (SAS-NPS). Currently, the initial descriptive results have been obtained from a sample of 200 individuals with Down syndrome. These results allow for comparison of cognitive evolution across three distinct age groups, with the primary goal of detecting early changes and signs of cognitive aging in individuals with Down syndrome and other intellectual disabilities.

- **Aura Vital:** This programme provides a suitable space for participants of Aura Foundation who, due to various circumstances, have had to interrupt their work life, either temporarily or permanently. Aura Vital offers support and attention tailored to individual needs through activities that optimize physical, social, and mental well-being. The life process varies for each person, and therefore, the aim is to promote greater self-determination and personal autonomy to encourage active and healthy aging, as well as an improved quality of life.

## Saving Plans

Since 2007, Invest for children has been a steadfast sponsor of the Savings Plans of CaixaBank, intended for selected **beneficiaries among the outstanding participants of Aura Foundation**, in recognition of their dedication and work motivation. This commitment reflects Invest for children's conviction in the transformative potential of investing in labor integration and the well-being of young people with intellectual disabilities, thereby supporting the development of future generations with opportunities and continuous support.



## Collaboration with Blum Foundation

Invest for Children has collaborated with Blum Foundation with the purpose of further promoting the She Bistro project.

It is a project driven by Cooking for Mission and Blum, which work to provide opportunities for women survivors of gender-based violence and people with disabilities through cooking as a means of training, employability, and community action.

In 2022, She Bistro inaugurated its first social restaurant in Barcelona, where they also integrate a chef and a head waiter as the only two non-vulnerable individuals on the team, along with two people with disabilities and six women survivors of gender-based violence.



# SHE BISTRO



This project is a commitment to empower women victims of violence and people with disabilities through training and employment. Thus, it consists of a first phase in which participants engage in hospitality internships and attend psychosocial support workshops and skills training. Subsequently, they are provided support in transitioning to permanent employment, either through hiring them in the restaurant or through their incorporation into the staff of allied restaurants and companies.

# Invest for the future

## PROJECTS

### Health

Invest for children supports a variety of projects aimed at improving the quality of medical services and promoting research in the field of health.

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*Invest for children supports various projects that improve the quality of medical service and research*

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## SJD Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona

[sjdhospitalbarcelona.org](http://sjdhospitalbarcelona.org)

**Invest for children, one of the main founding donors in the creation of the SJD Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona, has shown an unwavering commitment to the fight against childhood cancer.**

Located in Barcelona, the SJD Pediatric Cancer Center is the **first specialized pediatric oncology center in Spain and the second in Europe**. Its significance lies in its ability to provide specialized and cutting-edge care to children and adolescents affected by this devastating disease.

The objectives of the SJD Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona are ambitious and fundamental to its mission. Firstly, it aims to continuously increase the cure rate of childhood cancer by dedicating resources and efforts to research and the development of innovative treatments. Additionally, it focuses on finding effective solutions for types of cancer that still lack a cure, offering hope to patients facing challenging diagnoses.

In addition to treating the disease itself, the center is committed to addressing the physical and emotional sequelae that may persist in surviving children after treatment, ensuring comprehensive and personalized care that encompasses all the needs of the patient and their family.

A crucial aspect of the mission of the SJD Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona is its commitment to equity in access to healthcare. It strives to be an open and accessible center for all, regardless of their economic situation, ensuring that no child is deprived of receiving the treatment they need due to financial limitations.

The SJD Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona is distinguished not only for its excellence in medical treatment but also for its holistic approach that encompasses emotional, social, and educational aspects. The center



boasts a multidisciplinary team of highly trained professionals, including pediatric oncologists, specialized nurses, psychologists, social workers, and teachers, among others, who work closely together to provide comprehensive support to patients and their families.

In addition to its dedication to clinical care, the SJD Pediatric Cancer Center actively engages in research in pediatric

oncology. Through collaborations with academic institutions and internationally renowned research centers, the center drives scientific advancements that have the potential to significantly improve treatment outcomes and quality of life for pediatric cancer patients.

