

From the US Director, Diane Nesselhuf

Wow, this has been quite a year. All over the world there have been difficult decisions made. Since we work with Guatemala, we have seen the effects there as well as here in the U.S. In this newsletter you can see some of the adaptations we've undergone. The Guatemalan staff has had to be creative to meet the mission of Sharing the Dream. This creativity will be a positive in years to come, but for right now it has been difficult.

Here in the U.S. we have worked hard at adapting, also. Our stores in Sioux Falls and Vermillion were closed for several months. We used this time to paint and rearrange the stores. We are now open three days a week in each location, and we have put safety measures in place to keep everyone safe. As a volunteer based organization, we rely on volunteers. Due to health concerns, many of our volunteers haven't yet returned. We are so grateful to our volunteers who have returned. We would like to have the stores open more, but until we get more volunteers, we can't do it. If you live in Sioux Falls or in Vermillion and would be willing to volunteer, please let us know.

We have worked hard on our online store. The process for online is very labor intensive as we must have photographs and descriptions of each product. We do these ourselves and don't outsource it, because the profits that we make on our sales need to go back to Guatemala. Please visit our online store and encourage others to shop our beautiful products.

This fall will be different and quite challenging for Sharing the Dream. We usually have many out of store and church sales in the fall, and most of these have been cancelled. Please help us think creatively. How do we make up for this shortage? What are some ideas you have to help sell the products? We would love to have people do home sales and virtual sales. This is a great way of helping the artisans in Guatemala. For the person who says, "I don't have money to donate, but I have time", this is the perfect solution. Please email us at info@sharingthedream.org with your ideas.

I want to thank everyone who has kept us going the past few months. Thank you for your donations, for your orders in our online store, for your time spent volunteering, and for stopping in and purchasing items in our Sioux Falls and Vermillion stores.

Stay safe and remember, this too shall pass.

Diane

Home Jewelry Parties

We are committed to continuing to provide work for the artisans during the pandemic, and we have been trying to think outside the box so that we can do so. We are excited to announce the launch of home jewelry parties! We'll send you a box of jewelry, and you host the sale in support of Sharing the Dream and our partner artisans in Guatemala. You and your friends get beautiful new products, while continuing to provide

work for the artisans in Guatemala so that they can provide for themselves and their families.

Ideas for safely hosting a home jewelry party:

- **Have the party outside, socially distance, and wear masks.**
- **Host a virtual party on Facebook Rooms, Zoom, or another digital platform.**
- **Pass the box around to your friends and family so that no one needs to be in the same place at the same time.**

Elder Center Update



Delivering food baskets to an elder.

These are difficult times for everyone, and the elders at the Elder Center are no exception. As the hardest hit age group during the pandemic, we have done everything possible to keep the elders safe. The elders have been asked to stay at home, wash their hands, and wear a mask.

With confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Santiago Atitlan, we have continued to stress the importance of these precautions with the elders, and so far, they have been able to stay healthy.

Even though we have temporarily closed the Elder Center for in-person meals, we continue to serve the elders by bringing them food bags with staple food items, such as eggs, beans, and rice, as well as hygiene supplies. The price of food has sky-rocketed in Santiago since the pandemic started, so the elders are relying more than ever before on the support that they receive through the Elder Center.

Social interaction is an important part of the Elder Center, so the staff continues to visit the elders at their homes to make sure that they are staying safe and healthy, and to remind them that they aren't alone during these difficult times.

You can help to remind the elders that they aren't alone by sponsoring an elder or providing food bags for the elders. For \$100, you can provide food for 1 day for all 60 elders, or for \$25 you can provide an elder with food for 1 month. You can sponsor an elder for \$300/ year.

Elder Center Construction

In January, we received the formal title to our land in Chukmuk. We previously had the right to possession, which lists us as the owners of the property, but the land title is a more formal declaration of ownership. Things in Guatemala move slower than they do in the US, and after four years of work, we finally received the land title.

