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# 2016 IMPACT REPORT

**30TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION**

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impact

OE

verb | im•pact | \im-'pakt\

1. The effect or influence of one person, thing, or action, on another.

synonyms: effect, influence, significance, meaning;



*Saving Lives*

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## OUR VALUES



WE DREAM **BIG**



WE ARE **PASSIONATE**



WE ARE **AGGRESSIVE**



WE ARE **UNIQUE**



WE ARE A **FORCE OF NATURE**



WE **LOVE**, EXPECTING NOTHING IN RETURN



WE **OVERCOME** ANY CHALLENGE



**IN THE LAST 30 YEARS, YOU HAVE ACCOMPLISHED ALL OF THIS:**

-  **6,721 Family Homes Built**
-  **496 Clean Water Projects**
-  **611 Church Planters Trained**
-  **+ \$307,000,000 in Aid Distributed**
-  **7,217 Sponsorships Facilitated**
-  **310 Educational Centers Built**
-  **28,871 Children Rescued**
-  **570 Churches Built**
-  **+10,000 Yearly Volunteers**
-  **+26,000,000 Meals Served**



Dear Friend,

Every year we are amazed at what has been accomplished for the Kingdom! 2016 was no different- and it is all because of the commitment of partners and friends like you.



It is hard to believe we have been on this journey of transformation for 30 years now. Often times we are focused on the child in our arms, or the elderly person holding our elbow for support, or the mother

sharing the burden of her heart- that we do not see how fast time is going.

It has been a hard, joyous, hopeful, and challenging journey but with you by our side we have impacted millions of lives, and truly transformed the future of Guatemala!

This past year, we embarked on what we believe will be some of the greatest, transformative projects we will ever be charged with. We know the weight of the responsibility this places on our shoulders, and trust that you will be there to share this vision with us during this next phase in Hope of Life's history.

As you read the stories of transformation in this report- we pray that you will be transported to the mountains of Guatemala, you will feel the restoration that pours from the halls of Saint Luke's, the unshakeable joy of Kelly's House will fill your soul... we pray that you will be **MOVED.**



We know we will see you in Guatemala soon, and cannot wait to continue on this journey alongside you for the next 30 years!

Your friends,

*Carlos & Cheryl Vargas*

Carlos & Cheryl Vargas  
Founders

*Katie Arriaza*

Katie Vargas Arriaza  
CEO & President

# Delivering 30 years of Hope

**1987**  
Oasis del Eden



**1990**  
Community Outreach

**1998**  
Orphanage groundbreaking



**2002**  
First Homes Built

**2008**  
Hope of Life International Established

**2009**  
Sponsorship program begins



**2011**  
Saint Luke's Hospital

**2013**  
Partnership with Absolute Results

**2015**  
Village of Transformation Dedication



**2016**  
Partnership with President Morales



**1992**  
First Food Distribution

**1999**  
First Volunteer Team

**2008**  
Partnership Cross International

**2009**  
First Total Village Transformation, Los Limones

**2014**  
Jerry Falwell Leadership Training Center

**2015**  
Yearly Impact Reaches 1.5 Million



**1989**  
Child Rescue



**2007**  
Partnership with World Help



**2012**  
Kelly's House



**2016**  
Groundbreaking of Trafficking Center



# MISSION: *Saving Lives*

## VISION:

From the moment Hope of Life started, our vision has always been, to rescue the future generations of Guatemala and the world through the power of a practical Gospel. To never meet a physical need without meeting a spiritual need. Transforming generations from dependency to independence, to become strong leaders for the world and for the Kingdom.

## OUR APPROACH



### A SINGLE FOCUS

Your love and support will change the lives of men, women and children, who face some of the harshest poverty on earth. There are many other needs in the world and billions of people who are desperate, but God is calling us to do what we can in His name among the most vulnerable.

We believe this work shows His love to people who will be profoundly impacted by your compassion and care.



### AN ACTIVE OUTREACH

Hope of Life never waits for people to ask for help. Your gift reaches out actively to people who might not even know that someone cares for them—people who do not ask for help because they think that no help would come, that no one would care.

We invite you to join us and visit Guatemala and see for yourself the surprise and joy people feel when they learn that you care deeply for them, and want to heal and help them.



