



“Peace is not the product of terror or fear, nor the silence of cemeteries.

Peace is not the silent result of violent repression.

Peace is the generous, tranquil contribution of all to the good of all.

Peace is dynamic.

Peace is generosity.

- Archbishop Oscar A. Romero

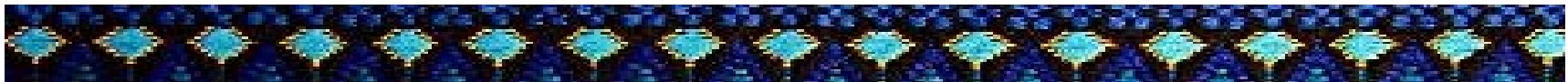
2012 Avivara Annual Report

Giving Hope to the Future

Through the Power and Dignity of Education

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Our Mission and Program Accomplishments:

To improve the quality of and access to education in Guatemala, and to cultivate interconnectedness between the peoples of Guatemala and the United States.

Avivara School Improvement Grants:



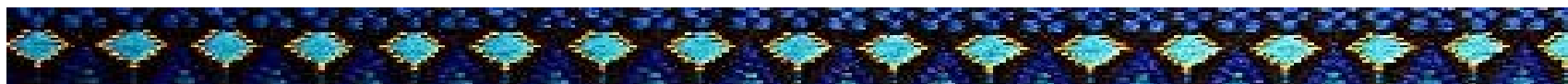
In 2012, Avivara continued to supply schools in rural, poverty-impacted villages in Guatemala with much needed **basic teaching materials and student supplies**. In all of the schools, the delivery of those supplies was always greeted with enthusiasm and offers to help. Here, students from Panibaj Alto help Gustavo, our Director of Programs, carry supplies down the path to their school.

In addition to receiving basic supplies, two of our schools made significant advances in their teaching methods through the use of **computer technology**. In the villages of San Jose Pacul and Tunino, we helped those schools purchase, install, implement and staff their new computer labs.



Another positive development we witnessed was the development of **school mission/vision statements** which grew directly out of our School Director's Forum at the beginning of the school year. Here El Yalu School Director Adelaida Tubac talks about the goals and needs for her school in front of their posted mission statement.

Finally, we continued to receive requests for **teacher workshops** and modeling sound teaching techniques in the schools. These even extended to other organizations. Pictured here is an activity from one of our workshop on teaching integrated art and science lessons with the staff of *Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos*, a large orphanage near Antigua.



Avivara Scholarship Program:



Over the last five years we have watched our scholarship program grow steadily from 2 students in 2008, to 120 students in 2012, thus becoming our largest program in terms of overall annual expenditures.

Of those 120 students receiving scholarships in 2012, 78 were from the Uspantan-Ixil Triangle area of Northern Quiche, the site of some of the worst massacres in the

1980's during the Guatemalan Civil War. These scholarships were funded and administered by our affiliate organization, *Becas Especiales Uspantan*.

In addition to that program, Avivara awarded 31 scholarships to junior high and high school students in the departments of Sacatepéquez, Escuintla, and Chimaltenango.

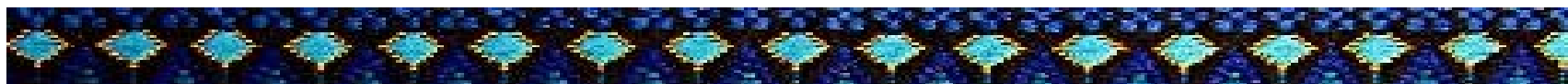
Also, in 2012, Avivara awarded university scholarships to 11 recipients. These students were taking classes for university degrees in teaching, nursing, medicine, business administration, accounting, and agro-economics.

We are often asked what impact this has on the students and their families. One of our past high-school scholarship recipients, Luz Elidia, is now employed as a bookkeeper for the coffee cooperative in her village and is also taking university classes in accounting so that she can become a licensed accountant. Another past recipient, Jacobo, is now teaching junior high classes in the village of La Trinidad in the school where we first saw his promise as a future leader in his community.



And, if we ever wonder what impact those scholarships have on the families, we need only to see the pride in the faces of the parents attending their children's graduations to know that our donors have helped provide opportunities that didn't seem possible only a generation earlier.

(Note: Even yet, currently less than 1% of students from the rural areas attend high school.)



After-School Learning Centers:

In the villages of San Pedro Las Huertas and Zacatecas, Avivara supported two after-school learning centers. These two centers served between 50-70 students each day by providing access to resource materials, help with homework and the opportunity to engage in problem-solving and creative thinking activities.



However, there are changes ahead for the center in San Pedro Las Huertas. In June of 2012, Avivara moved its facilities from San Pedro to the village of San Cristobal El Alto, another village close to Antigua. Thankfully, neighbors in San Pedro donated space in their home for us to continue the center there through the remainder of 2012. However, it is likely that we will be working with the parents and students in San Pedro to develop a new model for delivering services in 2013.