In February, our structural plans came back from the engineers, and we started to look at the final details of the construction project. Although we had hoped to begin building in April, we have postponed the start date of the construction due to the pandemic. We have continued to work closely with our builder to make arrangements to start construction once the pandemic settles down.

We would like the new Elder Center in Chukmuk to be a source of employment for the community both during construction and afterwards. We plan to hire most of the workers from the community, as well as to purchase the building materials locally. With the economy slowing down, we hope that money spent locally and providing work for community members will help with the recovery process.

By supporting the construction of the new Elder Center, you not only help with economic recovery efforts in Guatemala, but you are also fulfilling the dreams of the elders to have a space of their own. A generous donor has agreed to match all donations up to \$100,000, and there are still funds available to be matched. Please consider making a donation to the Elder Center Construction project.

Small Churches Make a Big Impact on a Family

Lubia had four daughters, three of whom were severely disabled. Taking care of her now grown daughters was a full-time job, and Lubia was a dedicated care-taker. In December 2015, one of her daughters passed away. Soon afterwards, Lubia began having health problems. She became very ill and passed away in September 2019. Her daughter Rosmery stepped into the roll of care-giver for her sisters in addition to taking care of her own family and running a small store.

The pandemic hasn't been easy on this family. Rosmery has had to close her store, and her father recently lost his job.

Despite the struggles that the family faces, they don't worry about how they are going to provide the special care items that the sisters need. For over a decade now, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church and Grace Lutheran Church in Casper, WY have provided funds so that the family can purchase fortified milk and adult diapers for the sisters. In a country with no government assistance for this type of need, the churches have helped the sisters to remain healthy and cared for. These little churches continue to make a big impact on Lubia's family. Thank you Prince of Peace and Grace Lutheran Churches.

Supporting Artisans

We want to say thank you to everyone who has donated, shopped in our online store and in-person after reopening! Thanks to your support, we've provided **\$8000 in product orders to 10 artisan groups and 130 artisans.**

Artisan Profile



Silvestre demonstrates how a spoon is carved by hand.

Meet Silvestre. Silvestre is a spoonmaker who works with the artisan group the Spoonmakers of Peten, a group of 11 families. His family lives in a community only accessible by boat nearby the island of Flores. Spoon-making has become a family business, and his wife and children help out when there are product orders. Silvestre is also a volunteer health promoter. He and his fellow spoonmakers act as nurses and first responders in remote communities that have no other access to medical care. Making spoons provides an income for Silvestre so that he can continue to volunteer his time in these remote communities. The Spoonmakers of Peten use a percentage of the profits from the sales of their spoons to purchase medical supplies for the community health centers.

The situation in Guatemala is difficult, and tourism is non-existent at the moment. With the worldwide economy slowing, the spoonmakers' other clients have not been able to place orders. Thanks to online sales and donations, Sharing the Dream was able to place a large spoon order with the artisan group in June. Silvestre said that, "thanks to the product order from Sharing the Dream in Guatemala, we were able to buy food for our families and not go hungry during the pandemic."

Scholarship Student Update

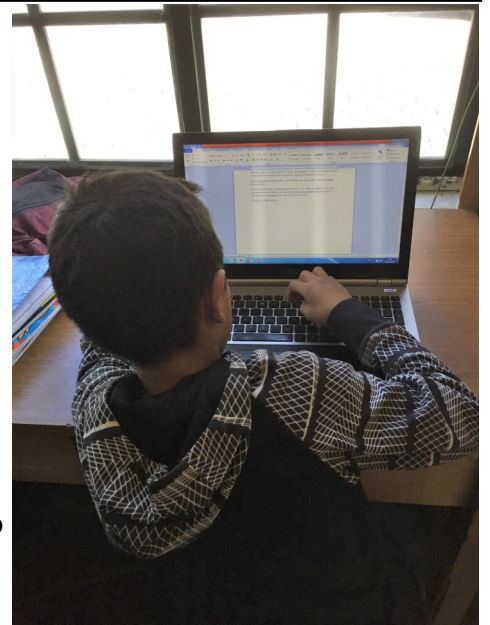
from January—October, the pandemic has been particularly disruptive to students. Classes have moved online, and in-person classes have been cancelled indefinitely. Without computers at home, the scholarship students have been using their phones for class and homework. We have been providing internet phone cards for them as part of their scholarship, and we have just reopened our computer lab.

