

ADOPT-A-VILLAGE IN GUATEMALA

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

HIGHLIGHTS



In January, Vice President Ted Rose, Secretary Susan Hill, Treasurer Shelly Smith, and husband Pete Smith, welcomed 37 Maya Jaguar middle and high school students on campus for the 2023 school year. Nelson Garcia and Nivia Vasquez,

two new middle/high school teachers, joined the teaching staff. At the end of the school year in October, Ted and Susan returned for graduation day and the grand commencement ceremonies; three students graduated from high school, and two students from junior high. Ten students were recognized with honors for scholastic achievements. Enrollment in 2021 and 2022 had been down due to the impact of the pandemic.

The Maya Jaguar curriculum continues its tradition of rigorous academics, technical instruction, practical agricultural classes, leadership opportunities, and woodworking skills. This year a cultural experience was added with a field trip to Tikal, a UNESCO World Heritage site and Guatemalan national park, to give the students a deeper understanding and appreciation of their Maya culture and heritage. Usually out of reach for these underserved Maya youth, this experience is an important part of their education. Carpentry instruction has also joined the course curriculum, with students learning how to use power tools safely and to build practical items from lumber.



A teachers' retreat was held in November to strengthen the team and build morale. One of the ongoing challenges for all employers in Guatemala, and specifically rural areas, is the relentless push for northern migration. Our school lost several staff members to human traffickers ("coyotes"), selling the dangerous and expensive trip north through Mexico to enter the United States illegally. Our school director, Osman Castañeda, expediently recruited, hired, and trained replacement staff.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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2023 FINANCIALS

INCOME \$275,200
EXPENSES \$4,700

GRANTS FOR GUATEMALAN PROGRAMS

Education \$241,000
Village Programs \$25,400
Educational Farm \$6,800

2024 PROGRAM RESERVE

\$81,500
100% volunteer staff, no salaries paid



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Campus upgrades included the acquisition of Starlink satellite systems to provide reliable high-speed internet to the classrooms and dormitories for online instruction, class assignments, and research. Additional water storage tanks and extended rainwater catchment systems now augment our water supply on campus during the annual two-month dry season. The campus solar power system was upgraded with long-lasting lithium ion batteries to ensure reliable electricity throughout the year.

Over 40 Maya preschoolers in four nearby villages graduated from our Bilingual Early Literacy program and are equipped to begin the new school year with necessary basic Spanish language and numeracy skills. Early language learning prepares the students for success in primary school. Our bilingual teachers also tutored students in the four primary schools after their government-provided classes to prepare them for a potential enrollment at Maya Jaguar middle and high schools.



Over 100 Maya children and their families enjoyed traditional holiday meals of chicken tamales with rice and beans - donor-sponsored holiday gifts to the families of the children enrolled in our Early Literacy classes.

WHAT'S NEW FOR 2024



Student enrollment at Maya Jaguar for the 2024 school year will be 50 middle/high school students with classes resuming the second week of January; 34 students are continuing on from 2023. Several new teachers, some of whom recently graduated from Maya Jaguar, will join our teaching staff. Another educational field trip to Tikal for students and teachers is planned for later in the school year.

Locating subsurface water, drilling a fresh water well, and installing a new water system will keep water flowing during the dry months. This continual fresh water supply will provide all students with access to running water for showers, sinks, and toilets.

YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES THIS ALL POSSIBLE

Please continue your gracious support with (a) one-time or monthly donations; (b) an employer-matched donation; (c) a contribution of stocks and securities; (d) a bequest; or (e) a grant from a donor-directed fund.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Adopt-a-Village in Guatemala gratefully acknowledges the contributions of friends, volunteers, organizations, and foundations for their unwavering commitment to empower Maya youth through education.

LEARN MORE AT WWW.ADOPTAVILLAGE.COM

Information
PO Box 698
Grants Pass, OR 97528
Email: info@adoptavillage.com
Website: www.adoptavillage.com