The work of the SJD Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona also extends beyond Spanish borders. Through collaboration and training programmes, the center shares its expertise and knowledge with healthcare professionals worldwide, thereby contributing to the improvement of pediatric oncology care in countries where resources are limited.

 **Sant Joan de Déu**  
Barcelona · Hospital  
**Pediatric Cancer Center**

The SJD Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona has 37 rooms, 8 bone marrow transplant chambers, 26 day hospital boxes, and 21 outpatient clinics, as well as two high-tech operating rooms and nuclear medicine equipment that became operational last year. In 2023, the average occupancy rate was 78%, and as an indication of its activity, an average of 6 surgical interventions, 30 day hospital sessions, and 48 laboratory tests were performed each day.

In 2023, a total of 460 patients were treated, including new patients treated at the SJD PCCB and second opinions provided by our professionals. Of these 460 patients, 181 were international, reaffirming the international character of the center. It is also noteworthy that the center has already reached over 100 treatments with CART therapy, which has revolutionized the treatment of childhood leukemia. In this regard, in 2024, the new Clean Rooms will be operational, allowing the production of these advanced therapies within the center itself.

The SJD Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona also features a dedicated rehabilitation area for its patients, equipped with materials tailored to their healthcare requirements. This setup not only enables the simultaneous treatment of more children and adolescents but also consolidates the care of both hospitalized and outpatient individuals in a single location. Here, children can receive specialized treatment according to their specific pathology and age groups. Additionally, the center provides a specialized Oncology Pharmacy service for dispensing treatment regimens tailored to oncology patients.

The SJD Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona, the first monographic pediatric oncology center in Spain and the second in Europe, also has pediatric oncology laboratories, where the activity of assistance and research is combined. This space condenses the care model of the new center, based on comprehensive patient care and the translation of research into clinical practice whenever possible.

## Collaboration with Elena Barraquer Foundation

**Invest for children has collaborated with Elena Barraquer Foundation, an organization dedicated to combating blindness caused by cataracts in disadvantaged regions.**

In many developing countries, blindness caused by cataracts is a preventable tragedy, as up to 80% of affected individuals could regain their sight with appropriate surgery. The Elena Barraquer Foundation works tirelessly by organizing medical-surgical expeditions to remote areas of the world where access to healthcare is limited or nonexistent, with the aim of performing cataract surgeries and restoring vision to those who have lost it. During these expeditions, the foundation focuses exclusively on cataract surgery, allowing them to maximize the impact of their interventions and provide transformative results for patients. Invest for Children's contribution to this noble cause reflects its commitment to improving the health and well-being of the most vulnerable communities.



[fundacionelenabarraquer.com](http://fundacionelenabarraquer.com)





# Invest for the *future*

## PROYECTOS

### Education

People with intellectual disabilities are capable of pursuing their studies normally. Invest for children seeks to promote higher education or vocational training for individuals with intellectual disabilities so that they are highly qualified and prepared for employment integration.

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*We promote the achievement of further education and vocational training*

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## University Scholarship

**In 2023, Invest for children awarded its fourth university scholarship for a student participating in the El Terral Foundation in Ciutat Vella to pursue a degree in Industrial Design and Product Development Engineering.**

“El Terral” is an activity center in the Raval neighborhood of Barcelona promoted by Raval en acció, assoc., where programmes are developed to provide socio-educational support to young people and women - mostly immigrants - and offer resources that facilitate job placement and integration. To carry out the programs, volunteering among students and professionals is promoted. The scholarship awarded by Invest for Children represents a continued commitment to educational development and empowerment of youth, highlighting its commitment to equal opportunities and strengthening vulnerable communities.



terral.org

## Collaboration with El Terral

During the year 2023, Invest for children continued its commitment to the El Terral Foundation of Ciutat Vella (Barcelona) by **covering the maintenance and consumption expenses of two mineral water sources** in their offices, a practice they have been carrying out since 2012.



terral

## Collaboration with APNEEF

In 2023, Invest for children collaborated with APNEEF to support a group of students with intellectual disabilities in their end-of-studies trip. The Association of People with Special Needs of Ibiza and Formentera (APNEEF) was founded in 1998 with the purpose of promoting the development and evolution of children and adolescents with special needs, aiming to improve their quality of life and integration into society, paving the way for a more promising future.

