



Scholarship and Youth Development Program

Helping talented young people stay in school



WHY SCHOLARSHIPS?

Guatemala's schools are dropout factories. It takes 12 years of education to support a two-person family above the poverty line, but **95% of poor, rural kids never graduate from high school**. Providing tuition is not enough. There are a LOT of factors causing kids to drop out: gangs, teen pregnancy, and even low expectations. Many parents in Guatemala just don't see any reason to keep their kids in school past sixth grade.

GIRLS ARE KEY TO CHANGE

USAID reports that **educating girls yields a higher rate of return than any other investment available in the developing world**. That's why the Thousand Girls Initiative, a massive expansion of Cooperative for Education's (CoEd's) Scholarship and Youth Development Program, focuses mainly on girls. By 2020, the program will keep 1,000 girls in Guatemala from dropping out of school.

Growing a Middle Class:

A thousand graduates means a generation of educated women combining ripples into a tidal wave of change for Guatemala.

The Ripple Effect of educating GIRLS IN GUATEMALA

A tipping point is reached in her community where **girls staying in school becomes the new norm**.

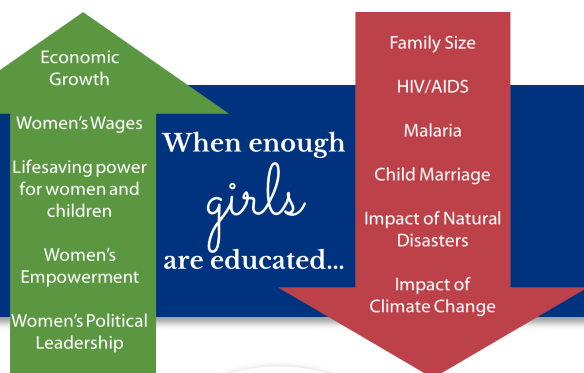
Her future children will match or exceed her education level. But we don't need to wait until the next generation: half of CoEd graduates are **helping to fund their younger siblings' education**.

She helps support her family. CoEd graduate Ancelma **earns four times** her father's agricultural wages.

Educate a girl, break HER out of poverty: According to USAID, it takes 12 years of education to rise above the poverty line.

She and her fellow classmates fundraise to **award an additional scholarship** to a deserving student who would otherwise drop out.

BEYOND THE SCHOLARSHIP: CoEd SURROUNDS STUDENTS WITH EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS THAT PROTECT THEM FROM DROPPING OUT.



What about the boys?

Of the **254** students in the program this year, about 25% are boys. Why?

- Evens the playing field for traditionally-excluded girls
- Promotes gender equality
- Increases community acceptance of educating women

9 out of 10 graduates go on to further their education or get a job.

Half of graduates are paying for their younger siblings' education.