The program in Zacatecas continued on as in years past, being run and staffed by young volunteers in the community, with Avivara providing financial support for building upkeep, staffing and the purchase of additional educational materials.

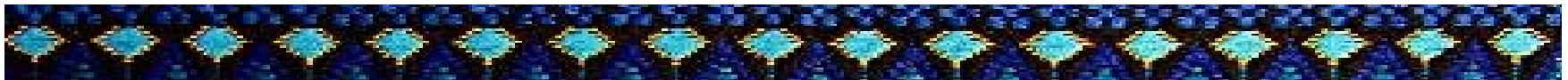
Service & Study Abroad (SAGE) Program:

Our Service & Study Abroad (SAGE) program continue to grow and attract more clients (17) in 2012. We were able to place individual volunteers to help in the school in El Yalu, and hosted a team of volunteers from Archbishop Murphy High School in Everett, WA, to work in the village and school in Cerro Niño.



While providing groups and individuals with the opportunity to interact with and support the teachers and students in Guatemala, the Avivara SAGE Program also has the added benefit of developing “ambassadors” in the U.S. who become actively engaged in sharing our stories and fund-raising efforts.

“If I love until it hurts, there is no hurt, only more love.”
-Mother Teresa



Organizational Accomplishments:

Because our U.S. organizational policies, standards and practices were well established in years prior to 2012, the primary organizational activities in our U.S. operations were the ongoing review of our financial reports, approval of fund-raising materials and annual staff evaluations.

Facilities Transition in Guatemala:

In Guatemala, however, the most significant change was the moving of our facilities from San Pedro Las Huertas to the village of San Cristobal El Alto, another village near Antigua

This new location now provides more room for the storage of school supplies and teacher materials awaiting delivery to the schools, as well as expanded office space for our Avivara staff. Also, since this new location is donated, our rental and utilities expenses have been dramatically reduced (by over \$3,000 per year) thus freeing up resources for increased funding in other program areas.



Our new facility also gives us a more comfortable space for conducting director forums, teacher workshops, and scholarship meetings, as well as allowing us to host groups visiting from the U.S.

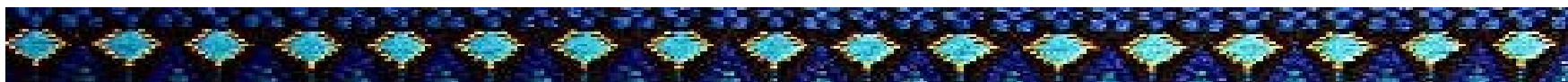
Building New Partnerships:

One of the most significant developments in 2012 was our forging of new partnerships and collaborations with a number of groups and organizations. These groups included:

- ◆ St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School and Parish in Anchorage, AK
- ◆ Covenant Presbyterian Church in Madison, WI
- ◆ Rotary Club of Covington, WA
- ◆ St. John the Baptist Parish in Covington, WA
- ◆ Archbishop Murphy High School Missions Program in Everett, WA
- ◆ Foundations Beyond Belief
- ◆ Hyman Family Foundation
- ◆ Gunder Family Foundation Fund

In addition to these new U.S. based partnerships, Avivara also made the decision to support its first high school in Guatemala.

Instituto Nacional de Educacion (INED) Solidaridad is a public vocational/technical high school in the town of Patzun. It serves students from neighboring villages and teaches vocational skills along with a deep commitment to indigenous and human rights. In 2012, Avivara provided them with welding equipment as well as textbooks and other teaching materials.

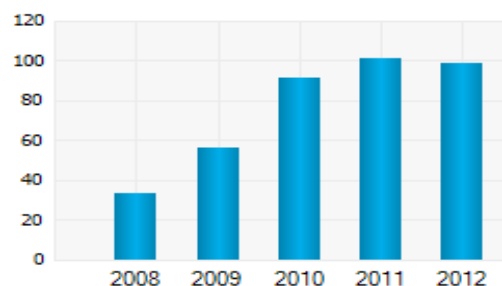


Financial Reports:

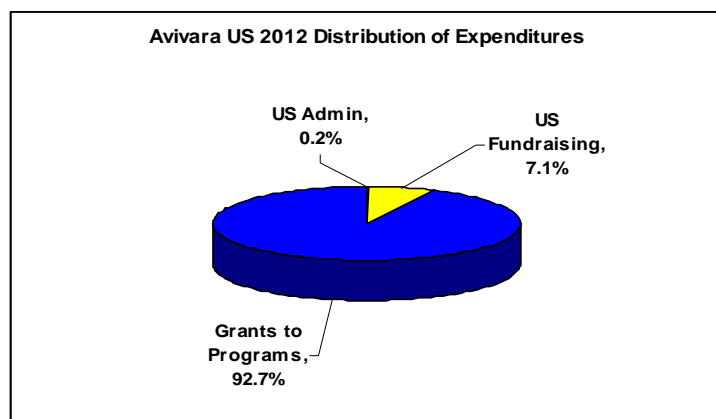
U.S. Operations:

After 4 years of strong revenue growth (see graph below), 2012 was a “plateau” year for Avivara with overall revenues dropping slightly from \$101,000 in 2011, to \$98,600 in 2012.

