

Guatemala Stove Project

Rotary Club of Ottawa South



Presented by Guatemala Stove Project Volunteers - May 2023

Our mandate - to assist in the relief of poverty and improve the health and well being of the indigenous people of Guatemala. Our main work is to fund the building of masonry cookstoves for Maya families. Smoke in the home from open cooking fires causes numerous health issues.



The smoke affects young and old.



Creosote collects in the house and emits poisonous gases.



How we build a masonry cookstove:



The mason builds a framework of cement blocks filled with sand and gravel.

Inside is a firebox built with fire resistant bricks to hold the wood fuel and direct the smoke through the cookstove and out of the house.



Stove top and tiles



The steel
'plancha' or
stovetop is put
in place.

Decorative
tiles and
chimney tubes
are added on.



Chimney tubes and parging



The chimney tubes are added on and directed out through the steel roof.

The outside of the cookstove is parged to give a nice finished look.



**Mason Marvin
Vissoni is
mixing cement
and working
on the
chimney.**



**Finished school
cookstove in 2021
for the community
of Taltimiche - will
be used to cook
lunches for 422
children.**



**This family
cookstove will be
used to cook for 9
members of an
extended family.**

**We have built almost
8000 cookstoves in
24 years**



The benefits of a GSP cookstove

What's Right With This Picture?

At least 50% less wood needed for cooking food.

Pots boiling water for drinking, washing and soaking 'masa'.

A chimney to vent poisonous smoke and gases out of the house.

Reduced carbon emissions.

An enclosed firebox that contains heat and flames.

Reduced respiratory illnesses, burns and blindness.

A raised working and cooking surface.

A hot 'plancha' or stovetop for cooking tortillas.

More time for women to engage in income earning activities.



10+ years of improved health for the whole family!

A Cleaner, Safer, Healthier Kitchen!

Build a Stove – Change the Future

www.guatemalastoveproject.org

**The environmental impact of wood burning cooking fires -
The never ending search for wood for cooking fires - causes deforestation and carbon emissions.**



**Wood cutting
and conversion
of forests to
agriculture lead
to landslides
and erosion.**



Deforestation and CO2 emissions - families use 50% less firewood with a GSP cookstove.



Carbon savings per cookstove - 2 to 3 tons of carbon emissions saved annually - average of 20 to 30 tons of carbon emissions avoided over a 10 year average lifespan of a cookstove.



**Wood
poaching is
illegal and
dangerous.**



The deadly effects of poverty



[Padre Miguel 502](#)
[September 26, 2021](#)

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[#lamentable](#) Carlos Enrique Nolasco es el nombre de está persona qué murió víctima de la necesidad de la pobreza qué impera , El recibió 3 impactos de bala por culpa de esa leña qué uds ven en su bicicleta triste pero es la realidad. Supuestamente por sacar la leña de una propiedad privada le quitaron la vida. Q.P.D. Reflexión, el rico por más que cuide sus pertenencias no se lleva nada. Dios da y Dios quita.

2023 Volunteer Trip to Guatemala



**Volunteers, masons and family members
work together to build a cookstove**



Family of Lidia and Julio in Xecam, Cantel, Jan. 2023



GSP currently supports 15 young women bursary students.



GSP contributes to a micro loan project with one of our partner organizations AMMID in Comitancillo, San Marcos





GSP provides emergency medical support when appropriate and possible

Perth Rotary Club Collaboration 2013-2014 Water Project - Panimaquim



Additional support from Perth
Rotary and Bytown Rotary
Ottawa for construction of
cookstoves



Thank you for your interest!

**It currently costs us \$350 to build a
cookstove**