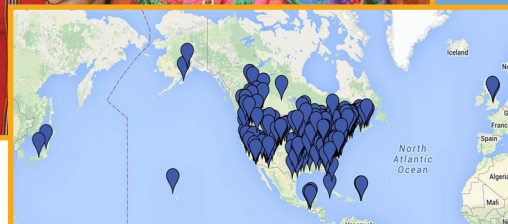




The Guatemala Literacy Project (GLP) is a network of Rotary Members and the nonprofit organization Cooperative for Education (CoEd); dedicated to improving education for underserved students in Guatemala.



More than 800 Rotary clubs from around the world participate in the GLP.

Why Guatemala?

Guatemala exhibits one of the most extreme combinations of systemic poverty, illiteracy, and inequality in the Western Hemisphere. Four out of five Indigenous Guatemalans live in poverty, and more than one in three cannot read or write.

The GLP is one of the largest grassroots projects in Rotary. More than 800 Rotary clubs from around the world have been working together since 1997 to improve education for underserved students in Guatemala. In that time, more than 278,000 students have been served through four sustainable programs that are tested and proven to work.

How Does it Work?

The GLP brings Rotary clubs and CoEd together to connect individual and club sponsors to students, classrooms, and schools in Guatemala. Rotary's charitable arm, The Rotary Foundation, has granted US\$6.5 million to the literacy project.

Proven Results

- In 1997, two in three Guatemalans could not read; today it's down to one in three.
- With the Textbook Program, dictating is cut in half, and students comprehend material 50% better than without it.
- 90% of Computer and Rise Program graduates find employment or further their education.
- Spark has helped first-graders score 49% better than the national average on reading comprehension based on the ELGI, a Guatemalan adaption of the widely-used Early Grade Reading Assessment.
- 1,294 certified Spark teachers have educated 33,812 children on reading comprehension.

The GLP's mission is to break the cycle of poverty in Guatemala through education. It focuses on four pathways:



Textbooks

The Textbook Program provides math, science, social studies, and Spanish textbooks to middle schools and trains teachers to use them effectively in the classroom.



Reading

The Spark Reading Program trains teachers in effective reading instruction and provides them with quality children's literature.



Computers

The Computer Program offers students the opportunity to use technology to solve real-world problems while developing the computer skills needed to secure better jobs after graduation.



Youth Development

Through youth development, social support services, and scholarships, the Rise Youth Development Program provides students with the resources necessary to graduate high school and ultimately break the cycle of poverty.

IMAGINE IMPACT TOUR



Rotary brings together a global network of 1.4 million volunteer leaders dedicated to tackling the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. On her Imagine Impact Tour, 2022-23 Rotary International President Jennifer Jones was proud to highlight the GLP, which has served 278,413 students to date. In addition to supporting education, please visit [rotary.org](https://www.rotary.org) to learn more about Rotary's causes.



Sustainability

The Textbook and Computer Programs use a "revolving fund" model, whereby parents pay a small monthly fee for their children to use the books or computers. Schools save this money in a designated fund which is eventually used to buy new books and computers as the old ones wear out. Thus, the programs are 100% self-sustaining.

The Spark Reading Program and the Rise Program achieve sustainability by developing the potential of teachers and students, who then continue to enrich their country. For example, Spark-trained teachers often share their training with other teachers, and over half of Rise Program graduates who have younger siblings are now helping to pay for those siblings to stay in school.



Tours to Guatemala

Join Rotary members from around the world to meet students, deliver desperately needed textbooks, and inaugurate brand-new computer centers at underserved schools. Learn more at:

www.guatemalaliteracy.org/volunteer