



Fundación Asturias  
Maldonado

# Annual Report 2021





## Fundación Asturias Maldonado

*To our Supporters, Donors, Friends and Family,*

We want to express our deepest appreciation for all of the support given to our Foundation-- as well as the aid allowing us to further our programs in rural Guatemala.

It is a pleasure and an honor to work for a brighter future for the families of La Reforma, San Marcos. Thank you to all of the administrative personnel as well as the teachers for their work and commitment in the challenging 2021 school year. This past year we initiated the Hybrid Integral School Project from Preschool to High School. With this project we implemented partial in-person classes. At all times we instituted best practices to ensure the health and safety of our students and teachers.

Even in the face of the crisis 21 students graduated from PreSchool, Middle School and High School. Over the last ten years the FAM educational programs have served hundreds of children from four to eighteen years of age from ten communities in the region of La Reforma, San Marcos.

Our students participated in Reading Tournaments and received first prizes in the contests. In order to support our teachers, we hosted professional workshops for our staff to develop their teaching abilities to better reinforce language and mathematics teaching methods. We partnered with Habilmind—an online platform that offers tools for digital teaching—to evaluate students and teachers forging the best path forward for our programs. We have also partnered with WiXXi to provide academic reinforcing activities for students in the areas of mathematics and language.

Our hybrid programs supported student learning and helped students start catching up on classroom teaching time lost during the forced closure of our schools. Perhaps the greatest difficulty was asking parents to step in and help their children prepare activities, school work and evaluations. Central to our efforts was to train and motivate our teachers in the face of very real obstacles. Some of our challenges this past year included working with families to prevent the abandonment of studies by students. Across the country huge swaths of students abandoned their studies in order to help their families financially during the pandemic.

We have had to pivot and develop activities online in order to raise funds to allow the continuation of our programs.

For all this work, effort and dedication we want to give a big thank you for all that was achieved in 2021. The investment of time and resources, made on behalf of the farm families of San Marcos, Guatemala is life changing for many. We strive to complete our mission of a better future for the children and young people of San Marcos, Guatemala.

Warmest Regards,  
Mónica Asturias  
Executive Director



## 2021 School Year

The school year began in February 2021 employing a hybrid teaching method. This meant that our students received assignments via WhatsApp. Teachers travelled to eight disparate communities we serve to meet with the students in a safe outdoor areas. This manner of instruction was mandated by the Ministry of Education of Guatemala due the changing conditions of the pandemic. Our teachers rose to the occasion and many times walked all the way to the communities to meet and help their students.

From Preschool through Middle School the hybrid program was held five days a week. Most days instruction was in person with teachers working with the students in their communities in safe outside areas including community centers or in some cases students' homes. Several hours a day were dedicated to the curriculum and the work the students needed to complete at home. The teachers also worked with the students on projects

and evaluations to keep track of student progress. The days the teachers travelled to other communities the work was sent via WhatsApp and the teachers were available for questions via the same platform. This model allowed the teachers to work with the students and to ensure that the educational lessons continued in the middle of the instability of the health crisis.

## Attendance 2021

As a result of the pandemic many families chose to keep their children home so the number of students fell to 91 including 31 in elementary school, 26 in middle school and 24 in high school. This challenge was again met by our staff speaking to the families and asking them to allow their children to return and continue their studies. Not an easy task. Many of our students are the first in their families to study beyond primary school. Every girl who graduates literally changes the national average.

# United for Education

## 1. FAM and Habilmind

A Spanish educational platform—established a partnership wherein Habilmind donates the use of the platform to work together in the areas of educational resources for students, teachers and families. With this partnership FAM receives membership in the Iberoamerican Excellence Education Club [CIEE]. Habilmind and CIEE donate to FAM the cost of students, teachers and families use of the platform and membership in the club. In July of 2021 work began in earnest with the evaluation and screening of all to evaluate the mental and emotional health of all students and teachers in these instable times.

## 2. FAM and Wixii

Tutoring program in the areas of Reading and Math– established a partnership with FAM in July of 2021 to work with student who need help reinforcement in the area mentioned. Students began to work in August with the program and the weekly activities were integrated into the curriculum and were able to be completed at home or with the teachers.

## 3. FAM and FUNCAFÈ

Institutions supporting education in Guatemala have worked with our Foundation for more than a decade specifically in the areas of course planning, educational texts and professional training for teachers at the primary level. During the 2021 year FAM, Funcafé, Intecap and USAC – planned and offered the following courses to our students and to family members who wanted to attend including introduction to electricity; barbering, and environmental education. These three courses were presented between August and November of 2021 and each participant received an Academic Diploma upon successful completion of the course.

## 4. Evaluation and Counseling

From April to August 2021 evaluation and counseling was provided to the nine students graduating from the High School program focused on Computer Programming. The goal was to evaluate and counsel the students in their academic abilities and preferences helping them decide next steps for vocational or university preparation. Psychologist Sara García kindly donated her time and resources to conduct the evaluations and counseling sessions using the forms used by the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala. Both evaluations as well as group and individual feedback sessions were conducted online due to prevailing health and safety restrictions.