### TOTAL TRANSFORMATION

Your gift never meets only physical needs—in everything you do, you are giving the Bread of Life and Living Water to people facing incredibly deep spiritual hunger and thirst. Jesus says, “I have come that they may have life and have it to the full”

This means sharing all of God’s gifts with people in need—both the bounty of His creation, and His everlasting, life-transforming love.



# 2016 Brief Summary










Never before have we worked as tirelessly to impact and save lives. Every single day the impact that Hope of Life and our partners make in Guatemala grows. We believe it is essential to be available to all in need of help- this belief keeps our eyes open and our hands ready to do the work placed before us.

This year, transformation rippled through thousands of communities in

Guatemala. Mothers were given hope, children who were dying are now thriving, pastors have been equipped with the Gospel to reach the most remote villages, and the vulnerable, lost, and hurting- they are being healed.

Thank you for serving alongside us in 2016- these stories serve as a small reminder of all the change and transformation YOU made possible.

## IT IS BECAUSE OF YOU, ALL OF THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 2016

-  **+2,000,000** Lives Impacted
-  **3,800** Children Rescued
-  **10,421** Volunteers
-  **+\$72,000,000** Aid Distributed
-  **+ 3,500,000** Meals Served
-  **491** New Homes Built
-  **274** Trained Church Planters
-  **68** Water Projects Built
-  **1,307** Newly Sponsored Individuals



## Remote Feeding Programs

### THOUSANDS OF MEALS HAVE BEEN DELIVERED!

Last year, through sponsors and volunteers, we provided over 3.5 million meals throughout local and remote communities. Many of you may have visited our feeding center at the local landfill, or gave to provide food for your sponsored child's family- but our feeding program reaches the heights of the mountains.

With over 70 active feeding centers or programs each year- we are providing meals where no other charity has ventured. Every single family we visit in the mountains on a rescue is not only given a food bag, but entered into our program so they receive supplemental food all year long!

"I am so thankful this door has been opened for myself, and for so many other young people."

-Fredy

## Ed's Garage

### EDUCATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE!

This was a benchmark year for on campus vocational training programs, as this is the first installment of 12 future trade schools that will educate generations to come!

The beauty of these vocational schools is their ability to not only educate young people in a skill, trade, or craft- but how these schools are increasing our sustainability model. We have been able to save thousands in car

repairs this past year by teaching our students using Hope of Life's very own vehicles in need of repair.

Fredy was part of a recent graduating class from our vocational school, Ed's Garage. His greatest dream is to go further with his education, specializing in heavy transportation vehicles. Through his education at Ed's Garage- that dream is possible, and he has the capacity to obtain a brighter future!

Roxana, a mother to one of the rescued children who received food bags said:

"The change in Daniel is evident, and it makes me so happy. I could not give him what he needed, and I'm so thankful for the help that came when we were so desperate."





# Village Transformation

## THE BEAUTIFUL CHURCH

Imagine building your home from sticks, scraps of metal, and thick black plastic. Maybe imagine meeting as a church body under a tree, or having no community resources or benefits to help give you a hand up in life. Now imagine being the answer to all of those difficulties in a person's life!

Village Transformation has brought life and hope to dozens of villages in 2016. From the dedication of community baking ovens, and chicken coops, to entire community centers and churches... these villages are on the journey to transformation, and it is only possible because of you.

**Hugo Paz, the pastor of a local church in Laguneta said this about Village Transformation:**

"I am so thankful for the help we have received- it is because of your help that we now have a place of worship we call "The Beautiful". A place where many people can hear the gospel, you have turned on this light for all of them to see. Thank you."







# Expansion of Kelly's House

It was nearly 5 years ago that we opened the door to Kelly's House, a comprehensive living facility for those with developmental disabilities- a place unlike any other in Guatemala. The care, therapy, and growth that the walls of this home has witnessed would make your heart soar.

It was clear the need to welcome more children was growing, and we responded to that need by beginning

the construction of an expansion that will house 80 more children! The blessing that we did not know to expect was our commitment to welcome 100 homeless special needs children in 2017.

We have been blessed by your generosity and by the joy these children bring to our hearts every day- and we are so thankful for the hope that Kelly's House will develop for generations to come.



