

GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN MISSION

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Aldea La Esperanza School Library



**Casillas, Santa Rosa
GUATEMALA**

Overview

Guatemala in Central America was ruled for many years by military regimes, during which 200,000 people lost their lives. The country is now ruled by a civilian government; however, crime and violence are still widespread. Approximately half of the Guatemalan population lives in poverty and 13.7% of them live in extreme poverty.

La Esperanza is a tiny rural village on the southeast corner of Guatemala. This is home to indigenous Xinka families, who rely on subsistence agriculture and seasonal labor on coffee farms to survive. The entire population of Casillas is approximately 8,900.

For many years, children in rural schools in Guatemala have struggled to learn to read and write, largely due to a serious lack of resources. Infrastructure like chairs, desks, child-sized tables, and bookshelves are deteriorated from overuse, and the general environment is not inviting or stimulating. Many teachers are not trained, and specifically, have not learned strategies for teaching reading. In students' homes, where most families live below the poverty line, few children have access to children's books.

These challenges have only been exacerbated by the pandemic-era school closures, which lasted over two years. Reading assessments conducted in 2023 determined that third and fourth graders had average reading skills of the first grade level. Additionally, first graders who participated in the assessment, read an average of 19 words per minute, under the required standard of 40 words per minute.

Fabretto Children's Foundation is a non-profit organization which works with local community organizations to educate and empower underserved children, youth, and their families in vulnerable communities.

Fabretto is focusing attention on **Aldea La Esperanza School**, a mixed school with 144 nursery and primary students and 29 secondary students, served by a staff of 10 teachers. The school is located around 13 miles from the municipality, approximately a 20-minute walk for most of the students who attend.



Where They Are



Coordinates: 14° 23'26.6" N 90° 04'47.1" W

Project Snapshot

Global Humanitarian Mission, which shares the same guiding principles, believes in the power of education in breaking the cycle of poverty.

Aldea La Esperanza School Library is therefore being established to support Fabretto in creating a small library and reading corner within the school.

This will include:

- ❖ Needs assessment
- ❖ Action plan development
- ❖ Strategic infrastructure improvement (*if necessary*)
- ❖ Equipping the library with furniture and bookshelves
- ❖ Purchase of books
- ❖ Teacher training
- ❖ Ongoing technical assistance and monitoring

With your support, this project will be accomplished over a twelve-month period.

TOTAL COST: \$19,200.00



From Global Humanitarian Mission

Numerous studies have shown that children who master reading skills are more likely to continue and complete their education, while those who do not learn to read are more likely to drop out.

Numerous studies have also shown that decades of underfunding and neglect have created an education system in Guatemala that falls far short of meeting the needs of the children who need it most.

You can change the future trajectory for boys and girls in underserved communities in Guatemala –Starting with Aldea La Esperanza School!

Every child deserves the opportunity for a successful future as tomorrow's leader. Help make it happen!



"One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts."
Psalm 145:4

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