USD in 1000s



Regardless of the decrease in revenues, Avivara continued its strong commitment to having over 90% of its expenditures go towards supporting our educational programs in Guatemala.

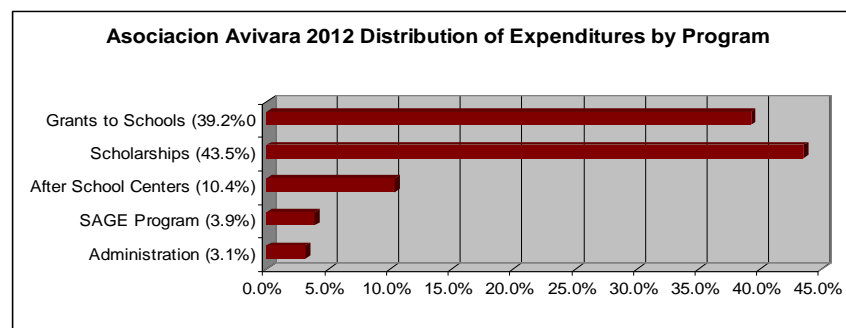


In addition, even with a reduction in overall revenues, Avivara US did operate at a surplus in 2012 (\$10,478) most of which was rolled over into our operating reserve account to bring our reserves up to 50% of our projected operating budget for 2013.

Guatemala Operations:

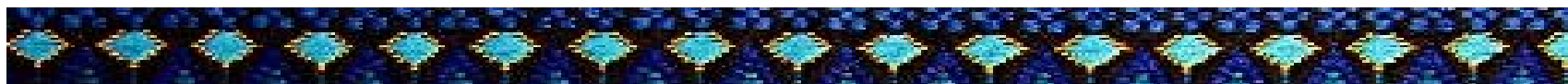
Because of the reduced revenues in the US, the total grants provided to Asociación Avivará in Guatemala also decreased slightly (-1.9%) from \$83,300 in 2011, to \$81,700 in 2012.

However, by “shifting the load on the burro” and reducing our expenses for facilities, we were able to maintain our past levels of support for schools and actually increase the amount awarded in scholarships. The graph below shows the percentage of expenditures in each of our Guatemalan program areas.



Like Avivara US, Asociación Avivará (Guatemala) was able to operate at a slight surplus (\$1,900) in 2012, the majority of which was deposited into a special savings account to eventually fund the purchase a new (used) truck.

Note: More detailed 2012 financial reports are available at:
<http://www.avivara.org/aboutus/financialreports.html>



Acknowledgements & Appreciation:

“The only people with whom you should try to get even are those who have helped you.”

-J.E. Southard

To the people of Guatemala:



Our first acknowledgement goes out to the dedicated teachers of Guatemala who often commute long distances for very little pay in challenging working conditions to educate the children of Guatemala.

Secondly, we wish to thank the parents who encourage their children to continue their education and who are willing to sacrifice to make that dream a reality.

In addition, we very much appreciate those students who have the courage and aspirations to improve their own lives and the lives of their families and communities through the power and dignity of education.



To the people of the United States:

All that Avivara has accomplished in 2012 could not have been done without the help of volunteers who organized special Avivara events in their respective communities:

- ◆ Caroline Eddens, Patricia Kennish and their families
- ◆ Tom & Cathy Miller and family
- ◆ Fr. Tim Lilly and the students and parishioners of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish
- ◆ Jim Tannasse, Fr. Jim Coyne and the St. John the Baptist-Covington Mission Team
- ◆ Dan Sherman and the faculty of St. Madeleine Sophie School in Bellevue, WA
- ◆ Kathy Kenney, Matt Schambari and the Archbishop Murphy High School Mission Team
- ◆ Helen Madsen and the Covenant Presbyterian Church Mission Team

Thanks also to the following businesses that financially supported our programs in 2012:

- ◆ Kemly Electric
- ◆ Salesforce.com
- ◆ Kraft Foundation
- ◆ Microsoft

A HUGE THANK YOU to all our generous donors!

And finally, a special thanks to our US Board of Directors: David Craig, Mary Austin-Seymour, Susan Clauson, Tom Friedman, David Austin and Tobias Piering for their wisdom, hard work and financial support throughout the year.

Now, on to 2013!

