



2012 Donor Impact Report



Community Development in Partnership with Local Leaders and in Solidarity with the People of *La Limonada* in Guatemala City

From our Guatemala Director:

It was 19 years ago when I started going to this beautiful and painful community of La Limonada. It is beautiful because of the people. They have such beautiful, loving, forgiving, humble and simple hearts. At the same time it is painful for all the injustice there. Those hearts that have been suffering and struggling so much.

As I look back over the past 19 years, I am so thankful that God has provided us with beautiful people like you who have connected with all of the beautiful and painful stories in La Limonada. You are people who have taken action. Your hearts have been matched with the hearts of the people of La Limonada, and that is exactly what we need. We need love. We need unconditional, strong and unstoppable love. We need love with passion, faith, diligence, perseverance, joy, tears, and even frustrations every now and then.

Of course we need money, but without love we cannot fulfill God's calling. Money will never reach that deep and far like love does.

So, thanks for being faithful with your commitment to La Limonada, but thanks for doing it the way you have being doing it. One of the beautiful things I have witnessed is to see how much the love is going and coming. It is there in the homes in Limonada and the homes in the US. It is a beautiful fusion.

Such a medicine is love, Tita Evertsz





2012 Financial Report

Program Expenses	2012 Actual	2013 Projected
The Academies	\$169,735	\$205,600
Scholars	\$15,073	\$54,200
Micro-Enterprise	\$7,157	\$12,000
Safe Home	\$60,687	\$65,000
CommunityOf Faith	\$17,689	\$12,000
Vocational Training	\$2,937	\$3,600
Program Administration	\$68,065	\$74,800
Short-Term Groups	\$43,783	\$70,750
nternational Workers	\$18,845	\$20,000
Total Program Expenses	\$403,970	\$517,950
Administrative Expenses	\$55,598	\$61,000
Fundraising Expenses	\$26,793	\$29,500
Total Expenses	\$486,361	\$608,450



LOCAL SUPPORT

In the past, Guatemalans have been known to ignore La Limonada, but it has been exciting to see that begin to change over the past few years! Like never before, local Guatemalan families, churches and businesses became engaged in the work in La Limonada in 2012.

University students volunteered their time in the academies, high school students provided a field day for the children, people who would have never stepped foot in La Limonada visited the community, a local doctor began volunteering her time once a week, a local dentist began volunteering his time, in-kind donations of food were given and financial contributions from Guatemalans increased significantly. Average annual support from Guatemalans (2009-2011):



Support from Guatemalans in 2012:

\$71,918

(\$15,000 from Juan Bautista Foundation and \$56,918 from others)



The Academies

At the end of last year, the decision was made by the leadership team in Guatemala to change the name of the schools from Las Escuelitas to Academies for Life or Academias para la Vida in Spanish.

La Escuelita means the little school. The name carried the connotation that our impact is small and insignificant and that we are a public school. The team felt as though there was a need for clarification that the schools are not small and they are not a part of the Guatemala City public school system.

Over the past five years there has been growth in the programs to the extent that it became obvious that the children are being provided with so much more than a "little school" and are receiving a better quality education than what is offered at the public schools. There has been a transformation toward higher standards and we continue to move in that direction where we are more fully embracing a call to make a lifelong impact in the lives of the students we serve and in families throughout the community.

We continue to work to provide the best training for the team so the children receive the best education for their whole lives. As a result of these new standards we are now seeing clear improvements in the children's level of education, behavior and understanding of God's love for them.





Scholars

Through our Scholars Program, 21 students were provided with the opportunity to continue their education in 7th grade and beyond in 2012.

Formal education is vital for the children of La Limonada to escape gang violence, drug addiction, physical and sexual abuse, and the cycle of extreme poverty that grips the community.

The students who attend our academies in La Limonada are with us for a half day and attend either public or private schools the other half of the day. However, the public school system in Guatemala is so deficient that private schools are the only option for students to receive quality education that will provide them with opportunities for a better future.