## Academic Prizes 2021

In August of 2021 students participated in the Regional Reading Competition organized by FUNCAFÉ. Our students were awarded the following prizes:

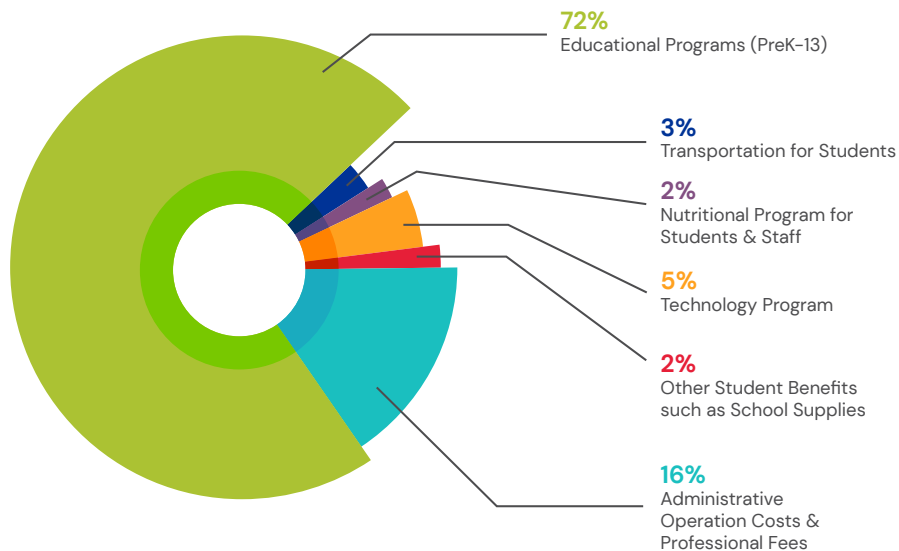
**First Place –  
Erickson Otoniel  
Poroj Camey,  
12th Grade**

**Third Place –  
Meraly Alicia  
Monteros, 8th  
Grade**

# Why Support the work of FAM

## 2021 Financial Information

FAM Expenditures  
1/1/2021 - 12/31/2021



2021 Total Budget: \$ 100,000.00



Families, Children & Youth are at the core of our Mission. Transforming the lives of rural families in La Reforma, San Marcos, Guatemala through high quality multi-generational education is our goal.

In Guatemala, 30% of students fail first grade, and the average child spends only 4.9 years in school. This is the lowest educational literacy rate in Latin America. It is not surprising; therefore, that Guatemala continues to lag behind in social and economic development. We are changing this in our part of rural Guatemala.

FAM offers an Integrated Educational Program where our students learn analytical/critical thinking, ethics and solidarity. When you educate children and youth, you transform and shape their lives for the better, but also, you transform and forge a better future for Guatemala and, by extension, the World. That's why Your Gift or Donation makes a huge difference and impact the lives of our future generations.

# Ways to make a donation:

## 1. US Donations by Checks

Checks can be mailed to our U.S. office: Asturias Maldonado Foundation 581 E. Genoa Rd, Locke, NY 13092

## 3. Guatemalan Donations

Please mail checks to:  
Fundación Asturias  
Maldonado:

15 Avenida 14 – 79 Zona  
13, Residencias Carmel,  
Casa # 13, Guatemala City,  
Guatemala

Phone number:  
(+502) 4003 8964

## 2. Wire Transfers

Asturias Maldonado  
Foundation 581 E. Genoa  
Rd, Locke, NY 13092

Acct # 8120031202,  
Tompkins Trust Company  
Routing # 021302648

## 4. Stock/ Endowment Gifts

To provide a gift in  
stock or bonds please  
contact Diane Eldred:  
deldred0923@aol.com

## 5. Web

Donations online may be made to:  
<https://asturiasmaldonadofoundation.giv.sh/349b>

Thank you so much for your continued support for  
the farm families of La Reforma San Marcos!

# Special Thanks to Our Teachers



The teachers and administrative staff of FAM are committed and passionate about early childhood education and the development of young minds. Every day the teachers surmount huge challenges to carry out our Integral Educational Program with Academic Excellence. Thank you to the teachers for providing an opportunity for a better future to our students.

Our teachers and staff are:

- Cinthya Robles
- Astrid Zacarías
- Evelyn Guachín
- Rosario Ramírez
- Eva Santos
- Bélquida Bámaca
- Juan Ramírez
- Víctor López
- Augusto Guachín
- Mynor López
- Gary Félix



# Board of Directors

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A map of the communities within the municipality of La Reforma, San Marcos, Guatemala where FAM beneficiaries reside.



# Dedication

Over the last ten years two women have been at the Forefront of supporting the work of the foundation and they are Diane Eldred and Esther Asturias Croft. Their example and commitment continues to inspire and encourage us. We thank them for their consistent and every present effort in making our work possible.