"One of the greatest ways I have been impacted by working at Kelly's House is through Christopher's story. When he was evaluated we were told he would never walk and would be confined to a wheelchair. In just a few short years though, Christopher is utilizing a walker, he is able to fend for himself, and can even stand now. It is only thanks to the therapies, attention, love, and care that he is able to do this- I know for God, nothing was impossible for Christopher."

-Vilma, Nurse at Kelly's House





## Dedication of Oasis del Eden

In one of the greatest acts of faith- we committed to rescuing over 50 elderly individuals who were facing hopelessness and despair. These elders were residents of a facility that provided little care and even less dignity to these beautiful people- we knew we had to act.

It is because of faithful partners like you that we were able to dedicate an expansion and upgrades to Oasis del Eden to accommodate these new residents. The joy and healing that it has brought to their lives is indescribable.

We want to give those we have been blessed to care for dignity and hope, every day. This would be impossible without you. Thank you for changing lives.



PROJECTS

The Oasis del Eden project that Hands & Feet Ministries took on at Hope of Life has been one of the greatest highlights in the nearly two decades of my involvement with mission work. The need was so great, and our relationship with residents after many years of connecting with them so deep, that we simply could not resist to becoming involved. To be there at the dedication was both exhilarating and emotional. God's provision was evident and His blessing complete. We can't wait to come back this year and see the residents in their new home!

**-Jay Buckhalter, Hands & Feet Ministries**







## Aid Distribution

### NEARLY 50 HOSPITALS EQUIPPED

In 2016 we had the immense privilege of partnering with President Jimmy Morales as he faced the challenge of reforming healthcare in Guatemala. Throughout the year we donated over \$72 million dollars' worth of aid supplies and machines that helped equip nearly 50 government run hospitals.

Every dollar you donated, sent \$65 worth of supplies to the neediest of Guatemala. The patients with no

ventilators, the children sick in hospital hallways were given beds, those in desperate need of dialysis were given access to life saving equipment that previously was impossible to access.

In 2016, hundreds of thousands of lives were impacted through this one program- we were left grateful and ready to march into the future providing even more than we have before.



*"I thank God for the support I have been given. My daughter was very sick, but since we came she received the treatment she needed and is better, and I have peace because she is well. Thank God for the people who have helped me- thank you because my girl is well."*

**-Tomasa, Mother of Blanca**





## Trafficking Center

### THE BEGINNING OF HOPE

Today the world faces a reality of slavery unlike anything we have seen in history past. Nearly 30 million men, women, and children are enslaved worldwide. In Guatemala alone, over 12,000 children have disappeared.

In partnership with the First Lady of Guatemala, prominent world leaders in the fight against exploitation, and partners like you, we have broken ground on what may be our greatest dream of all time- the building of a Trafficking Center that will house those who have been victims of or are at risk of human trafficking.

The beauty of this project is in the restoration it will provide for those who have been robbed of so much. With 5 residential homes, medical and rehabilitation clinics, an investigation center, and so much more.

The risk of trafficking is massive in Guatemala, we are trusting that the dream God has placed in our hearts is bigger- and that this is only the beginning of the wild story of restoration He is writing for those who will come to our center.



*Hope of Life International is bearing fruit in Guatemala, which is evident in the lives that have been changed. Hope of Life is an organization from which we have been able to learn from since their focus is to completely transform the lives of people, not only through their physical needs but also their spiritual needs.*

*When you see the homes, schools, and community centers being built; when you see the amount of children they rescue, the attention to their elderly, their water projects, the medical donations, the amount of people trained to do their jobs, and more importantly their passion and integrity they have to serve their neighbor, is when you fully understand the words of Jesus, "it is better to give than to receive."*

**-Honorable Patricia Morales,  
First Lady of Guatemala**



## Child Rescue

### A YEAR LIKE NEVER BEFORE

Nearly 30 years ago, our child rescue program began with one, desperate child. Today we are actively searching the mountains for those just like him- little ones who have no other hope. In 2016 over 3,800 children were admitted to our rescue program.

Given medical care, supplements, and food- their rate of recovery is more than 99%. This is an astonishing fact. It is because of you that these children have a future to look towards.

