# Scholarship and Youth Development Program

## Helping talented young people stay in school

#### WHO ARE THE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR?

Each year, with the help of sponsors, CoEd provides full academic scholarships to 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders in impoverished, rural communities throughout Guatemala's Western Highlands, selecting approximately 70% girls as scholarship recipients. Educating girls yields a higher rate of return than any other investment in the developing world, according to USAID.

### WHAT IS THE SCHOLARSHIP & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM?

We go beyond merely providing a scholarship. We surround the students with a bubble wrap of services; evidence-based interventions designed to help keep the kids in school for six years. Things like:

- ✓ tutoring and mentoring from older kids,
- ✓ community service activities,
- ✓ home visits,
- ✓ visits to local businesses and universities to get them thinking bigger,
- ✓ and sponsors!

For many of the kids in our program, they say that the person in their orbit that cares most about their education is their sponsor. They go to school every day, do their homework every day, for their sponsor.

#### WHERE IS THE PROGRAM LOCATED?

The program is in rural Guatemala, which has one of the highest rates of poverty, illiteracy, and inequality in the Western Hemisphere. Three out of four people live in poverty, and more than a third in the areas we serve cannot read or write.

If you would like to provide a scholarship for Yeylyn, please select a scholarship type and payment frequency.

Honor Roll Scholarship	v
Monthly	v

(As seen on the webpage listed below.)

#### WHY FOCUS ON EDUCATION?

The poverty and illiteracy statistics are no surprise when you consider that Guatemala's schools are dropout factories. 95% of poor, rural kids never graduate from high school, yet we know that it takes 12 years of education to get people out of poverty. Education beyond the elementary school level is crucial to reducing poverty in rural Guatemala, where those with a middle school education earn as much as 27% more in income each month than their peers without one.

By focusing on education, Cooperative for Education strives to address the root cause of poverty in Guatemala, rather than merely treating its symptoms.

#### WHEN CAN I SIGN UP TO BE A SPONSOR?

Right now! CoEd is looking for sponsors every day as the scholarship program is expanding from three to 21 communities. Sponsors are asked to make a one-year commitment, with the opportunity to renew each year.

\$90 CAD/month - Provides a scholarship to keep one student in school \$45 CAD/month - Provides half of a scholarship to keep one student in school

### HOW DO I GET STARTED?

Go online to <u>www.cooperativeforeducation.org/canadianfriends/helpkids</u> to meet the students who still need a sponsor. If you have questions, email us at <u>canadianfriends@coeduc.org</u> or give us a call at +1 (513) 661-7000.

