



The Compassionate Eye Foundation ("CEF") has an 18-year history of funding projects and programs in developing countries. We at CEF are deeply attached to the work being done in all these countries and the people and groups involved on the ground.

But it all started in Guatemala and the community of Tuixocel. A small very rural community in the north west part of Guatemala. When CEF founder Robert Kent was travelling in this area in 2005, the "community" was just a church surrounded by subsistence farms carved into the hillside. The only commercial crop was peaches.

The local population was poor and there was no school. Wanting to help, Robert set out to build one. Robert Kent was a successful, talented commercial stock photographer. With the help of other photographers and production people, all who donated their time, stock images were produced and added to the Getty archive. CEF receives a percentage of those sales. This revenue model provides photography professionals a way to use their talents to make a difference in the world – to help those in a small poor community in a developing country.

The school in Tuixocel has developed into the core of the community. CEF has funded the development and ongoing operations of a primary school, a computer lab, the preschool for the younger children who couldn't stay at home because the parents were working in the fields, scholarships for some to continue their education beyond grade six for them to become nurses, teachers, mechanics – wage earning skills.

The school, along with the local church, has become the focal point of the community. It is a gathering place for community meetings and celebrations, dances and school presentations. The school and the education it provides has made a large difference for this poor community

CEF has supported the school every year since its inception and gets detailed reports including school grades, photos and sweet videos. In 2023 there were 61 students and 5 scholarship students. The last visit to the community was 2010. In 2024, our directors are returning for a visit with this community, from March 4th to 8th. We are very excited and want to purchase supplies to help the community, school supplies, toiletries, sanitary napkins, and other helpful items.

We will be purchasing these items in Guatemala, allowing our dollar to go further and to maximize our donation. You can also contribute; any amount is helpful. All funds will go directly to purchasing supplies.

You can help by sending an E-transfer to <u>info@compassionateeye.org</u>. Add Guatemala in the notes section. Tax receipts will be provided for donations over \$20; please include your name and address in the e-transfer notes. You can also donate directly through <u>Canada Helps</u>.

We are grateful for your support and please know that every dollar will make a difference in this community.

Thank you!