Not only was it a record breaking year for the rescue program, we also implemented new tools in the fight against malnutrition. Our first ever Hero Rescue Jeep hit the mountains, equipped with everything needed to find and rescue the most vulnerable. It could not have happened without incredible partners who believe in the power of rescue.



No matter how far, how extreme the malnutrition is, or what other health problems the baby has, Hope of Life does whatever it takes to rescue children. Often times, this may mean a 4 hour one way trip into the mountains, a 45 minute hike down a steep and rocky mountainside, or cutting down a tree and tying a hammock to both ends just to carry a 28 year old that only weighs 40 pounds back to the ambulance that awaits at the top of the mountain.

Despite growing up in rural West Virginia and working 5+ years as a nurse, I have never seen poverty, malnutrition, and sickness as severe as I have in this area of Guatemala. It's such an honor to be a small part of Hope of Life's rescue team that will go to the most remote villages to bring help, healing, and hope to the least of these. All glory to God for the work being done here!

**-Whitney Saulton, Nurse**



# Orphan Care

Last year, we witnessed so many victories in our orphan care programs. From 13 participating in the Special Olympics, winning over a dozen medals- to welcoming new children into our family style homes. Every day we are amazed by the growth of our children- their resilience, hope, and strength teaches us to conquer any challenge we face.



## Safe Haven Village

We are honored to be helping establish family-style care at Hope of Life, this movement is at the forefront of orphan care. Seeing the lives of children transformed through being raised in loving families is amazing. We are continually convinced of the need to rescue orphaned and abandoned children in Guatemala, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. We are encouraged to continue making a difference in the lives of the fatherless. It is an honor and a blessing to serve God and see the impact of His love in the lives of so many, simply because we said yes to His will for us.

**-Phil & Patti Monk, Parents**



## Village of Transformation

Our hope and goal is to be an example of responsible parents to all the children under our care- to give them what they have unfortunately never were able to have. Our passion is to make them feel a part of a true family that loves God and respects His commandments. We work every day to guide them to a fruitful spiritual life that will help with their healthy development. The ministry of Hope of Life is an integral part of our life, we believe that any task we carry out with the children is a success, if we are continuing to orient them towards a dignified life.

**-Carlos Sance, Parents**



PROJECTS

## Village of Transformation

As the preschool and daycare director here at Hope of Life, I have been impacted in so many ways. In 2016, I was able to see the positive results from a full year of preschool. Establishing a strong educational foundation in early childhood years will start the children on a path to success. I witnessed the children learning self control, problem solving skills, working through their conflicts and realizing their self worth. This confirmed in my heart why God has called us to Hope of Life. Children need to know that God has a purpose and a plan for each of them. I love seeing the fruition of this calling in the lives of each child.

**-Julie Nash, Director**





# World Water Day 2016

For every \$1 that is donated to life-changing water projects, 1 person can access clean water for 1 year. This is real, substantial impact! Last year we launched our World Water Day campaign, raising funds and awareness for the global crisis of the lack of clean water.

You helped us impact hundreds of people through your generosity. The reality in the village of Los Limones was staying awake at night for hours, waiting for water to arrive to their village. Even then, the water gathered at night was often not enough for them to drink and use during the day.



Marta, a grandmother in the village testified to the change that clean water has had; **“Thank God, with the construction of this well, my family and I now have enough water and can rest through the night without having to wait for the water to reach our village.”**

The power of a group of people who believe in change is powerful- this is what World Water Day proved to us.



# Sponsorship

## TRANSFORMING LIVES BECAUSE OF YOU!

Once again the Sponsorship Program is thriving because of generous sponsors who have dedicated themselves to changing lives! Over 1,000 sponsored individuals were added to our programs throughout Guatemala- which means that transformation is igniting through the most vulnerable- the children.

In 2016 we had a goal, to wake up the dreams of these children and give them the tools necessary to reach those dreams.

**Catherine, our Sponsorship Director led her team to develop a scholarship program:**

*"Over the past 10 years since this program was created we have benefitted these children and their families with housing, food, health and education. But we also wanted to give the children something they would be able to use to be whatever they dreamed of becoming. That meant open the door for them to education in a greater way. We created a scholarship program that will motivate them to keep going to school, and to achieve good grades. This will be transformative in their lives!"*



## WHAT MAKES SPONSORING WITH US UNIQUE?



### IT HELPS ENTIRE FAMILIES

Any individual who enters our program often has brothers, sisters, and parents that also need help. We make sure the entire family receives the benefits of Sponsorship.