The programs offered through our academies currently have the capacity to serve students through 6th grade, and public schools in Guatemala are no longer free after 6th grade. A vast majority of the families in La Limonada cannot afford to pay tuition and fees for their children to continue their education after they complete 6th grade. At that point, many children are seen as potential income earners for the family and because education isn't valued as much as immediate income the children don't go to school in most cases. Our goal is to continue to provide a quality education for our students from 7th grade on.







Safe Home

The volatility of a place like La Limonada creates an environment that is most harsh on the children of the community. They are the innocent victims in a sub-culture of poverty, drug abuse, sex trafficking and gang violence. There are countless situations where children in the community are subjected to malnutrition, abuse, neglect and abandonment. These precious, innocent victims are desperate for a family and a safe place to call home.

The Mi Casita Safe Home currently provides 18 formerly abused, abandoned and neglected children from La Limonada with unconditional love, healthy nutrition, and a nurturing support structure in a loving home environment.



Micro-Enterprise Don Otto's Shoe Shop

As part of our Micro-Enterprise program, we have established a business incubator project where we work with local artisans to develop a sustainable business model for their products. Don Otto was the first artisan we began working with in 2011.

Tita and the team in Guatemala got to know Don Otto and his family in 2011, and they quickly realized he was not only a craftsman, but an amazing family man with a beautiful life story. At the time, he was struggling to provide for his family while doing piecemeal shoe assembly work from his home for a vendor in Guatemala who sold shoes in the local markets.

Prior to meeting Don Otto, the team in Guatemala would buy basic black school shoes at a chain retail store for the children at the academies each January when the school year started. The shoes were purchased from funds raised through our annual Give Christmas campaign. After getting to know Don Otto, Tita asked him if he would be able to make approximately 250 pairs of shoes to give to the children for the 2012 school year. Otto said he could do it.





Micro-Enterprise Don Otto's Shoe Shop (cont.)

With the help of an investor from the US, Don Otto was able to purchase the equipment he needed for such a large order and he received training and support through our Business Incubator program (part of our Micro-Enterprise program). This was exciting news, however, the best part of this story is the relationships that developed between Tita and the team in Guatemala and Don Otto. He and his family are a treasure we all hold very dear, and they are truly friends of Lemonade International.

After fulfilling the first order of shoes, Don Otto began experimenting with new designs using typical Guatemalan fabric. It wasn't long before he received requests to purchase his creations. People visiting from the US were returning home wearing their shoes with questions from their friends about where they could get a pair. We are excited about a developing partnership with an online retailer who plans to begin selling Don Otto's shoes in the fall of 2013. Stay tuned!





Child & Teacher Sponsorship Changing lives in Guatemala and in the US

Our child and teacher sponsorship programs provide opportunities for lives to be transformed in La Limonada through the education, love and care provided through the Academies in the community. But as you will see in the video below, lives of the sponsors in the US (and around the world) are transformed in the process.

Our interns and volunteers love translating letters and the children and teachers love to receive notes of encouragement from their sponsors... so keep those letters coming! And if you can, make plans to visit your child through one of our Short-Term Group opportunities.



Strategic Focus: 2013 AND BEYOND

Community Development Through Child Sponsorship

A new study published in the Journal of Political Economy shows that international child sponsorship results in markedly higher rates of schooling completion and substantially improved adult employment outcomes. Specifically, the study finds that international sponsorship increased the probability of a child completing secondary school by 27%–40%, completing a university education by 50%–80%, and obtaining a white-collar job as an adult by about 35%. (Source: The University of Chicago Press)

While the primary focus of our child sponsorship program is the relational connections that are made between the sponsors and the children being sponsored, we also feel very strongly that sponsorship significantly increases the likelihood that the children being sponsored will develop into godly, productive citizens as adults - which will, in turn, transform the La Limonada community over time. We are committed to continue to focus on this aspect of our work in the years ahead - viewing child sponsorship as an effective means of development in the La Limonada community.

Scholars Program - A Bridge To Adulthood

We recently celebrated our 5th Anniversary in May of 2013, and as we look ahead toward the next five years, we are resolute in our commitment to work in solidarity with the people of La Limonada to empower sustainable transformation in the community. A primary focal point over that time will be on our Scholars program which we believe is a vital bridge between childhood and adulthood for the students who attend the academies in La Limonada. When Tita began her work in La Limonada in 1994, she began with a passion to provide prevention programs for the young children in the community. As she built relationships in the community and witnessed so many young boys joining gangs and so many young girls becoming pregnant in their early teens, she knew something had to be done to break that cycle.

