



2016

DONOR IMPACT REPORT

*“Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much.”*

—
Helen Keller

One Community. Deep Relationships. Standing in Solidarity.

Together we have joined God in working for the transformation of La Limonada. Through your generosity, prayers, and partnership in 2016, the team in Guatemala embodied and proclaimed the overflowing love of Jesus for the children, families, and marginalized in La Limonada.

Our Mission

We exist to stand in solidarity with the local leaders of Vidas Plenas as they break the cycles of poverty, violence, and injustice through education, gang prevention, and community relief for the people of La Limonada in Guatemala City.

Our Vision

To see those most in need in La Limonada experience transformation and live full lives in Jesus.

359

children enrolled
in three
academies

39

team members
serving in
Guatemala

142

scholars
continuing
their education

2016

**IMPACT
BY THE
NUMBERS**

64,050

healthy meals
fought malnutrition
and hunger

6

students
graduated
from high school

2500

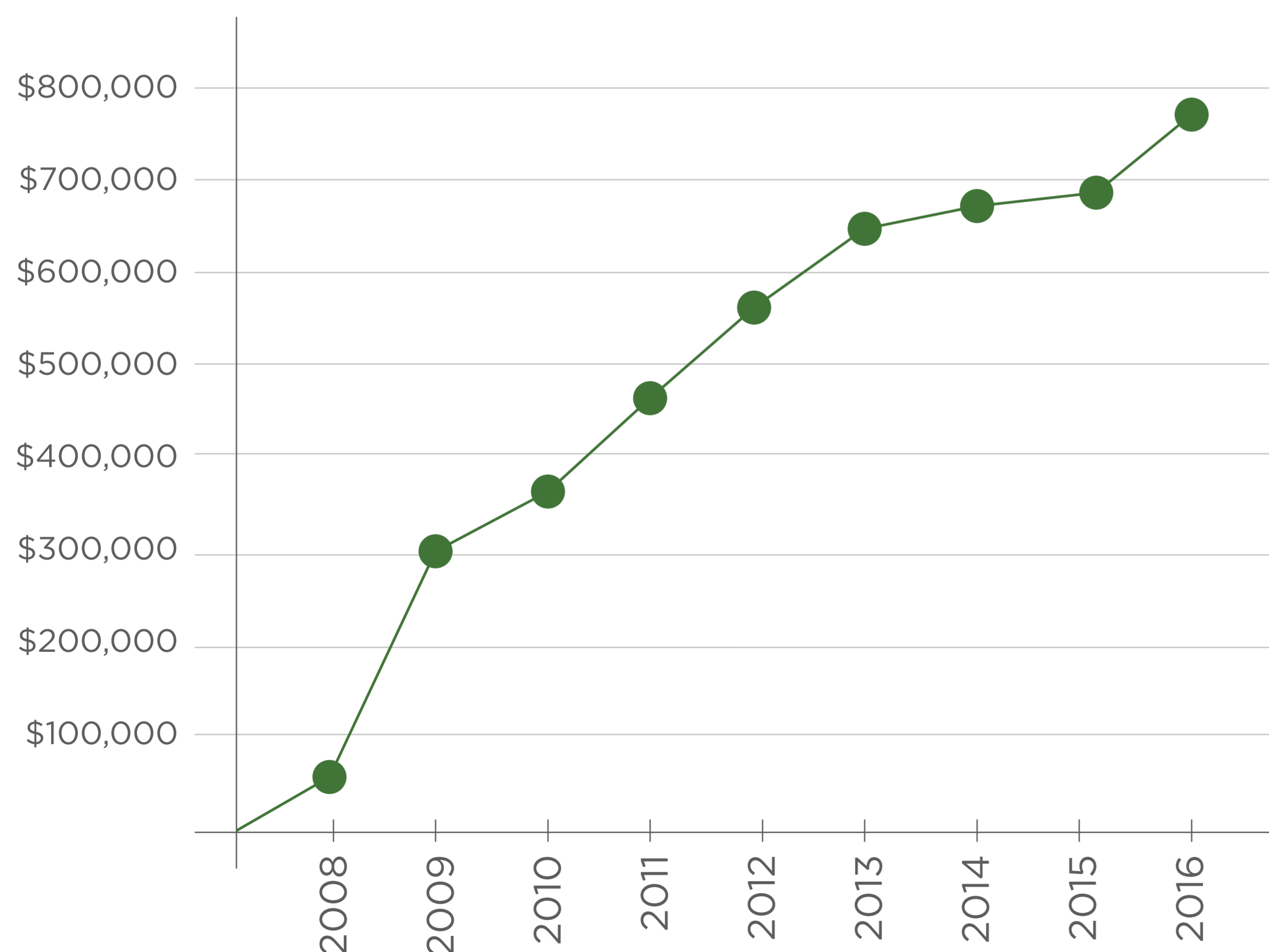
home visits
through the
Community
Relief Fund