### YOU CAN MEET YOUR SPONSORED INDIVIDUAL

We have an open invitation to all sponsors, to come visit their child or elder and see how their giving is impacting lives every day.



### IT MEETS THE INDIVIDUAL WHERE THEY'RE AT

Whether it is education, clean water, food, medical attention, or even Christmas gifts, whatever their specific needs are- those needs are being met.





# Christmas Hope Bags

With a Christmas Hope Bag you can share the love of God and the Gospel with a child who otherwise may not receive a single Christmas gift! Every year over 4,000 children are given a Christmas Hope Bag- because of your generosity.

Many families cannot afford to give even one of their children a gift at Christmas time, Christmas Hope Bags change that. Even more, it gives children access to the Gospel through small Bibles, and gifts that share the story of salvation.

This year, with your help Christmas joy was brought to thousands of children!



*"It is a way for us who partner with Hope of Life to know exactly WHERE and WHO our Christmas Bags are going to, not only that- but it is a real-life, practical way to share the love of God."*

**-Pastor Kevin, Fincastle Baptist Church**







*Come visit us!*

**PLAN YOUR TRIP TODAY!**

**THE SIGNIFICANCE PACKAGE**

**\$750** (Plus Airfare)  
**8 Days, 7 Nights**



**PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- Hope of Life campus tour
- Serving 1 day at feeding center
- Time in campus ministry areas (as schedule allows)
- Scheduled time for team-specific projects
- Special celebration dinner
- Additional ministry add-ons available upon request

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**

- Transport service for entire trip
- Airport pick-up and drop-off
- Bunk rooms (rooming separated by gender)
- Shared bathrooms
- All on-campus meals provided

**THE TRANSFORMATION PACKAGE**

**\$850** (Plus Airfare)  
**8 Days, 7 Nights**



**PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- Hope of Life campus tour
- Serving 1 day at feeding center
- Time in campus ministry areas (as schedule allows)
- Scheduled time for team-specific projects
- Special celebration dinner
- Additional ministry add-ons available upon request

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**

- Transport service for entire trip
- Airport pick-up and drop-off
- Shared rooms with AC
- Private bathrooms
- Conference area
- All on-campus meals provided

**THE DREAMMAKER PACKAGE**

**\$1,000** (Plus Airfare)  
**8 Days, 7 Nights**



**PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- Stay at our newly opened Business Center
- Hope of Life campus tour
- Serving at our feeding center
- Time in campus ministry areas
- Scheduled time for team-specific projects
- Special celebration dinner
- Scheduled time for business and team development meetings
- Additional ministry add-ons available upon request

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**

- Transport service for entire trip
- Airport pick-up and drop-off
- Air conditioned business suites
- Private bathrooms
- Private conference and recreation area
- All on-campus meals provided