Now, after 13 years of educating children through the academies, it is time to move our work forward with the older students - providing them with a means to continue their education through high school and college. Our Scholars program provides just that opportunity. Beginning in 2014, we will employ a full-time Scholars program director who will be a liaison between parents and schools for more than 50 students in 7th grade and beyond. Our plans include providing this same opportunity each year for every one of our graduating 6th graders.

Strategic Focus: 2013 AND BEYOND

Continuing Education for Teachers

In late 2013, Daniela Lombardo, an elementary school teacher from Toronto, Canada, will begin a two-year teacher training program with the teachers who serve the students at the academies in La Limonada. Daniela has built a relationship with the team in Guatemala over the past three years through summer internships with Lemonade International.

Daniela specializes in children's rights in internationally focused, multi-cultural classroom settings. She will be providing training in the theory of multiple intelligences, how to cater to multiple age and educational levels within the classroom, and hands-on approaches to teaching reading, writing and math. She will also be helping to enhance the curriculum used at the academies and will work with the teachers to develop a more holistic and seamless educational process for the students as they develop from year to year.







iMuchas Gracias! from our Board of Directors

In September 2012, I had the privilege of traveling to Guatemala to spend time in La Limonada with the other Lemonade International board members and their spouses. It was a tremendous gift to be physically present with the LI family in Guatemala - to visit each of the programs and to meet our sponsored child, Alejandra. I returned home changed by the journey into "the Cathedral on the Street" and determined to be present with our team no matter my location. The story of La Limonada became part of my life story and I'm thankful for the opportunity to be an active participant in telling the story of God's plan and purpose in La Limonada.

We're thankful for all of you who are present each day with the Lemonade International team in the US and Guatemala even though most of us are physically separated by many miles. Your continued focus on sharing the compelling story of God's presence in La Limonada is an encouragement to all of us. Through your prayers, time, financial contributions, love and friendship, this community is being transformed one life at a time.

As we rejoice in the goodness of God over the course of 2012 and look to the future to dream of what *could be* in La Limonada, we're so thankful that you have chosen to invest with us. You play a necessary and valued role in this incredible story of God's love, grace and redemption. Thank you.

With Joy,

Rebecca Caswell Lemonade International Board Member



Our Teams:

Guatemala Team:

Ingrid Jeaneth Alonzo Bran Elba Yaneth Alva Lima María Isabel Arriola Sonia Maricela Barrera Godinez Rosa Hida Barrientos de Saregure Yoli Ixtabalan Victor Hugo López Lucía Elizabeth Chach Zapón Abner Moises Chajaj Solis Catalina Chupina Chimil de Yool Mérlin Arcely Miriam De López Heidy Bélen Díaz Pérez Suzy Evertsz Hahmann de Mejia Tita Evertsz Rebecca Gant Gladiz Carina García Menchú de Chang Elubia Mariela Gómez Hernández Celica Galicia Juracan Saguic Sara Keegstra Marleny Elizabeth Lima López Hilda Marina López de Sánchez Sofí Majús

Gloria Anabella Menchú Castillo Karla Ivonne Paredes Yool Yoli Prado Jeymi Aleida Reyes Magda Haydeé Reyes Pérez Edgar René Rodas Contreras Mirza Janina Rodríguez Pérez Sofi Scoffield Leonor Sandigo César Leonardo Saregure Pineda Néstor Raúl Sicajá Bringuez Mayrita Judith Tebalán de Ramos Verito Velásquez Alvarez de Soto Ana Xiloj Xom Priscila Yool Chupina de Saregure Damaris Ester Yool Chupina de Sicaja Salma Guzmán Alma Herrera Inna Sinkevich Mirna Juarez

María Guadalupe Matzar Coch

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Stateside Team:

Bill Cummings Cherie Cummings Sommer Wisher Terry Bracey Alejandra Urdaneta (Intern)

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scottbennettphotoblog.wordpress.com







Special Thanks:

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