9 Years of Financial Stewardship

We are committed to financial stewardship of every dollar we receive for maximum investment in the vulnerable children and families of La Limonada.
\$4,516,855 has been generously invested in 9 years.

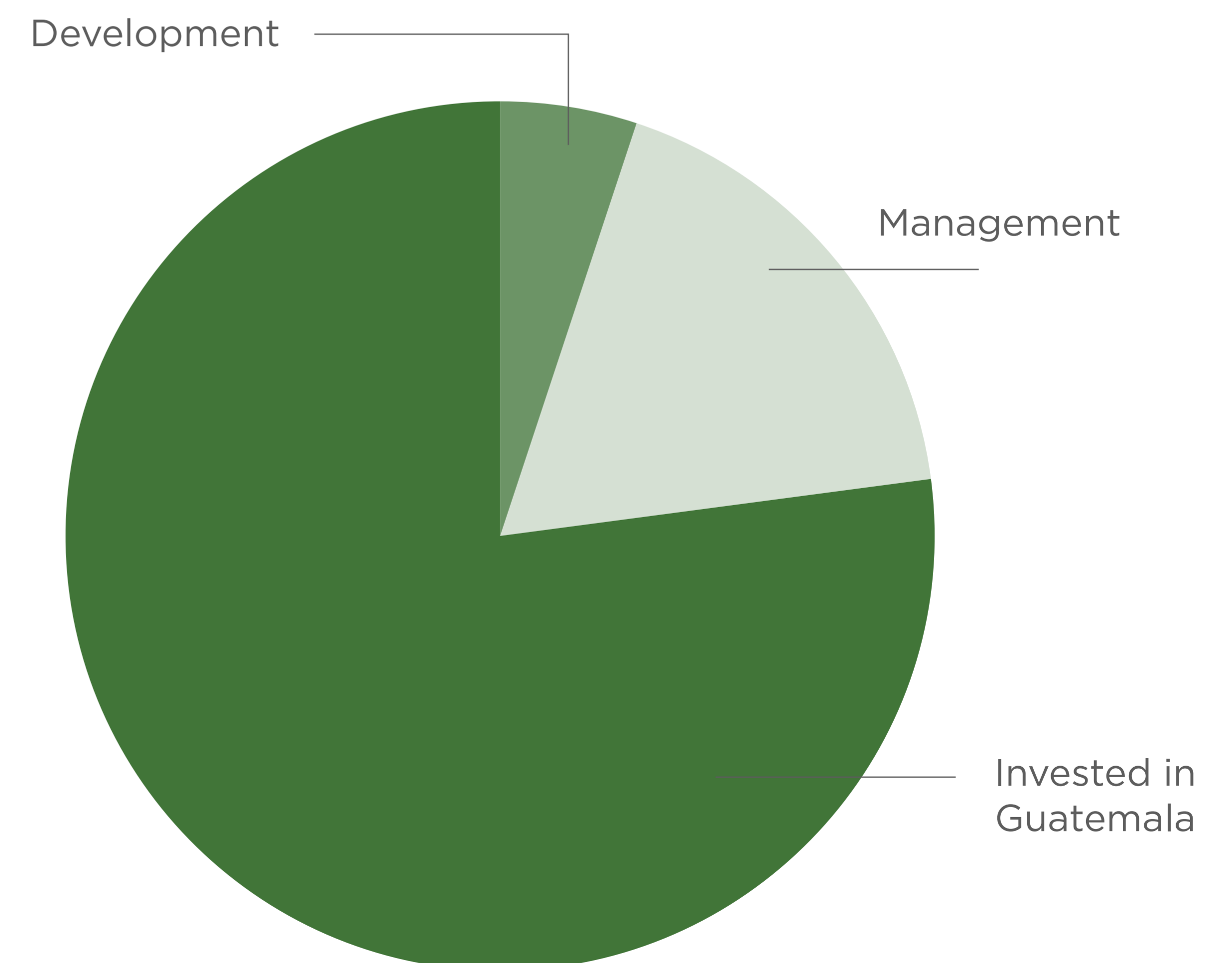
REVENUE PROGRESSION

2008	\$92,430	2013	\$640,692
2009	\$336,491	2014	\$670,507
2010	\$391,372	2015	\$682,133
2011	\$475,083	2016	\$746,826
2012	\$481,321		



REVENUE DISTRIBUTION

	2016 Actual
Development	\$41,106
Management	\$135,109
Invested in Guatemala	\$537,323
TOTAL	\$713,538



Together, we served the people of La Limonada through

Prevention

Walking with the children and youth of La Limonada during their most vulnerable years through education and gang prevention, the team in Guatemala offered a bridge over the darkness that pulls young people into self-destruction and cyclical poverty. The holistic transformation of the three Academies and the opportunity of the Scholars program ushered children and youth through another year of discipleship, character development, and trauma healing.

“The most beautiful of all is that the center of everything is Jesus Christ,” said Yoli Prado, director of the Scholars program. “We are forming educated people with good, firm values and spiritual principles that will end the cycle of poverty.”



Care

Providing relief for the urgent and unexpected needs of the most vulnerable in La Limonada, the community support team responded with compassion, presence, and tangible support. They offered benevolence and relief to many suffering from respiratory illness, diabetes, ulcer and bullet wounds, high blood pressure, and other health concerns.

“I was most impacted by the life of Anice,” community nurse Janina said. “She was so full of life and worked hard for her family. While grieving for her husband who was shot and killed, her body was ravaged by HIV. I was happy to share my faith with her as I fought for her health and to see the peace over her as she prayed. It was such an important moment for both of us – to see someone who was dying choose to live.”*

