



## MEETING NOTES: May 6, 2020

**Call to Order:** Jim Olson called the virtual meeting to order



**Sunshine:** Al B. is now at Manor Care.

**Thought for the Day:** Dick Hamlish told several jokes about people who were being cross examined in court.

**Happy Dollars:** Merilee was appreciative of her daughter's nurse, Loren, who cared for her daughter throughout her Covid-19 ordeal. Thankfully, Merilee's daughter has recovered. Patrice mentioned National Nursing Day and the need for more masks. David added a thing or two about cataract surgery. Jean Dormann gave in honor of Mother's Day. Jann talked about a coffee and donuts gathering. Ruth Reeves shared a medical incident.

**New Member:** Jennifer Hanson was introduced to everyone again. She works at Hope Hospice.

**Five Minute Bio:** Bill Broxham took a few minutes to share his personal history. He is a widower with seven grandchildren.

**Happy Birthday** wishes went to Paul Wilson, Steve Elefant, and Chuck Lamb.

**Annual Meeting:** The election of trustees will take place on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Everyone was urged to keep Rossmoor virus free by following all protocols.

We received many thanks from our grant recipients.

## PROGRAM

Kenneth Pon from San Leandro Rotary Club and a member of Education2Envision's Board of Directors introduced the speaker Katia Gomez, founder of Educate2Envision (E2E), a nonprofit organization whose mission is to bring affordable and impactful secondary school education to rural poor communities across Honduras.



In 2012, Educate2Envision opened doors to its first secondary school in Honduras — the result of a volunteer trip taken by Katia as a college student. E2E was created to address the numerous obstacles facing rural youth that desired to study beyond 6th grade. Growing up in a remote rural community meant that the nearest secondary school would be on average 4 hours walking plus transportation costs that were beyond their families' means. E2E took notice that not only was Honduras a country largely left off the radar of many foundations when it came to sustainable education programs, but also rural youth were not being invested in equally. The projects that did arrive were largely short-term or donation-based. So, they set out on a mission to nurture the human capital of rural youth leaders and equip them with the tools they needed to fight back against poverty through education, community service, and entrepreneurship.

Several factors have been barriers for Honduran children to receive a full secondary education. First, a poor infrastructure provided more than 11,000 public primary schools nationally, but only about 900 upper secondary schools. E2E has started 11 additional secondary schools. They charge \$10 to \$15 per year, which is far less than before. They serve 293 students.



A second barrier is education inequality. Because most families are impoverished and live in 50% of Honduran youth between the ages of 15 and 24 live in rural areas a great distance from schools, they typically do not move beyond a primary education. The percentage of students able to complete secondary school in urban areas lies around 65% while rural youth have a below 30% chance of finishing this next step in education.

E2E schools apply project-based learning to help students develop poverty-fighting projects in their local communities and teach neighboring youth to replicate similar programs. By learning how to map high risk areas of mosquito-borne illnesses, malnutrition, adolescent pregnancy, out-of-school children, and other factors affecting the well-being of families, students become empowered to identify and confront the major challenges in their communities.

## CALENDAR

May 13	Robert Sieben – Changing Paradigm of Wildfire Prevention
May 20	Dave Wolfram – AMF Media Group