APNEEF is a non-profit organization that brings together children and teenagers with various special needs, whether they are physical, psychological, sensory, and/or cognitive in nature. Its mission is to provide comprehensive support to this group, offering resources and services designed to promote their well-being and full participation in the community. The donation from Invest for children reflects their commitment to inclusion and support for those facing unique challenges on their path to personal fulfillment and social integration.

[Apneef.org](http://Apneef.org)



# Invest for the future

## PROJECTS

### Social inclusion

The social inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities is essential for building a truly egalitarian society. By ensuring their active participation in all aspects of community life, not only their individual well-being is promoted, but diversity is also enriched and an environment of mutual respect and acceptance is fostered.

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We promote the achievement of further education and vocational training

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## Collaboration with Down Catalunya

In 2023, Invest for children has continued to maintain the collaboration with **Down Catalunya**, with the aim of dedicating a day to organizations working for the social and labor inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities, but open to everyone. On October 7, 2023, the “Fent Amics” event was held at PortAventura Park.



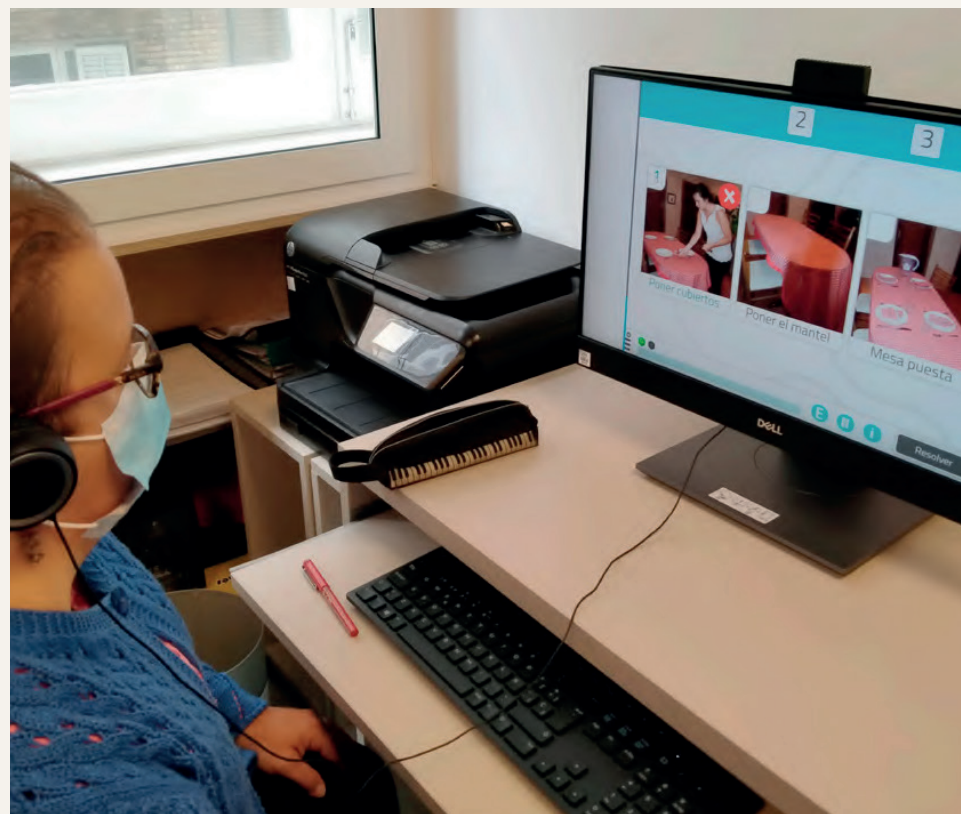
[sindromedown.cat/es/](http://sindromedown.cat/es/)

## Down TV

**Down TV (www.downtv.org)** is the **first video-sharing platform dedicated exclusively to Down syndrome**. Its focus is not only on the community of individuals with Down syndrome, who have the opportunity to share their own videos and perspectives of the world, but also on their families and professionals related to Trisomy 21, including healthcare personnel, educators, and entrepreneurs, among others.