*name changed to protect her identity



Rescue

Reaching out to youth who are deep in darkness, the team demonstrated love and hope. On the streets, youth must show they are tough and can't appear vulnerable. But many were eager to share their stories of pain with trusted mentors. Some who had dropped out of school before the third grade were able to study again through a homeschooling program. One young man completed middle school and another finished high school!

“The hardest thing is to see their pain, anger, regret, and belief that they are not able to change,” Gadiel said. “But we have seen small changes in their behavior and willingness to listen and study with us. We have also seen their view of God shift from a punishing and angry God to an approachable Father who is eager to hear their prayers.”



Holistic Transformation and Prevention Through The Academies



Love and
Education

Care

Full Lives

God's Love

Education

Moral Values

Character
Development

Disciple ship

Reading

Instruction

Nutritious
Meals

Gang
Prevention

Healthy
Relationships

Role Models

Reaching
Families

Hope

Protected
Innocence

Critical
Thinking

Light

Justice

Transformation

Safe

Peace

Equipped

Therapy

Prayer

Future Leaders

Holistic

Life-Skills
Training

Kids Can
Be kids

Valued

Spiritual

Health Education

Emotional

Opportunity

Healing

Meet Samuel

Samuel started attending the academies when he was 4 years old. His mom was delighted to see him learning about God, having a consistent breakfast each day, receiving help with his studies, and especially having something that was just for him. It was time with his peers, with special lessons geared just for children. “It was a huge blessing for us. We appreciated the opportunity,” she said.

Samuel began to struggle when a family member went to prison. He fell behind in school and lost motivation. “But the teachers in the academy kept encouraging me,” he said. “They would help motivate me to not focus on the sadness, but to continue studying and working hard each day.”

