



Battle Creek Rotary Club Newsletter: The RotoScoop Week of August 30, 2021

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July 2021- 2022

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Rotary Focus: Guatemala Literacy Project Christi Eisenberg

Ms. Eisenberg has been involved with the Guatemala Literacy Project for over ten years and it has changed her thinking about poverty and the power one individual can have. Specifically, she has worked on the RISE Literacy Scholarship program, which enables students to go to school past the fifth grade and graduate from high school. RISE Scholarships are funded through sponsorships by one Rotary member, a group of Rotary members, or Rotary Clubs.

Guatemala is one of the poorest countries in the western hemisphere, where 80% of the population lives in poverty. When the Guatemala Literacy program began in 1997 by one individual, two out of three people living in Guatemala could not read. That number has decreased to one out of three people because of this comprehensive effort supported by 600 Rotary Clubs in 80 Districts.

Most families, especially in rural areas, need their children to begin earning money for their families once they finish fifth grade. The RISE program has demonstrated that if a family has the resources to allow a child to complete high school that child can get a good job and break the cycle of poverty. A little over 50% of these students share their earnings with their families which enables younger siblings to continue their educations as well.

The scholarship program has a youth development component that provides job skills training, exposure to career panels, personal development, and community project opportunities.

The RISE scholarships are only one aspect of the literacy program. It also provides textbooks, computers, and trains teachers. It has touched the lives of almost 225,000 students. Eisenberg asks members, as individuals and as a club, to consider sponsoring a scholarship for one student at the cost of \$1,000 a year. Go to www.guatemalaliteracy.org or call or text 859/429-2776 for more information.



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Announcements

We Still Have Tickets!

Rotary District 6360 Foundation

Let Donna know if you want to buy a ticket. You can make your check out to District 6360 or to the Battle Creek Rotary Club.

We are now meeting in person at the Kool Center as we did before the pandemic. We will continue to provide a Zoom link up to members as long as it is needed. We use the same Zoom link and password for every meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting at:

<https://zoom.us/j/93233115265>

Meeting ID: 932 3311 5265 Passcode: 049691

Upcoming Programs and Events

9/6/2021 LABOR DAY - NO MEETING

9/13/2021 SHARE Center Project

9/20/2021 The Cut

Kathy Antaya
John Wemlinger, Author

Contact Karla Fales if you have any ideas: KFales@carewellservices.org