



■ A Letter from our Founder, **Steve Dudenhoefer**



We are excited to share that 114 students will be graduating from our Fr. Moran Vocational High School this October 31st. As they will complete their schooling with over 3,000 hours of on-the job training, a high percentage will graduate with excellent job offers and we expect to see most with gainful employment very soon after graduation. Ninety-one percent of last year's Sustainable Tourism graduates have great jobs working in some of the country's finest restaurants and hotels. As a faithful supporter of Ak' Tenamit's work, you have helped provide hope and opportunity for over 1,400 graduates. Instead of boys feeling they have no other opportunity but to attempt illegal migration to the U.S. or to get involved in the drug trade, and girls facing early childbirth and marriage, our graduates are free to delay starting families until they have received economic self-sufficiency and they are able to help lift their families and communities out of poverty.

At the request of Guatemala's Minister of Education, due to a stark increase in need because of repeated crop failures, increased malnutrition in the region, and in an effort to help stem illegal migration, Ak' Tenamit's Fr. Moran Vocational High School will be expanding to over 600 boarding students for the new school year starting in January 2020. With this increase in students, we urgently need your support to help cover the food, boarding facilities, additional classrooms and teaching staff. Ak' Tenamit's highly effective educational methodology has produced the highest employment rate in the country and has served as a model for other schools across Guatemala. With growing concern

around the issue of the migration of unaccompanied youth to the U.S., our methodology provides real and cost-effective solutions which enable youth to stay near their families, to get great jobs in Guatemala and to help lead their communities out of poverty.

It's common for our graduates to invest part of the salaries they receive as cooks and wait-staff into small businesses in their communities. Graduates have started bakeries, tree nurseries, fish farms, poultry farms and fruit tree nurseries. Max Ba Teni, who graduated from our school three years ago, has a great job as a waiter at Tre Fratelli-one of Guatemala's most popular restaurants. With his earnings he has already



built a new home for his parents, who were living on very little income, and started a small poultry farm that produces over 1,400 eggs a day. With the profits from selling eggs he has purchased a used truck to deliver them and found new opportunities with local markets. The impact of your support goes way beyond the individual student, it impacts entire families and communities allowing them to become self-sufficient so that they can lift themselves out of poverty.

Thank you for your faithful support. Together we continue to provide hope and opportunity to some of Guatemala's neediest families, providing real and lasting solutions to help them overcome crippling poverty.

In Service,

Steve Dudenhoefer
Founder/Chief Technical Advisor

Rotary Club of Palm Beach Donates Vital Equipment to Guatemala Tomorrow Fund

Ak' Tenamit School receives first solar powered electric boat motor through grant



Some would consider an electric outboard motor a basic staple for many individuals in Florida, yet in Guatemala this motor is a game-changer. Palm Beach County Rotary Clubs, through its ongoing support of the Guatemala Tomorrow Fund (GTF), purchased and donated the first solar powered electric outboard motor to help indigenous villagers transport children to and from their communities to the Ak' Tenamit (AAT) school located on the Rio Dulce River.

"The donation and ongoing support from Rotary organizations has been instrumental in the success of our school and students at Ak' Tenamit," said Steve Dudenhoefer, founder of The Guatemalan Tomorrow Fund. "This motor is part of a bigger picture that is literally helping to transform lives in Guatemala."

Thanks to a district grant spearheaded by Riccardo Boehm and the Rotary Club of Palm Beach, villagers can now utilize the solar powered electric boat motor to transport children to AAT to receive quality education and job training. By providing the Ak' Tenamit's

vocational boarding school with the solar powered outboard motor, the Guatemala Tomorrow Fund is also able to help the school move one step closer to energy independence.

Many of those benefitting from AAT live in poverty, well below the average annual income of the countries lower-middle class of \$1,619 U.S. With gasoline prices exceeding \$3.00 per gallon in Guatemala it is extremely difficult to rely on transportation dependent on gasoline and diesel fuels.



About The Rotary Club of Palm Beach

The Rotary Club of Palm Beach is part of a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves. Its mission is to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders. Visit <https://www.palmbeachrotary.org/>

■ Texas Rotarians Contribute to “I’m Staying” Initiative

Rotarians from District 5790 Travel to Antigua Guatemala



of a pilot project. Students joined the Rotarians and worked in groups at different stations to help drill and pre-assemble parts for shipment to Guatemala City to be assembled as three-stack bunk beds.

Securing a good job in Guatemala requires a high school education. For rural indigenous students, only 4% are able to graduate from local high schools. Thanks to a new Rotary Global grant submitted by Rotary District 5790, “The Bunk Bed for Schools Program” provides Guatemalan returning migrant youth an opportunity to reside at Ak’ Tenamit school while receiving a high school education. Students who graduate from this program receive a high school degree, technical training, and the opportunity to pursue well paid employment.

This program enables these young adults to stay and work in Guatemala and provide a meaningful existence for their families without having to risk their lives traveling to the U.S. again. If all continues to work well with this program, the Rotarians intend to leverage resources from the Guatemala government, serve in an advisory role, and scale the program to serve 1,000 or more participants.

In June of 2019, 60 Rotarians from the North Central Plains area of Texas’ District 5790, traveled to Antigua, Guatemala as part of an international service trip conducted with local Rotarians designed to improve education and the local economy.

Being able to help, even in some small way, is a blessing for many of the Rotarians. During this trip, Rotary members provided supervision to AAT students on improving buildings in the area through cleaning, painting and other restoration projects. Service members also helped build bunk beds for a school in Guatemala City as part



■ About The District 5790 Rotarians

Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves. Rotary District 5790 is composed of 73 vibrant Clubs across the North Central Plains area of Texas. Visit <https://www.rotary5790.org/>

Scouts Bring Mosquito Nets to Save Lives



and Rene, travelled almost 2,000 miles from Phoenix, Arizona to the Guatemalan jungle to help install the mosquito nets on the student's beds to ensure they were safe from harm and disease.



A shout out to the Scouts of America, Venturing Crew #2365, who took their second trip to Guatemala after successfully helping to raise funds to buy five hundred mosquito nets! Hundreds of nets were used to protect students from life-threatening Dengue Fever. Hemorrhagic Dengue Fever is a real danger to indigenous people throughout the country, and has even resulted in loss of life in certain areas of Guatemala.

These dedicated Scouts not only raised the funds needed to buy the mosquito nets! A group led by Scouts Vyvian and Nathan Nguyen and their parents Ashley

It is the goal of Scouting "to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities." We are so grateful to these impressive and committed young Scouts!

About Guatemala Tomorrow Fund, Inc.

Guatemala Tomorrow Fund's mission is to enable the indigenous people of Guatemala to become self-sustaining by supporting projects that: improve health care, reduce illiteracy, promote environmentally sound agriculture, support enterprise development to raise income levels, and increase awareness and participation in civic affairs. Visit <https://thegtfund.org/welcome/>

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.