



Why Guatemala?

Guatemala exhibits one of the most extreme combinations of systemic poverty, illiteracy, and inequality in the Western hemisphere. 4 out of 5 indigenous Guatemalans live in poverty, and more than 1 in 3 cannot read or write.

What Is the GLP?

The Guatemala Literacy Project (GLP) is a network of individual Rotarians, Rotary clubs and districts, and the nonprofit Cooperative for Education (CoEd), with a common interest in improving education for underserved students in Guatemala. Since 1997, over 800 clubs and over 90 districts around the world have participated in the GLP. The GLP was also recognized as “the gold standard of Rotary projects” by 2017-2018 RI President Ian Riseley and has received the endorsement of 2022-2023 RI President Jennifer Jones.

How Does it Work?

The GLP coordinates an annual global grant for roughly 150 Rotary clubs and districts that is submitted to The Rotary Foundation for matching. We also connect individual and club sponsors to students, classrooms, and schools in Guatemala.

The GLP includes over 800 clubs worldwide.

Proven Results

- Textbook Program teachers spend 56% less class time dictating or writing on the chalkboard when they receive textbooks.
- 95% of Computer Program graduates find employment or further their education in high school.
- Students in the Spark Reading Program gain reading comprehension skills 2x as quickly as students in normal classrooms.
- 90% of Rise Program graduates find employment or further their education beyond high school.
- Since its founding in 1997, the GLP has served over 295,000 students.



Textbook Program

The Textbook Program provides vital books to middle schools in the core areas of math, science, social studies, and Spanish, and trains teachers to use the books effectively in the classroom.



Computer Program

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



Spark Program

The Spark Reading Program trains primary-school teachers in effective reading instruction and provides children's literature to help them transform students into enthusiastic and lifelong readers.



Rise Program

The Rise Youth Development Program provides opportunities to students who have great potential but face overwhelming obstacles. Through youth development, support services, and scholarships, Rise scholars are empowered to break the cycle of poverty.

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 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 1/2 of Rise Program graduates who have younger siblings are now helping to pay for those siblings to stay in school.



Join the Global Grant

Invest in a sustainable, successful project by joining our global grant. Learn more at:

www.guatemalaliteracy.org/grant



Visit Guatemala

Join Rotarians from around the world to meet students, deliver badly needed textbooks, and inaugurate brand-new computer centers at impoverished schools. Sign up at:

www.guatemalaliteracy.org/volunteer



Sponsor a Student

Help a deserving student break the cycle of poverty by sponsoring them in the Rise Program. Learn more at:

www.guatemalaliteracy.org/rise