We have moved the tutoring sessions to an online platform, and the students continue to virtually meet weekly. Many of the students don't have anyone at home who can help them with their schoolwork, so the tutoring sessions ensure that the students receive the help they need to not fall behind. We've also moved the Reading Circle to a virtual platform so the students can connect to do activities and grow their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills.

Since the pandemic has provided lots of family time, the students have been working on writing family stories. This not only will help them with their writing skills, but also allows them to explore their family's history.

Make a difference in the life of a child in Guatemala by sponsoring virtual tutoring sessions. For \$15, you can sponsor 1 day of virtual tutoring sessions, and for \$75, you can sponsor a whole week. Your gift can be any amount, and it provides students in Guatemala with the academic support that they need to ensure that they don't fall behind in school.

With the school year in Guatemala running



A student uses the STDG computer lab

Shop AmazonSmile

If you shop on Amazon, do your shopping using **Amazon Smile** instead and choose Friends of Sharing the Dream in Guatemala as your beneficiary charity. Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase to Friends of Sharing the Dream in Guatemala at no additional cost to you.

Casa Guatemala Health Promoter



Amelia cleans a wound on a patient before the pandemic

Sharing the Dream in Guatemala provides the salary for Amelia, the health promoter at Casa Guatemala, a children's home in the jungle. As the health promoter, Amelia is respon-

using this time to complete projects, plan, and work on new things. Amelia has been busy working on a project plan for the health care program designed to keep everyone safe and healthy during the pandemic.

Amelia is a valuable resource to Casa Guatemala, and the impact she makes on the organization and the surrounding communities is enormous. Please help us to support this life-saving work by making a donation to Sharing the Dream for Amelia's salary. For \$20, you can sponsor a day of Amelia's important work, or for \$400 you can sponsor a full month of health care.

sible for health care for all of the children at Casa Guatemala, as well as the surrounding villages. Her care is essential for the wellbeing of the children and the surrounding communities.

In order to keep the children at Casa Guatemala safe during the pandemic, they were sent home. Even though there are no children at Casa Guatemala currently, they are dedicated to continuing to employ their staff. Like the Sharing the Dream staff, the staff at Casa Guatemala is

Helping Partner Organizations Through our Online Store

From now through the end of September, we are using our online store to help out our partner organizations La Puerta Abierta and Casa Guatemala. We are donating 20% of total sales in our online store to your organization of choice. Just leave us a note with one of the organizations' names at checkout.

Donation Form

Please consider making a donation to Friends of Sharing the Dream in Guatemala. By donating, you will be making a difference in the lives of elders, children, and artisans in Guatemala, and you're helping to enable Guatemalans to provide for themselves and create a better life. Fill out the form below, donate online, email info@sharingthedream.org, or stop at the Vermillion or Sioux Falls store.

Looking for a gift for the person who has everything? Consider making a donation in someone's name.

Yes! I want to help Sharing the Dream! Please put my donation toward:

- Where most needed \$ _____
- Elders in Guatemala \$ _____ Specific: _____
- Children in Guatemala \$ _____ Specific: _____
- Artisans in Guatemala \$ _____ Specific: _____
- Elder Center Construction Project \$ _____ Specific: _____
- Casa Guatemala \$ _____ Specific: _____

Donor name: _____

Email Address: _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Donations Received

Donations received from Nov, 20, 2019-August 20, 2020 Please let us know if your name is incorrectly spelled, or if you have been omitted

from the list. We appreciate all these donations, as this is giving so many people in Guatemala opportunities that they would not have without your help. Thank you!

