



## **Welcome to de FAMILIA a FAMILIA**

We are a non-profit association integrated by four Guatemalan women who have been working for 12 years to be the link of communication between birth and adoptive families, with the aim of helping them maintain and strengthen a healthy relationship. De Familia a Familia was consolidated as an association in 2009 with the intention of expanding our field of action to more families in need.

We facilitate the contact through photographs, letters and personal meetings. We channel the donations to Guatemalan families periodically in the form of scholarships, grants for technical degrees for women, basic goods baskets, installation of ecological stoves (energy/wood savers) and ecological water filters in order to contribute to the well being and integral development of the Guatemalan families.

We also extend our support to families who have been victims of natural disasters and other emergencies.

### **Mission**

To be the link between adoptive and birth families, and to contribute to the well being of the latter and of single mothers in general, through the channeling of donations to health, nutrition, technical and scholar grants for women and children.

### **Vision**

Help improve the birth families' quality of life through a better nutrition, health, technical and formal schooling.

### **Objectives**

- Help maintain and strengthen the relationship between birth and adoptive families, favoring a personal meeting.
- Channel the support and donations from adoptive families and others, to contribute to the comprehensive development of Guatemalan families.
- Provide the protein and caloric requirements needed for a balanced nutrition through the delivery of food supplies.
- Facilitate medical and dental checkups, lab exams and medicines.
- Grant scholarships for children in public or private institutions throughout the country.
- Facilitate technical education for women.
- Contribute to the health improvement of Guatemalan families' by providing access to ecological water filters and ecological stoves (energy/wood savers).
- Favor subsequent reunions between adoptive and birth families who have already met.

# Projects

## Ongoing Contact

De Familia a Familia facilitates ongoing contact through the translation of letters, photo printing and telephonic and electronic messages, both from adoptive and birth families. We currently work with 147 families and in this way contribute to build family and cultural relationships.

## Medical Checkups

De Familia a Familia facilitates medical care such as: general and internal medical practice, pediatrics, neurology, cardiology, ophthalmology, dentistry, gynecology and surgery, also lab exams, X rays, ultrasounds and medicines.

## Groceries

You can support a Guatemalan family by donating a basic goods basket monthly, every two months or quarterly. The amount of the donation will depend on the number of family members and the location of the family. De Familia a Familia takes care of the shopping, packing and distribution of the goods.

## Scholarships in Private Schools

You can donate scholarships in private schools, which include enrollment and monthly fees, uniform, shoes, school supplies, complementary classes, school activities, text books and transportation. De Familia a Familia takes care of the student's enrollment and paying the monthly fees; currently we support 14 children located mainly in the department of Guatemala

## Technical Education For Women

Due to their working schedule and family responsibilities, many Guatemalan women do not have the opportunity to study a technical career that would allow them to reach financial stability and a better quality of life. De Familia a Familia has had the opportunity to support several women who have completed beauty training, massaging and make up techniques, acrylic nails and haircuts. These courses are having a positive impact in their lives, giving them financial independence and comfort to their families.

## Scholarships in Public Schools

Although Guatemalan public schools do not charge any enrollment fees, many children do not have the opportunity to attend, or they are withdrawn by their parents because they cannot afford the expenses related to the studies, such as school implements, typing classes, school projects, transportation, shoes and uniforms.

You can help cover these expenses and reduce school desertion in Guatemala by supporting a child with a scholarship; the amount will depend on the school grade. To date, De Familia a Familia has facilitated scholarships to 60 children in public schools all over the Guatemalan territory.

### **Ecological Stoves**

Through De Familia a Familia you can look after the respiratory health of a Guatemalan family as well as the Guatemalan forests!

Thanks to their metallic structure and a pumice stone chamber of combustion, the ecological stoves save firewood and transport smoke through a chimney, thus reducing the risk of respiratory diseases by exposure. The size of the stoves is 18.1" wide by 24" long and can be transported by two people.

Most Guatemalan families in the rural areas use wood as fuel to cook in open fires that let go most of the heat. Besides, this improvised fires produce a lot of smoke, releasing it in the immediate environment and according to the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), harms the respiratory system both of who is cooking and the ones around. Also, according to the Guatemalan National Forest Institute (INAB), the main cause of deforestation in the country is the cut down of trees for firewood. The Special Program for Alimentary Health of Mexico (PESA) affirms that the ecological stoves reduce the consumption of wood up to 50%, which makes this project an environmentally friendly one.

\*Please consult with us about the coverage areas.

### **Ecological Water Filters**

According to the Guatemalan Ministry of Health, the number one cause of general mortality in the country corresponds to infectious diseases caused by contaminated water sources. Fortunately, there are filters made out of clay, sawdust and colloidal silver which eliminate bacteria, bad odor and taste up to 100%. Each filter can hold 20 liters of water and can supply a family of 6 to 10 members.

You can provide a Guatemalan family an ecological stove and water filter. The donation includes transportation, installation and training on how to use it. The filter must be changed once a year and De Familia a Familia also takes care of the distribution.

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