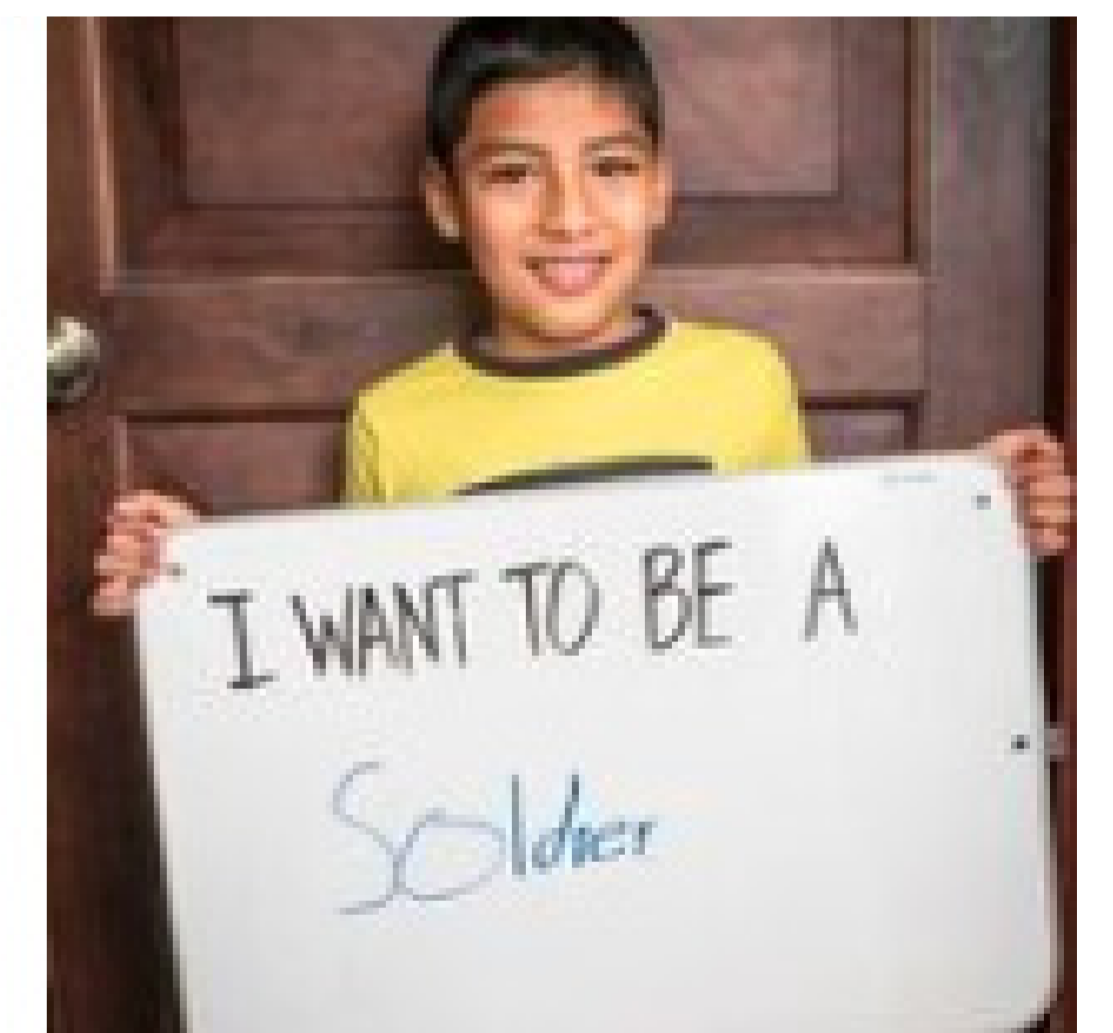
The teachers also called and checked on his mom, encouraging her to keep prioritizing Samuel’s education. He began to start thinking about high school with a dream of becoming a veterinarian. And now, with the assistance of the Scholars program, he has been able to continue studying.

