



# 2020 IMPACT REPORT

---

## MISSION GUATEMALA INC.



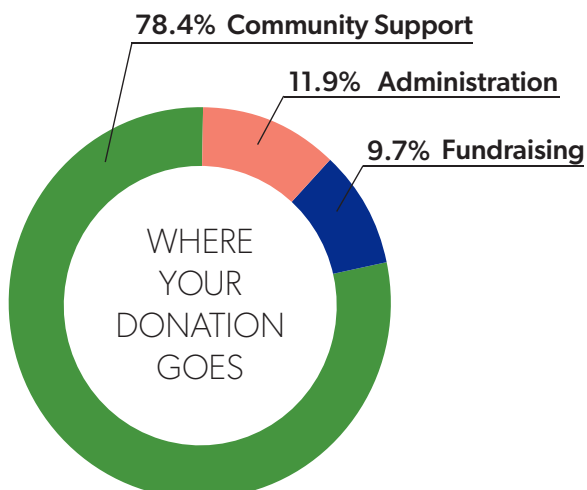
## A YEAR IN REVIEW

As 2020 began, our Mission Guatemala staff team was very excited for all that the coming year held in store! In addition to continuing our established programs in the areas of health, education, and nutrition, we were also preparing to welcome 44 volunteer teams to serve with us in San Andrés Semetabaj! In early March, however, after only 6 mission teams and 66 mission team members had served alongside us, the COVID-19 pandemic changed the trajectory of the year.

Throughout this year, we have heard from many of you. Your concern and care during this unprecedented time has been a blessing. You've shared that you miss serving with us. **WE MISS YOU TOO!** Since Mission Guatemala began in 2010, we have been welcoming teams each year to serve alongside us, and it has not felt the same without you here in Guatemala!

**Even though 2020 was a very different year than any other year we have experienced, our mission to “do all the good we can” did not waver.** There is still much to celebrate! We invite you to see the impact made in 2020 because of **YOU!**

## GRACIAS. THANK YOU. MATIOX.



In 2020, you made an incredible impact in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Guatemala! Through your support of Mission Guatemala's health, education and nutrition initiatives, this vital work was able to continue throughout this past year!

We work hard to be good stewards of the resources with which we have been entrusted, and to make each and every centavo count! In 2020, nearly 80 cents of every dollar went directly to our community support projects here in Guatemala.

iGracias, thank you, matiox! We hope to welcome you back home to Guatemala soon! Until then, may the Lord bless and keep you.



# HEALTH



In 2020, we served over 2,262 patients in our medical clinic and performed more than 2,793 tests in our laboratory!

Throughout the pandemic, our medical clinic has remained open, providing quality, respectful and loving medical care to our sisters and brothers in the San Andrés region and beyond. But, while the clinic received patients five days a week, the hours that the clinic was open each day were reduced due to government restrictions, as well as for the protection of our staff, meaning that we were not able to see as many patients as in years past.

Health programs such as our Diabetes Club were not able to meet during the pandemic due to limits placed on social gatherings. However, members of this group continued to have access to their needed medications for chronic conditions through our clinic pharmacy.

# EDUCATION



In 2020, 88 students in our “Becas Con Misión” scholarship program completed the school year and 6 graduated high school – in spite of the Covid-19 Pandemic!

In Guatemala, the education that the government requires and readily provides ends at 6th grade. The “Becas Con Misión” (Scholarships with a Mission) program helps provide an opportunity for students who have the determination and grades—but not the financial resources—to continue their education past the 6th grade.

After the pandemic began, schools discontinued in-person classes and began working to find alternative ways to teach students. Throughout this time, our “Becas Con Misión” program continued to support the middle and high school students in the program.



# NUTRITION



Through our “Niños Chispudos” (Kids With A Spark) nutritional program, our staff also continued to distribute the Chispuditos® nutritional supplement to children aged 6 months to 6 years of age. The Chispuditos® product is a soy/corn based atol, or porridge, developed by The Mathile Institute in order to provide a daily nutritional supplement for children in Guatemala. During a child’s critical early years of development, the effects of malnutrition can be especially devastating, leading to stunting, anemia, and chronic infections and sickness.

For the safety of the children enrolled in the program and their families, as well as for the safety of our staff, the decision was made in March to pause the collection of data such as height, weight and hemoglobin levels.

In 2020, we provided daily nutritional support to 140 children across 6 communities in our “Niños Chispudos” program!

## A DECADE OF MISSION GUATEMALA



In September, we celebrated Mission Guatemala’s 10th Anniversary! Although our plans for the celebration were altered, we were able to look back on these ten amazing years through “virtual celebrations” and to share our excitement for the future!

As part of the celebration, our staff team gathered for the first time since the pandemic began in order to dedicate the clinic property in San Andrés that Mission Guatemala finished purchasing in 2020! Our hope for the day was to recommit to the mission of loving and serving our brothers and sisters and to “do all the good we can.” We also wanted to honor Tom Heaton, the founder of Mission Guatemala, without whose leadership and vision throughout this past decade the organization would not exist. And most of all, we desired to honor the Mayan culture, history and traditions of Guatemala, giving thanks for all that has been accomplished.

In March 2020, we finalized the purchase of the clinic property, giving Mission Guatemala a forever home!



# OUR COVID-19 RESPONSE

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



In 2020, our staff produced:

**335 Surgical Gowns**  
**367 Surgical Caps**  
**1806 Cloth Face Masks**  
**590 Plastic Face Shields**  
**78 pairs of Shoe Coverings**  
**67 Scrub Tops**  
**73 Scrub Pants**

In March, as we witnessed the incredible need for all types of PPE here in Guatemala and the lack of access to these important items, members of our staff team began sewing face masks and making plastic face shields to distribute to first responders and other frontline workers in government medical clinics throughout the area. In the following months, our team also began producing waterproof scrub tops and pants, as well as waterproof surgical gowns, caps and shoe coverings.

## FOOD AND SUPPLIES



In the midst of the uncertainties that Guatemala faced because of the pandemic, we packed over 400 boxes of food supplies, along with cleaning and hygiene articles. These supplies were shared with families across the area where we work, focusing especially on those who are part of our “Niños Chispudos” nutrition program and our “Becas Con Misión” scholarship program. In addition, food boxes were provided to the foremen, translators, and cooks who would have worked alongside us had we been able to host teams.

For Christmas, 217 Christmas boxes were also packaged and delivered to the community of Pacamaché, in the Boca Costa region of Sololá. Each box was filled with basic household staples such as coffee, sugar, and soap—as well as Christmas treats like chocolate and cookies!