



The Guatemalan Tomorrow Fund NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2019

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Dear Friends,

It has been an exciting first year as executive director of The Guatemalan Tomorrow Fund. As many of you know for twenty-seven years GTF has funded programs to better the lives of thousands of girls and boys living in poverty-stricken villages throughout Guatemala. This year we are proud to be serving nearly 600 students at our rainforest campus, Ak' Tenamit. This is our largest number of attendees to date!

Your donations are changing lives and helping our students become self-sufficient and work-ready. Without your help, it would not be possible to make such a positive impact on breaking the cycle of poverty for our students and their families!



Debora Kerr, MA, Executive Director
Guatemalan Tomorrow Fund

Updates: There are several noteworthy stories I am pleased to share with you, including the upgrade of our GTF website; the introduction of our text-to-give initiative; the Rotary Club of Jupiter-Tequesta/Jupiter High School Rotary Interact Club donation to sponsor five AAT students; the new transportation van donation made possible by Monsignor Tom Skindeleski, the Knights of Columbus Florida State Council and St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church; and an upcoming project with Boca Raton Technology Entrepreneur, Scott Adams, that will provide enhanced internet technology to our students at Ak' Tenamit.

Donations: Due to popular demand from many of our youth volunteers and millennials, we are excited to share that we have launched another simple way to donate. Donors are now able to text in a donation via cell phone. Anyone can use our text-to-give campaign! It is user-friendly and ready when you are.

Donors can now text a unique campaign keyword to a 5-digit number, and donations are processed, safely and securely. Users who choose to text-to-give will receive an instant reply with a link to our mobile-friendly donation page.

Here are the simple Text-to-Give instructions below:

- 1) Open a new text on your cell phone
- 2) Type **41-444** in the recipient field (where you would normally type a contact name)
- 3) In the message field type **GTFUND2019** (it is case sensitive, so it must be in **ALL CAPITAL LETTERS**)
- 4) You will receive a link that will take you to the donation page
- 5) Follow the instructions from there in the secure portal — it's that simple!
- 6) You will receive an email and/or text receipt of your transaction

We are excited to be launching this technology to provide another easy-to-use option to existing donors, and to answer the call of new donors who want to contribute to our mission through text-to-give!

With your help, we look forward to continuing to make an impact in the lives of families throughout Guatemala!

Rotary Club of Jupiter-Tequesta Sponsors

Interact Program at Jupiter High School Makes Student Donation to Guatemalan Tomorrow Fund Possible



We are so grateful and humbled to report that The Interact Club at Jupiter High School raised nearly \$2,000 in donations through their fundraising efforts. Selling chocolate bars throughout the school year led to the sponsorship of five students at Ak' Tenamit.

The Guatemalan Tomorrow Fund is proud to have a long-standing relationship with Rotary International, and the Rotary Club of Jupiter-

Tequesta chapter. Rotary was founded well over 100 years ago in 1905, with one guiding principle "service before self", which still holds true today as the foundation of this noteworthy and philanthropic group. This principle serves as a foundation for the relationships with each other and the action the organization takes locally, nationally and globally.

One such action was the ongoing support of the Interact Club at Jupiter High School. The Interact service club is for youth ages 12 to 18 who want to connect with other young people and have fun while serving their communities and learning about the world. Members of sponsor Rotary clubs mentor "Interactors" as they carry out the projects and develop leadership skills.

This year it was a thrill accompanying the Rotary Club of Jupiter-Tequesta to visit Jupiter High school and share with them information about the Guatemalan students they are sponsoring, and how their donations are changing lives. It was incredible to see the leaders these students have become and a joy to watch their inherent love of giving back. We are grateful to the Rotary and the Interact students and teacher Carrie Andersen at Jupiter High School who made this happen. Thank you for your service and generosity!

Guatemalan Tomorrow Fund | Post Office Box 3636 | Tequesta Florida 33469 | Telephone 561.747.9790 | info@thegtfund.org | www.aktenamit.org

The Guatemalan Tomorrow Fund, Inc., *the fund-raising arm of Ak' Tenamit*, is a non-profit, non-denominational, charitable organization. Tax No. 65-0305897

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Monsignor Turns His Vision into a New Van for Ak' Tenamit



For nearly 20 years, Monsignor Tom Skindeleski of Saint Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church in Delray Beach has been leading a group of generous Knights of Columbus (KOC) Florida State Council members on a mission to Guatemala. Many of these KOC members are joined each year by their sons. They come stocked with tools and much-needed supplies and leave with

only the shirts on their backs and an experience they will never forget. Their spouses passionately collect soaps, toiletries and feminine necessities for the female students that they are able to distribute at Ak' Tenamit.

Several years ago, Monsignor Tom began to notice that a van transporting students to their internships was getting dangerously old and he became concerned about the safety of the students. In true Monsignor Tom style, he spearheaded a fundraising effort with the Knights of Columbus to replace the van and ensure the student's safety while traveling to their required destinations.

We are ever-so-grateful to Monsignor Tom and the Knights of Columbus Florida State Council for their incredibly generous gift of the new school van and will be reminded of their giving hearts every day we look at – and ride in - the safe new van!



As many of you know, the Knights of Columbus is a Catholic Fraternal Organization dedicated to promoting and conducting educational, charitable, religious and social welfare works, rendering mutual aid and assistance to sick and needy members and their families, and providing products to benefit members, wives, and children.



Local Entrepreneur Scott Adams Seeks to Aid Guatemalan Tomorrow Fund in Bridging the Digital Divide in Guatemala



Technology entrepreneur and CEO of STRAX Intelligent Group, Scott Adams is taking his knowledge of Guatemala and knowhow of technology to provide expert guidance in an effort to bring broadband to this third-world location. Adams, a local tech expert is no stranger to the direr conditions in Guatemala. In fact, his mother was born and raised there – so he knows intimately about the life-threatening challenges and is steadfast about helping bridge the gap

and bring the internet to these classrooms. Adams understands that helping these children get educated and become self-sufficient will enable them to contribute to their homeland and prosper in Guatemala.

Our first initiative with Adams is mapping out a plan that enables Jupiter High School students to Skype face-to-face with students from Ak' Tenamit. Stay tuned for progress...

It's only through the support of generous donors like you that these initiatives are able to come to life and continue changing lives!

Sponsor A Student **Transform** A Life!

Ak' Tenamit's practical, vocational education, 3,000 hours of job experience, and personal motivation prepare graduates to succeed in their rural environment, and inspire them to help their families and their communities. For just one dollar per day (\$365 per year), you can transform the life of a young person who would otherwise be trapped in poverty.

The Guatemalan Tomorrow Fund, P.O. Box 3636, Tequesta, FL 33469 Phone: 561-747-9790 | info@thegtfund.org

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! Donations are tax-deductible as permitted by law and processed through a PCI Compliant Data Security Company. The Guatemalan Tomorrow Fund is the US based, non-profit, non-denominational fund raising arm of Ak' Tenamit.

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