But having received so much love and support, Samuel wanted to give back. He became a youth volunteer at the Limon academy, where he helps in the classrooms with whatever is needed. Acting as a teacher’s aide, he is able to spend mornings when he is not in high school back in the academy where he is received like family. “I love everything about the academy,” Samuel said, “And I want to help the younger kids the way I was helped.”



“Personally I am so thankful first to God but also to his sponsor,” Samuel’s mom said. “It is a long distance and we don’t know her, but we are thankful for her love and prayers.”

Investing in Dreams



*This team invests their hearts and lives into the children
and families of La Limonada to break the cycles of
poverty, violence, and injustice.*



Together, we stood in solidarity with the people of La Limonada

Elise's Wedding Stand —

In August, Elise and Brendan Strycharske stood with the people of La Limonada through a wedding Lemonade Stand. They took the opportunity to share their story with the family and friends gathered to celebrate their marriage. For many years, Elise has supported the urgent medical needs in La Limonada as a volunteer nurse. Her testimony and commitment to improve the health and well-being of the community inspired a generous response, raising over \$3,500.

“Janina is bringing physical, mental, and spiritual healing. This is my heart and soul when I can't be there,” Elise said. “We are committed to spending a lifetime improving the health of the community and I can't wait to see how many lives will be forever changed by these gifts.”



I AM ART Camp —

Through our partnership with Athen-tikos and Vidas Plenas, a group of artists brought their creative talents, passion, and love to provide a week of workshops with an art show finale. I AM ART works with vulnerable children to transform pain into purpose through creative arts. The children are delighted to express themselves through dance, movements, writing, and other kinds of art.

“There are no words to describe what happens in the I AM ART art camp,” Tita Evertsz said. “Well, justice happens. That's the truth – dignity, freedom in being, and genuine expression occur, more than just theater and painting. It's wonderful!”



Resurgam Coffee —

In July, Chris Marshall and his community in Cincinnati, Ohio launched Resurgam Coffee to fund hope in La Limonada by sourcing coffee beans through direct relationships with Guatemalan farmers for individuals and businesses, as well as churches for Sunday hospitality. While providing premium ethically-sourced coffee to coffee drinkers in the States, 10% of every purchase is funding gang prevention in La Limonada. Resurgam (re-sûr-gäm) is a Latin word that simply means

“I shall rise again.” It is their hope that as this coffee helps people RISE in the morning, it will also fund hope over the valley of La Limonada and it may yet RISE AGAIN in abounding love and opportunity.



Toronja Launch

In June, we invited you to help us launch the fourth academy in the “15 de Agosto” neighborhood of La Limonada. Through the generous response of 85 supporters, the team in Guatemala was able to begin the steps to secure a building to rent while building relationships with families and community leaders.

Forest Hill Church in Charlotte, North Carolina has been an incredible partner and advocate for the people of La Limonada. Their thoughtful and passionate leadership has been an incredible encouragement to us as they have helped drive the launch of Toronja forward. Their generosity played a significant role in the purchase and construction of a space capable of serving the largest number of children in the years to come – and there are many children in need of intervention!

A mother named Marta told us that when she heard about what we were doing for vulnerable children in Mandarin several years ago, she began asking God to bring something like this to her community. With tears in her eyes, she said, “You are the answer to years of prayers!”

“We are thrilled to see the doors of the fourth academy open this July to reach more children with the love of Jesus and the life-changing impact they so desperately need.”

*Katie Hoiland,
Director of Strategic Advancement*

Service Learning Trips

We facilitated **157 service learning trip members** to travel to La Limonada and have incredible impact on the community through lessons with the children, soccer and art camps, prayer walks, medical clinics, nutrition workshops, haircuts, massages, painting and construction projects, peacemaking, and home visits. In addition to the deep personal impact, group members participated in hands-on ministry with the children, schools, families, and staff.

Our Service Learning Trip community liaison Lizza said, *“Everything is a blessing for us. When someone brings new ideas, materials, and skills, or when they have words of encouragement, hugs, and prayer.”*





Faithful Supporters

Together, **411 recurring supporters** provided a strong funding base for consistent presence, commitment, and transformation.