All videos on Down TV are categorized by theme, allowing for a free service and attention to visually address the various questions that may arise about this genetic condition and the capabilities of individuals with Down syndrome. Since its creation in 2010, Down TV has accumulated over 3,000 videos on its website, providing a valuable source of information and support for the community.

In addition to its online platform, **Down TV** maintains an active presence on social media, including a Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/DownTV>) and a bilingual blog in Spanish and English, providing an additional space for interaction and the exchange of experiences among its users.



### Users by country

<b>Spain</b>	4,1 mil
<b>Mexic</b>	3,2 mil
<b>USA</b>	2,3 mil
<b>Argentina</b>	1,4 mil
<b>Peru</b>	1,4 mil
<b>Colombia</b>	1,3 mil
<b>Chile</b>	1,2 mil



Down TV has been providing an invaluable **online and free service** for the past 13 years to both foundations and families affected by Down syndrome. Down TV's primary mission is to gather a wide variety of videos related to this genetic condition, meticulously cataloged to facilitate access to all relevant information in one place.

In order to keep up with technological demands and user needs, **a complete website renovation** was carried out in 2022 using the WordPress platform. The main purpose of this update was to modernize the page, making it more intuitive and accessible to our users. As a result, a bilingual version in Spanish and English was launched, available on both desktop and mobile versions, in response to the growing English-speaking audience. Therefore, each week a post is published in both Spanish and English on both versions of the website, providing valuable content in both languages.

By promoting awareness of Down syndrome, Down TV aims to break down stigmas and prejudices, promote inclusion and respect for people with this condition, and provide support and resources to families facing the challenges associated with Down syndrome. Ultimately, the purpose of Down TV is to **contribute to the creation of a more inclusive, empathetic, and compassionate society**, where all people, regardless of their differences, are valued and respected equally.



# Invest for the future

## PROJECTS

### Deporte

The sports inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities is crucial to promote equal opportunities and holistic development. By facilitating their active participation in sports activities, not only their physical and emotional health is improved, but their self-esteem is also strengthened, and social integration is fostered. Furthermore, sports inclusion helps to break down barriers and stereotypes, promoting a culture of respect and diversity in the sports arena and beyond.

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Promotion of sport for people with Down's Syndrome

”

## Collaboration with Mi Alex Foundation



[mifundacionalex.org/](http://mifundacionalex.org/)

In 2023, Invest for children collaborated with Mi Alex Foundation in support of the Atlètic Lleida Genuine sports project. This project marks a significant milestone for Lleida by having a Genuine football team, which began in the 2022-2023 season.

The participation of Atlètic Lleida Genuine in LaLiga Genuine Santander, a football competition for people with intellectual disabilities in Spain, highlights the commitment of professional football to diversity and inclusion. This competition, organized by the LaLiga Foundation, has been a vital vehicle for promoting equal opportunities in sports since its first edition in 2017.

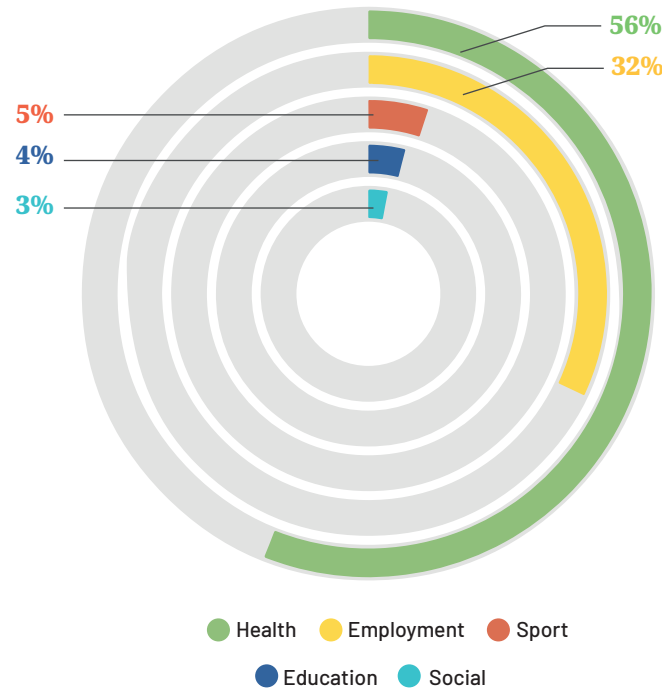
Invest for children's collaboration to Mi Alex Foundation demonstrates its commitment to promoting inclusion and empowerment through sports.