Michael Amoroso	Rosenbaum Foundation	Harriet McLeod	Laurel Sandhurst
Maria Andersen	Gretchen Freese	Janet McNaughton	Cathy & Mario Sangillo
Karen Atkinson	Joy Friedman	Elizabeth McPherson	Roy & Dorothy Satre
Steven & Mary Carol Baron	Bob Fritzmeier	Marilyn Pierson & Michael Melville	Carol & Ron Schatz
Cathy Beard	Mark & Kathy Froke	Debbie & Dean Mertz	Alan & Agnes Schulte
Berry Patch Cottage	Henry Fuchs	Jean & Bob Miller	Charles & Barb Schwartz
Better Beauty LLC	Richard & Sandra Garnas	Les Miller	Elyse & Carl Segelken
Kristin Bevilacqua	Gayle & Bruce Geyer	Joni Ann Morella	Cindy Shapiro
Kevin Bliss & Julie Stewart	Teresa Gilbertson	Scott & Jill Munger	David & Jennifer Slagle-Peck
Marilyn Boese	Mary Goetsch	Joy Nelson	Martha Sliwinski
Brandon Lutheran WELCA	Geoffrey Gray-Lobe	Andrea Nesdahl	Margie Smotherman
Teresa Brenengen	Shelley Greene	Ben Nesselhuf & Angie Schneiderman	Bernadette Sorenson
Monica Brennan	Katie Groom	Diane Nesselhuf	Craig & Suzannah Spencer
Gloria & Keith Brooks	Frances & Steve Gylling	Wayne & Mary O'Connor	St. John's Lutheran Church
Bob & Mary Brown	Lois Haertel	David & Carol Oliver	Joan & Charles Shapiro
Patricia Brown	Eric & Priscilla Hagen	Gregory & Susan Olsen	Cliff & Tangi Summers
Brown Bear Enterprise Inc	Ronda & Tim Harity	David Olson	Ruth Swedlund
Carol & Gerald Brunn	Charles & Kaona Hazlett	David & Linda Osmondson	Stacey Thomas
Jana Bye	Barbara Heeb	Ashley Osterkamp	Lawrence & Sharyn Thompson
Angela Caldwell	June Holoch	Our Savior's Lutheran Church-Spearfish	Katie Towler
Deb Callahan	Linda Hoon	Krishna Pareek	Tiffany Tran
Leon Callahan	Gayle Hooper	Denny Pearson	Tree 4 Hope
Laura Lee Campbell	Marvin & Shirley Huber	Clarence & Sandy Pederson	Trinity Lutheran Men's Group
Roger & Shirley Carter	Bergetta & Michael Indihar	Robert & Phyllis Pederson	Trinity Lutheran Naomi's Circle
Robert & Carole Chell	Barbara Iverson	Marilyn Perks & Dennis Taylor	Trinity Lutheran Women's Group
Kelsey Collier-Wise	Barb & Tim Johnson	Cal & Mary Petersen	Rebecca Turner
Comercio Justo Imports	Ronald Johnson	Barbara Peterson	Douglas & Susan Tuve
Peggy Cooper	Jeannine Joygaard	Enid & Steve Peterson	Mary Ulrich
Karleen & John Dagit	Keith & Candy Joy	Kirsten & Andy Pethan	Gracia Valliant
Dakota Road Music	Joyce & Brian Kaatz	Pleasant Valley Lutheran	Michael Vaske
Jase Dee	Laura Kagan	Daniel Polta	Steve & Shelby Vaske
Gloria Deick	Susan Kern	Frank Pommersheim & Ann Dunham	Catherine Vaughn
Mary DeJong & Tate Profflet	Cindy Kirkeby	Marie Popp	Mary Victor
Joyce Diamanti	Robin & Scott Kleiman	Prince of Peace and Grace Churches	Kimberly & David Vleck
Chuck Dibley	Marissa Kleinhans	Robinson Prunty	Jenna & Mark Wade
Barb Donat	Elaine Knudson	Donald Pryce	Lyle & June Wagner
Downtown Sioux Falls, Inc.	Eldon & Gail Knudson	Benny & Kristie Quam	Tom & Karen Wakefield
Berle Driscoll	Stephanie & CJ Kocher	Jack & Debra Ramsey	Lanny & Vicki Walker
Charles & Nancy Eichholz	Wally Kolman	Ro Ann Redlin	William & Ann Waller
Katherine Eisele	Karen Kraus	Howard & Judith Reeves	Jane Warren
Norman Eitrheim	Linda Kronholm	Barb Rickord	Eleanor Weaver
George Elling	Adam & Emma Ladwig	Ray & Mary Ring	Weiman Land & Auction Co. Inc.
Linda Ellsworth	Steve Langenfeld	Jennie Ringlaben	Roger & Cheryl Weller
Pam Englund	Janice Larson	Mary Roche	Pat Williams
Julia Ensminger	Nathan Larson	Brenda Rosenbaum	Ann Wilson
Beth Epstein	Dana & Michelle Loseke	Andrea Rosenthal	Jerry & Norma Wilson
Lyle & Dorothy Feisel	Lost Island Lutheran	Arthur & Lana Rusch	Paul & Cynthia Wilson
Pam & Hank Fiaccone	Cheryl Lundeen	Jennifer Sales & Greg Lyons	Gayle Wisniewski
First Lutheran Church-Brookings, SD	Stephanie Lundeen	Kwen Sanderson	Deborah Woolard
Mark Fisher	Cynthia Mahood Levin	Mark Sanderson	Kristin Zerse
Bill & Bonnie Forbes	Julie Mart		Josephy Zolnowsky
Sue Ford	Nancy McCahren		Nancy Zuecher
Craig & Nancy Foster	Elaine & Peter McGillivray		Judith Zwolak
Louie & Nila Fostvedt	Carol & Rodney McGinnis		
	Cindy Navarro & Kathy McHenry		