Child, scholar, teacher, and academy sponsorships provided a foundation for all of the work in La Limonada, fueling long-term trust and hope. Living in poverty, you experience many flashes in the pan. Good intentions with promises and high hopes. But lasting transformation requires trust between the staff and the community. Tita and her team have built that trust thanks to the strong support of sponsors standing behind them.

Give Christmas

Through our annual year-end giving campaign, you gave **\$63,233** to provide school shoes and supplies for the new school year, healthy meals and vitamins for children attending the academies, scholarships to students continuing their education past sixth grade, and fair wages for teachers in the three academies.

382 children began the school year with their required dress shoes and school supplies.

“I am very happy to have new shoes for school. My mom had no money to buy them and was very worried.

I am so thankful.”

David G.



Answered Prayer

Prayer is an essential part of the work done in La Limonada. Each day we are celebrating God's provision of our daily needs as we walk with this precious community. We saw incredible answers to prayer throughout the year, thanks to your faithful intercessions.

Marginalized youth were embraced and given tangible expressions of Christ's love for them.

One Service Learning Trip met with a group of boys with hard stories to encourage them. They asked if they could have hamburgers sent to them after their visit. When the food arrived, the toughest one in the group prayed, "Thank you that the gringos kept their promise." Several days later he was shot and killed.

Children in the academies heard about the love and sacrifice of Jesus and his offer of abundant life.

Vero was teaching about Jesus' sacrifice and had the full attention of a five-year-old student. He responded with eyes full of tears, "So Jesus got nails in his hands for me?" The truth went so deep in his heart, Vero was touched to see how the seed of the Word of God was working in his heart.

Parents were impacted through School for Parents with knowledge and parenting skills...

needed to confront the unique challenges their children face – when they are most vulnerable to teen pregnancy, drugs, illegal activity, gang life, and other bad decisions that can alter their entire future. "We are learning how to be in front of the problems of our children," said Lyla, a participating mother.

Youth in the Scholars program completed another year of high school...

launching them further in their education, supporting their dreams, and giving them hope for their futures. With each year of studies, many are finding greater access to jobs in supermarkets, shops, and offices and are offering much-needed income for their families. Six graduated this year and twelve more anticipate graduating in 2017! "I am very grateful to be graduating. My mother alone would not have been able to afford for me to keep studying. Thank God for this opportunity to achieve my goal so I can get a job and be different," said Joan, a recent graduate.



"The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results."

James 5:6



Thank You

Thank you for giving love, prayers, letters, time, and financial support!
It is an honor to be a conduit for your generosity and love for La Limonada.

– Lemonade International Team

*“Love and faithfulness meet together;
righteousness and peace kissed each other.”
Psalm 85:10*

Guatemala Team

Tita Evertsz
Diana Ac
Alvaro Alay
Ingrid Alonzo
Yaneth Alva
Gadiel Avalos
David Campos
Joselin Castro
Lucia Chach
Sulmi Coy
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Mónica Figueroa
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Gladiz García
Cinthya González
Blanca Hernández
Lesly Illescas
Susana Ixén
Guadalupe Jeréz
Claudia Juárez
Ingrid Lemus
Hilda López
Sara López
Sofía Majus
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Gloria Menchú
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Măira Tebalăn
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and Corinne Johnson)

Lemonade Team

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Kevin Martin
Alejandra Urdaneta

LI Board Members

Bill Cummings
Rebecca Caswell
Todd Hiestand
Ray Strecker
Ralph Schoenrock

Special Thanks

Forest Hill Church
Ekklesia
Christ Church Anglican
Rivers Crossing Community Church
Ordinary Community Church
Istrouma Baptist Church
Stanwich Congregational Church
Life Church
Shiloh Community Church
Resurgam Coffee
Theophilus Church
Friendship Baptist Church
Hope Glows Candles
Athentikos
The Root Collective
River City Christian Church
Proctor Academy
Garner Magnet High School
National Christian Foundation
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Robert and Beatriz Woodall
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Rebekah and Drew Moser
Brian Cross
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Daniel Hoffman
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Staci Chambley
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