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LONG WAY HOME

**2017 - 2018**  
**ANNUAL**  
**REPORT**



[www.lwhome.org](http://www.lwhome.org) / [info@lwhome.org](mailto:info@lwhome.org)

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# LETTER FROM THE BOARD

3 July 2019

Ütz Awäch, Hello friends,

2017 and 2018 were terrific years for Long Way Home. In 2017, we made significant progress with our curriculum development projects and earned international recognition with an Energy Globe Award, affiliated with organisations like UNESCO and the World Bank. In 2018, we were filmed by Public Television's "Visionaries" series, our Green Building Academy commenced, and we added another school, Wildwoods, in Zimbabwe.

Our elementary, middle, and high school teachers at CETC have been working diligently to apply best educational practices to prepare the students for the workforce and life beyond high school. I sat in on a meeting where they said the goal was to pass on the values of their grandparents with the skills of tomorrow. This curriculum will help them to do just that.

In 2017, CETC students presented their projects at a community meeting on the outskirts of Comalapa, in an aldea called Xiquin Sanai.

They were able to communicate the impact of our green building curriculum - building homes and critical infrastructure such as stoves, potable water systems, positive waste streams, earthquake-resistant shelter, and landslide-resistant retaining walls. A major impact of these projects is the 6 hours per day, given back to mothers, to do something other than collect water.

Those of us representing LWH were eventually kindly asked to leave the meeting. The community discussed, voted, held another meeting with Xiquin community elders, and finally granted LWH permission to implement student-led community projects in Xiquin Sanai.

In order to keep these student-led projects going, we would like to invite you to gather some friends and sponsor a student. \$1,000 USD per child per year will cover all of the payroll, materials, and maintenance to run Centro Educativo Técnico Chixot. Our leading fundraising event, Rubbish to Runway, has supported over 30 students and counting with the proceeds it has raised. We look forward to having you join our team.

**Ütz Matiöx, thank you so much,  
Alex Sinclair  
Board of Directors President, Long Way Home**

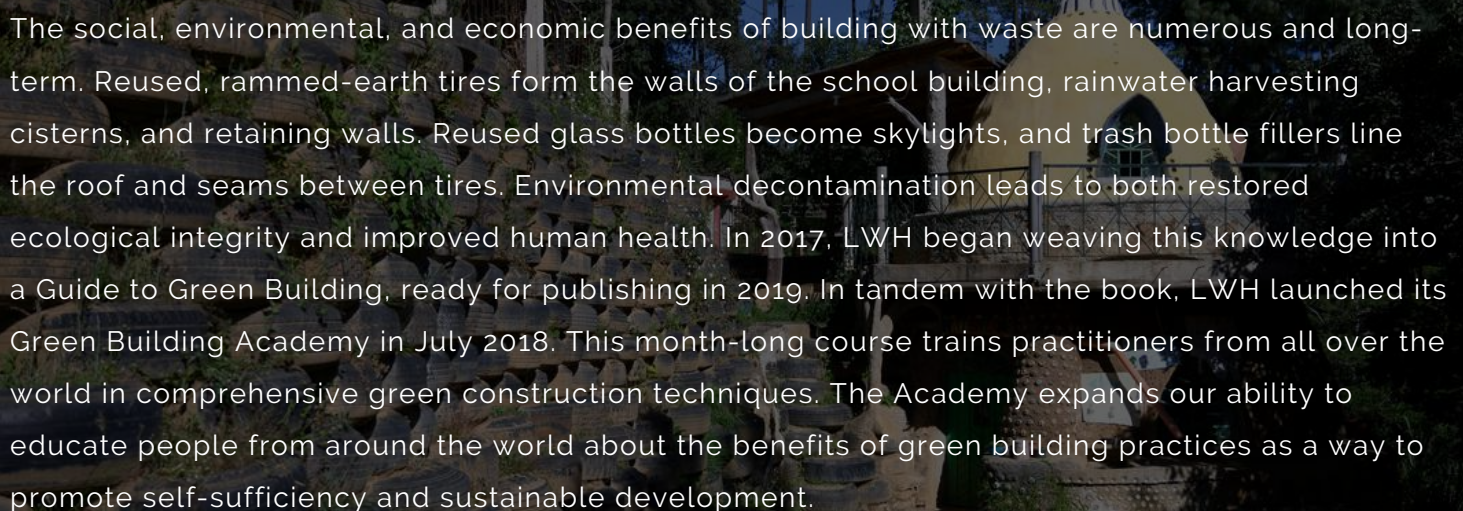


# ABOUT LONG WAY HOME

Our mission is to cultivate empowered democratic participation using the tools of experiential learning and sustainable construction.

In late 2008 Long Way Home (LWH) purchased 1.75 acres of land in the nearby village of Paxan. By January 2009 ground was broken on an 18-building school complex constructed using alternative methods and local materials. Our local construction crew and more than 2,000 international volunteers have used green building techniques to transform community waste into an education center called Centro Educativo Técnico Chixot (CETC) in San Juan Comalapa, Guatemala. Through a holistic approach that provides hands-on education and employs local residents, LWH hopes to create a global model for breaking the cycle of poverty in an environmentally conscious way.