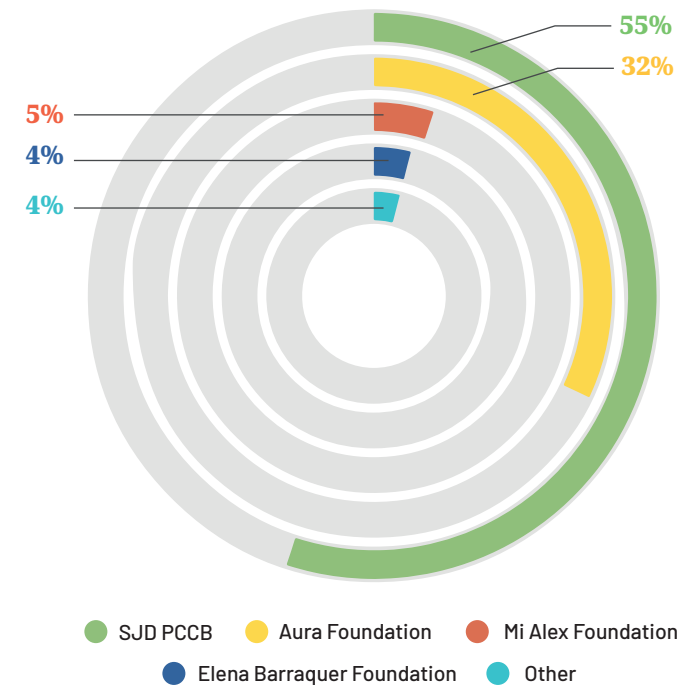
# Invest for the future

## DISTRIBUTION OF DONATIONS

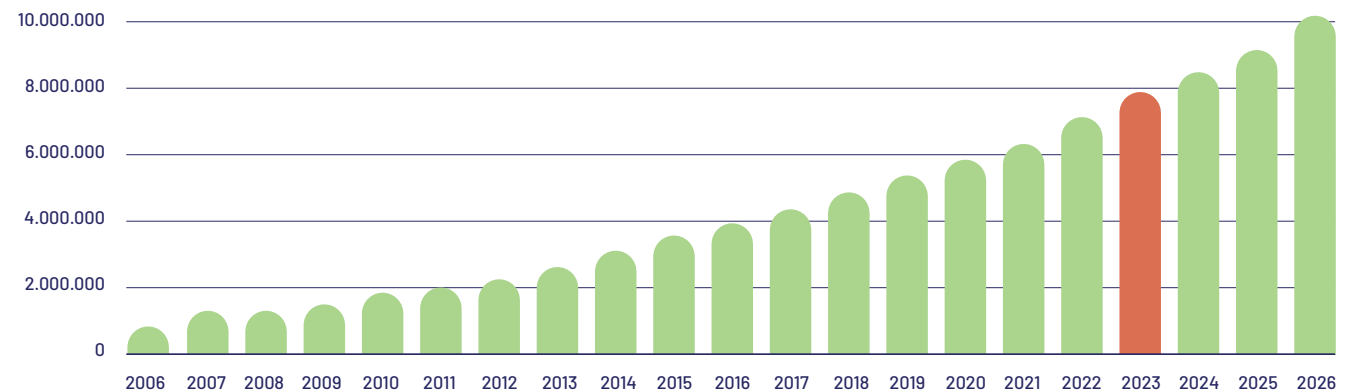
Donations by category



Donations per beneficiary



Since 2006 and for the next 5 years Invest for children has donated more than 8 million euros and committed to donate **more than 10 million euros**.



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Our main objective is to support people with intellectual disabilities in order to achieve a better quality of life

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INVEST FOR  
CHILDREN

**Invest for  
*the future***

[investforchildren.org](https://investforchildren.org)  
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