Thrivent Donors: Kim & David Vleck, Judy Swanson, Diane Nesselhuf, David Struckman Johnson, Faith and Bob Freese, Jeff Tveit, Stacy & Cory Thomsen

Ways you can donate

- Make a one-time donation to your favorite program or where most needed either via check or online.
- Become a monthly donor by setting up a monthly recurring donation on our website or through a bank transfer.
- Make a donation in honor of someone or give one of our alternative gifts.
- Donate through Thrivent Financial's Thrivent Choice Program. Friends of Sharing the Dream in Guatemala is registered with the program.
- Consider a planned gift to Sharing the Dream in Guatemala when planning your estate.
- Host a home jewelry sale
- Write a Thrivent Action Grant to help Sharing the Dream. Get in touch with us to find out where the grant is needed.

Donations can be sent either via check made out to Sharing the Dream in Guatemala and sent to our Vermillion, SD office, or online through our website at www.sharingthedream.org.

Check address:

Sharing the Dream in Guatemala
10 W. Main Street
Vermillion, SD 57069

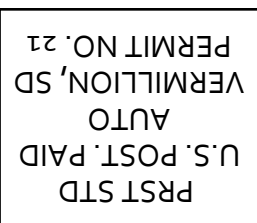
Online Store

Our artisans in Guatemala have been hard at work during the pandemic to bring you lots of beautiful new products. These products can be viewed and purchased in our online store: www.sharingthedream.org/online-store. We have newly designed baskets, scarves, table linens, jewelry, and wooden spoons. As always, these unique items are fair trade and quantities are limited, so don't wait to shop.



Like Sharing the Dream in Guatemala and Sharing the Dream Fair Trade Marketplace– Sioux Falls on Facebook!

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The logo for "Sharing the Dream" features the words "Sharing the Dream" in a stylized, colorful font. Above the text, the words "IN GUATEMALA" are written in a smaller, red font. To the left of the text is a colorful geometric pattern consisting of a grid of squares in various colors (red, yellow, green, blue, purple).

10 W. Main St.
Vermillion, SD 57069
605-624-6895
sharingthedream.org
info@sharingthedream.org
Friends of Sharing the Dream in
Guatemala is a 501(c)(3) organization
under the IRS Code, Tax ID #83-0385287.
Your donations are tax deductible.