



TIKONELAAB' MOLAAJ AJ UK'U'X IXIMULEW

Comité Campesino Del Altiplano

Col. Santa Cruz Quixayá, San Lucas Tolimán, Sololá  
Guatemala, C.A.



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## EDUCATION IN THE CCDA!!!!

December 2011

### Education for transformation

Although all children in Guatemala are supposed to have access to free public education, this is not always the case. While children in most CCDA communities have Ac-

cess to a public primary school, there are still a number expenses they must pay to attend. In some of the newer communities, the state has provided neither schools nor

teachers, or has only covered the salary of only one teacher to teach 60, 70 or more children in various grades

Access to public school after grade 6 is almost non-existent in the countryside and students must pay to attend private middle and high schools. These fees are beyond the reach of most Mayan campesino families. .



### Scholarships

This year the CCDA provided bursaries for 35 male and female students from different communities to attend various levels (primary, middle and secondary/technical school) of school.

The youth are studying various careers that our communities need, such as book-keeping, teaching, agricultural technicians and university prep.

The bursary students have formed a group that carries out volunteer work with the CCDA, such as community clean-ups and planting a garden around our new rural hospital in Quixaya



## EDUCATION IN THE CCDA!!!!

### The School in El Esfuerzo Community

This year we built an additional classroom at the school in El Esfuerzo, a recently settled CCDA community (the original structure was built by BC High

School Students several years ago), which now provides primary education to 62 children in various grades. With the addition of a second classroom, we hope that the children of Mayan campesinos will be less crowded and will receive a better education.

Donations from Canadians also enabled us to hire and pay for the salary of a second teacher at the El Esfuerzo school.



**EDUCATION:  
THE  
FOUNDATION  
OF HUMAN  
DEVELOPMENT**



*Primary school at El Esfuerzo*

### Average Monthly Cost for Scholarship Students and School Subsidies

Level and Number of students benefiting from the CCDA Education Program	Average annual cost per student
PRIMARY <i>183 students</i>	USD \$135 per year, per student
Middle School (Gr. 7-9) <i>23 students</i>	USD \$ 265 per year per student
Secondary/technical school <i>12 students</i>	USD \$ 658 per year per student

## A Youth from the CCDA studying in Cuba

Currently, the CCDA's education program supports a student studying at the faculty of economics at the University of Camaguey, Cuba. It has been very motivating, as our student the highest average in his class, He is now completing the fourth year of a five year university degree in economics.



## A CCDA Youth at the National Agricultural University

Our program is also supporting a youth to study at Guatemala's National Agricultural technical School. After 2 years of study at the Agricultural School Abner Chiroy recently graduated. This is significant to us because the agricultural school is usually reserved for the Ladino sons of the ranchers and plantation owners, not mayan campesinos. Another 2 CCDA students will begin in January 2012.

*Abner Chiroy walks between the flags at his graduation*

## The CCDA Education Program's Plans for 2012:

In the coming year, we hope to increase our bursary fund to be able to hire new teachers and improve the infrastructure of schools in the following CCDA Communities:

- ◆ **Comunidad NUEVO AMANECER, Suchitepéquez.** 78 students from Kindergarten to 6th grade. (The school is there, but we hope to cover the salary

for 2 teachers)

- ◆ **Comunidad Ixloc, San Pedro en el Ixcán** - 43 students from kindergarten to 3rd grade (We hope to provide a teacher for this school)
- ◆ **Comunidad El Esfuerzo, San Lucas Tolimán.** The salary of one teacher in this com-

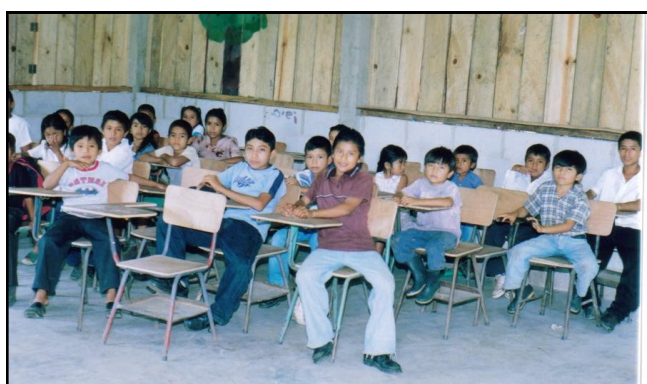
munity is paid by the municipality, but with 62 children in grades one to six at the school, the CCDA, with the support of Ottawa's Education in Action (Café Justicia Ottawa), began to cover the salary of a second teacher. We hope to continue to pay the 2nd teacher's salary in 2012.

## Successes in 2011:

The photos on the right are from the school at El Esfuerzo built by Canadian students.

At the top are the first five students at the El Esfuerzo school to graduate from the elementary school (grade 6). We hope to assist them to attend a middle school outside the community in 2012.

At bottom is a photo of students in El Esfuerzo's original classroom.



## Funding

Funds for the CCDA's Scholarship and education program come from profits from the sales of Café Justicia and donations from individuals and groups in Canada who support the work and aspirations of the CCDA for development, equity and social justice in the Guatemalan countryside.

*A meeting of the CCDA with parents at the school in the community of Nuevo Amanecer (New Dawn). The school has one large room in which students from grades one to six study together. The community is seeking support to improve the school and divide it into classrooms.*

*Nuevo Amanecer has finally been granted recognition by the government after 50 years of being established beside the railway tracks near Coteles Junction, in the midst of cane fields and sugar mills. Their success has been a strategic struggle and is exemplary of the Resistance and Recovery of the Land. However, their existence is still being threatened by large landowners and a Canadian transnational. We are carrying out research to find out what the company is called in Canada,*



*In Guatemala, a hope is growing.*

**COMITÉ CAMPESINO DEL ALTIPLANO  
-CCDA-**

*Guatemala, diciembre 2011.*



