

What we do

Believe in Belize is an all volunteer non-profit focused on implementing projects and providing services in the country of Belize.

Six Program Areas

Education
Health
Community Development
Common Resources
Partners
Operations

Our Approach

Imagine solutions to solve problems.

Unite with individuals and organizations on projects and services to implement solutions.

Achieve high impacts from our solutions.

Believe in Belize

A Maryland Corporation

Est. 2018

501c3 Exempt

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www.believeinbelize.org

Believe in Belize

Imagine. Unite. Achieve.

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Our Impact

Computers to Belize Schools: This **completed project** was a partnership with multiple Rotary Clubs. Donated 170 refurbished computers and monitors. Will benefit about 6000 students the first year and another 6000 over the 5 year estimated life of the computers.

Bicycle Reflectors: With 18% of vehicle accidents in Belize involving cyclists, this **ongoing service** partners with individuals and organizations (e.g. the police department) to provide bicycle reflectors for distribution and installation throughout Belize. To date, about 475 bicycles have been served.

Microlending: This **completed project** was a partnership with two Rotary Clubs. Donated 10 used sewing machines to two non-profits. Students receive discounts on uniforms.

Firetruck to Placencia: This **current project** is a partnership with multiple Rotary Clubs and the local community. The one and non-usable firetruck in the Placencia peninsula is being replaced. Will benefit 3500-5000 people (depending on tourism season).

Our Next Projects and Services

Tablets to improve literacy

Sports (uniforms, equipment, tournaments)

Awareness Campaigns (e.g. Human Trafficking)

Education Missions

Medical Missions

Consolidated Container Shipping

LED bulbs migration.

Our Need

Volunteers

Varied specialties, in Belize/Worldwide, Interns (SSL hours), will train.

Donations

Material

Computers, tablets, sports clothing, school supplies, safety equipment, etc.

Money

Project/Service specific

Website/pages sponsors

Stocks, Real Estate

“70+IRA”

Sustaining Funds

Endowment Funds

Legacy Funds

Our Legacy Funds

These are named funds (family, memorial, organization, etc.) for a general or specific cause.

Each fund has its own webpage describing why a donor supports a cause and/or who is being memorialized.

\$10k to open (one time or over 5 years depending on tax deduction needs). Funded by donor and “friends” of donor.

Each withdrawal listed on dedicated webpage to show direct impact.

Legacy Funds are for donors who are passionate about a cause. For example, it could be as general as Education or as specific as Scholarships for a specific school.

Features of Legacy Funds

- The donor names the fund. Examples:
 - [Family Name] Charitable Fund
 - [Person Name(s)] Memorial Fund
 - [Organization Name] ... Fund
 - Above options with specific cause - e.g. Scholarship Fund, Cancer Fund, etc.
- Each Fund gets a dedicated public page on our website whereby the donor describes why they support this cause and/or who is memorialized, etc.
- Donations are invested in 3rd party mutual funds and ETFs as offered by our brokerage company TD Ameritrade (<https://www.tdameritrade.com/investment-research.page?>). Each Legacy Fund will be invested in one Mutual Fund or ETF and not shared by other Legacy Funds. This will make it very easy for donors to monitor the investment performance of their fund. Believe in Belize might switch mutual funds or ETFs in future years if a fund fails to meet expectations, is closing/not accepting new donations, or because of changes in the law.
- Legacy funds are **perpetual** so the annual withdrawals will range from 0-5% depending on the donor's time horizon for benefits, and investment returns. For example, if a donor wishes a fund to provide minimal benefits for the first 10 years, then the withdrawal the first 10 years will be in the range of 0-2% and 0-5% afterwards (depending on investment returns to assure the fund remains solvent). However, donors will have the option to specify if they do not wish for the fund to be perpetual, and would like to see the fund depleted by a certain time frame.
- Each withdrawal from the Legacy Fund will be listed on the fund's dedicated webpage so that the donor can see the direct impact of the withdrawal and verify that it is used for the intended purpose of the fund.

Donations and Fees

- Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by the donor's taxing jurisdiction.
- The minimum donation to start a Legacy Fund is US \$10,000. This could be a one time donation (especially if a donor needs to maximize the tax deductibility of the donation in one year) or generally equal payments over 5 years.
- A donor can invite others to donate to meet the initial donation amount or anytime in the future. The dedicated fund's webpage will have links to donation options and social media.
- Believe in Belize will not charge any administrative fees. However, each donation will be subject to its processing fee by the corresponding 3rd party. For example, donations by credit cards might incur 3% fee. Real Estate donations might incur attorney fees, etc.
- If the donor is over 70 and has an IRA, this link might be of interest <https://believeinbelize.org/sitepage/donation-options/70ira>.

Starting a Legacy Fund: Please contact us at Board@believeinbelize.org to ask any questions and/or request to start your Legacy Fund. We will work with you on the details then setup the dedicated webpage.