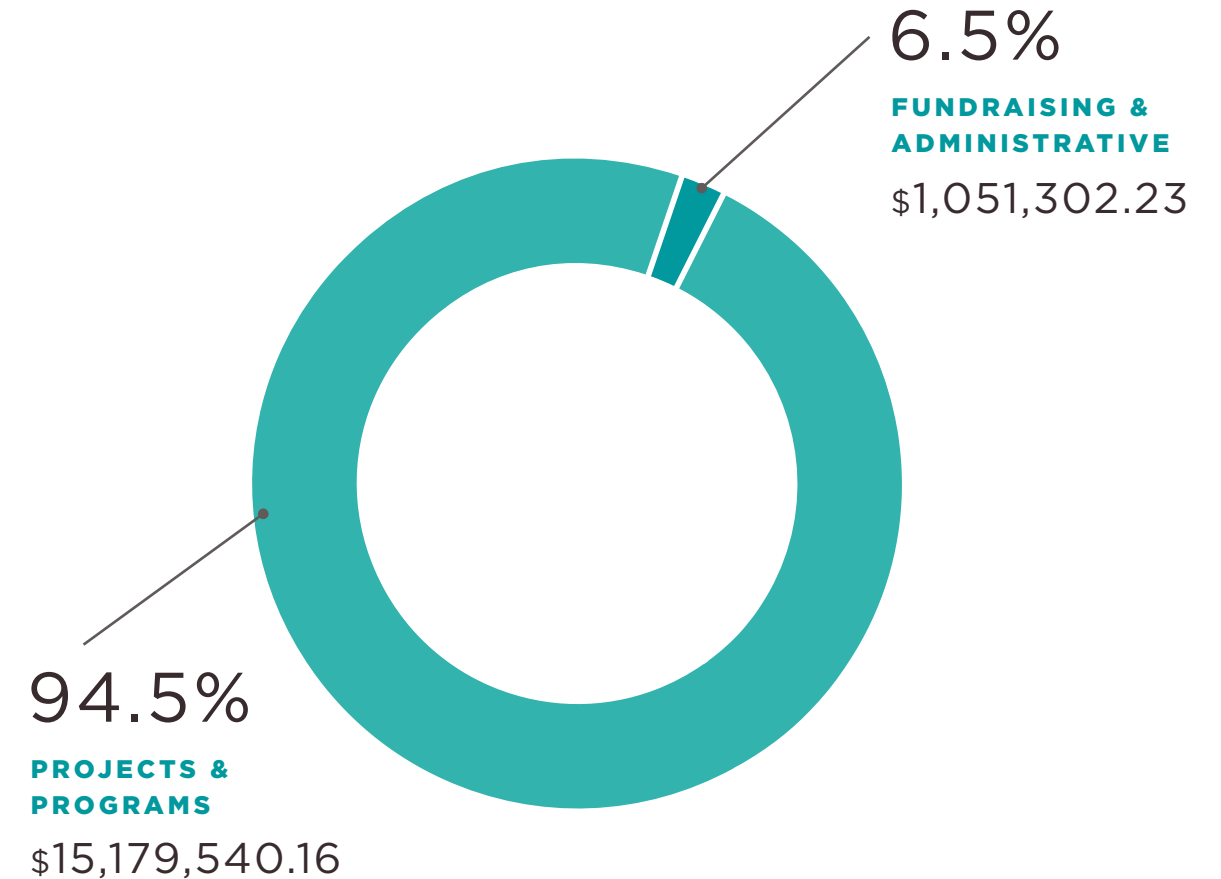


**WE HAVE BEEN ENABLED TO TRANSFORM THOUSANDS THIS YEAR, THANKS TO YOU.**

Because of our commitment to you and the people that Hope of Life serves we carefully use the blessings you provide where the most good can be accomplished. We invite you to enter a dialogue with us about using the money you give, knowing that financial transparency and self-sustainability are two crucial goals of the work we do with your generous giving.

**By financial transparency, we mean** that you have access to information about where your gifts are used, you are invited to visit and see the visible results of your help in people’s lives, and to know how much of your giving is spent on administration and planning. Because Hope of Life is your love in action, you will always see your desires reflected in our current work and future plans. In other words, your kindness will meet your goals, not ours.

**A self-sustaining ministry is** one that is free to act as our supporters choose, not bound by the goals and plans of outside funding sources who could limit or control the impact of your giving. Because Hope of Life receives no government funding, we rely totally on compassionate giving from friends like you—and this allows us to work towards the good that you want to see!



\*these financials are unaudited for 2016





# Ways to get involved

## VISION TRIP

Want to learn more about how you can specifically and strategically impact the impoverished of Guatemala, but short on time? Take 3-4 days out of your busy schedule and visit our campus to get a small taste of the needs being met every single day. Bring a friend or two, and dream for the future!

## PLANNED GIVING

Knowing when to give and how to give makes a difference to both you and the children you support.

You can designate Hope of Life as a beneficiary in your will, living trust, life insurance and/or retirement assets. Make your assets into gifts in the form of: appreciated stock, real estate, retirement accounts, or business interests. Leave a legacy that lasts, by transforming a life!

## ADVISORY ASSISTANCE

Do you have specialized expertise in grant-writing, financial planning, business administration, information technologies, or fields that could be a resource to the growth of Hope of Life? Reach out to us with your interest in being part of an advisory board or committee!

**For more information regarding any of these unique ways to transform the future of Guatemala - contact us at [contactusa@hopeoflifeintl.org](mailto:contactusa@hopeoflifeintl.org)**





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