

Hi Art,

November 14, 2018

I have attached pictures of the construction process. The Learning Center portion of the project that was covered by Peace Corps and United by Friendship is nearing completion. Construction started on August 22, 2018. The roof, doors, and windows will be installed this week. The false ceiling and flooring will follow. These last components that have yet to be installed are covered by the United by Friendship grant. We are in the process of collecting United by Friendship receipts. All Peace Corps funds have been spent and accompanying receipts collected.

The Rotary portion of funding covers all garden components, fencing, shed, and the septic system. The builder has begun construction of the wall/fence encompassing the 40 x 50 meter space that the community granted for this project. The builder and his team have been digging the foundation for the shed. They will then construct the septic system. Recall that the local Community Development Commission is managing Rotary funds. Funds that have been spent thus far cover rebar, tie wire, block, wheelbarrows, and labor costs associated with the construction of the fence and the shed. The materials associated with the septic system and garden will be purchased once the roof, windows, and doors are installed at the Learning Center. This is to ensure that there will be a safe, secure place to store the rest of the materials while the shed is being constructed.

As agreed upon, appropriate receipts will be submitted to Rotary once the first installment of funds have been spent. It is understood that the Community Development Commission will not receive the second half of funds until said receipts have been submitted.

- An additional door was added to the Learning Center. The plans that the Municipal Engineer initially submitted had two doors positioned on the same extreme of the building. The additional door was added in order to minimize risks of harm in case of emergency (e.g. in case of fire or earthquake). Because Peace Corps requested the additional door, Peace Corps covered the costs associated with the installation of an extra door.
- The community contributed approx. 1,000 blocks in order for the builder to construct a low lying block wall around the perimeter of the land. This will provide a stronger base/infrastructure upon which the fencing can be attached. Ultimately, it will enhance the integrity and sustainability of the fencing. Due to the use of blocks as the base, the wooden posts outlined under the Rotary portion of the budget will likely be replaced by metal tubes that can be more easily assimilated into the block base/infrastructure. It will not drive up costs within the budget due to overall savings in costs of wood and metal roofing material.
- The Rotary bottom-line budget has not changed. We saved some money by using materials left over from the Peace Corps/United by Friendship portion of the project (specifically wood, hose, and garbage collection containers). The local secondary institution of Prodesa also supported the project through the contribution of metal roofing material. This has allowed us to supplement workers' labor costs because construction spilled into the cardamom harvesting season and community labor became hard to provide.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. The students and community members are very excited about the completion of this project. It should be completed in time for the commencement of the upcoming school year. As always, thank you for your continued support.

Yi Lian Klimecki

Maternal and Child Health Volunteer

Peace Corps Guatemala 2017-2019