LWH was granted private school status for CETC in 2014. Since our humble beginnings as a primary school we have grown steadily by adding a new grade level every year. In 2017 we had our first graduating class of middle school students and are proud to have opened our first high school grade as of the 2018 school year. As of 2018, there are 137 students enrolled in grades K-10. By 2020 we will expand to offer all grade levels from K-12. Our teachers are in the process of developing an innovative, project-based curriculum that encourages civic participation. We are also proud to employ 35 local workers through school operations, construction crew and administration. Construction of the campus has diverted over 410 tons of waste into 14 classrooms, a library, offices, two large cisterns with rainwater harvesting and septic systems. Our school is an example of what is possible through green building with local materials and available labor. CETC is cultivating a new generation of entrepreneurs, uniquely skilled and equipped to lead their communities with innovative solutions for the future.



The social, environmental, and economic benefits of building with waste are numerous and long-term. Reused, rammed-earth tires form the walls of the school building, rainwater harvesting cisterns, and retaining walls. Reused glass bottles become skylights, and trash bottle fillers line the roof and seams between tires. Environmental decontamination leads to both restored ecological integrity and improved human health. In 2017, LWH began weaving this knowledge into a Guide to Green Building, ready for publishing in 2019. In tandem with the book, LWH launched its Green Building Academy in July 2018. This month-long course trains practitioners from all over the world in comprehensive green construction techniques. The Academy expands our ability to educate people from around the world about the benefits of green building practices as a way to promote self-sufficiency and sustainable development.

# ACHIEVING OUR MISSION

## LWH Impact in Numbers

LWH views its impact in terms of a democratic education ecosystem, connecting green construction, to formal education, to equitable international volunteerism, to active participation in addressing 21st century challenges.

# 3400+

INDIVIDUALS IN GUATEMALA IMPACTED  
BY OUR DEMOCRATIC ECOSYSTEM

# \$618,121

SPENT ON LOCAL EMPLOYMENT

# 292

JOBS CREATED IN GUATEMALA

## PARTICIPANTS OF OUR ECOSYSTEM

1. **CETC K-10 students** are engaging with our curriculum through project-based learning focused on green building and community health, learning to be leaders in their own communities.
  - 10 grade levels with a total of 137 students
  - Capacity for 350 students when CETC campus construction is complete
2. **Individual volunteers and volunteer service group participants** are encouraged to become more actively engaged learners and citizens, and are invited to learn about our unique process and school curriculum.
  - 2000+ green building volunteers (of which 1349 were long-term volunteers) from 35+ countries
  - 147,087+ volunteer hours contributed
3. **The Green Building Academy** is a program for participants around the world to learn our green building and democratic education techniques over a month-long course.
  - 4 Green Building Academy students in our first ever academy in July, 2018



## JOB CREATION FROM OUR HERO SCHOOL ECOSYSTEM

Local employment is an important part of this democratic process of empowered engagement. By actively and economically involving community members, we provide a platform for locals to become heroes whilst also earning a fair wage.

We provide employment and benefits to all of our full-time staff. Most of the jobs we have created were through our green building arm, while also providing skill building opportunities as we develop our green building model.



# 28

CETC K-10 TEACHERS AND SCHOOL STAFF EMPLOYED

# 241

BUILDERS EMPLOYED SINCE 2004, INC. FULL, PART-TIME, AND TEMPORARY

# 69%

OF EMPLOYMENT COSTS WERE FOR GUATEMALANS



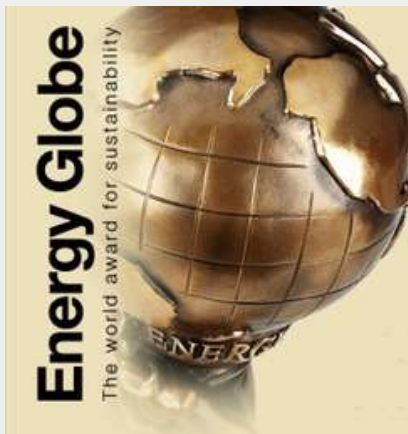
## IMPACT ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

We also provide employment opportunities and infrastructure for various communities through additional construction projects. These projects are not tangential to our mission, but chosen and acted out to benefit community members.

### EXAMPLES OF OTHER GREEN BUILDING PROJECTS

- Built 3 houses for Guatemalan families
- Built health center for volcano relief for 500 Guatemalans
- Installed 6 water systems with Engineers without Borders, affecting 1080 families
- Built retaining wall and classroom for orphanage center in Venezuela
- Supported builds of an orphanage center and school in South Africa

## ENERGY GLOBE HIGHLIGHT



As a result of our work in achieving our mission, LWH's efforts in green building have earned the Energy Globe Award for our contribution toward "building a sustainable future for us all." Energy Globe is affiliated with major organizations like UNESCO and the World Bank. This particular award is for the country of Guatemala's "Earth" category. Providing a positive waste stream has been an integral part of our program from the time we broke ground at the school. Thank you to all of our past and present staff and volunteers; the community of Comalapa; and the parents and students for making this happen. The students have each accomplished a lot, and enabled LWH to exist. We are honored to be recognized on the world stage because of this partnership.

# CETC HERO SCHOOL UPDATE

## INAUGURATION OF CETC, FEBRUARY 2017

In February 2017 an excited crowd of young and old students, parents, past and present volunteers, teachers, and administrators assembled on the CETC campus. It was a sun-filled morning suitable for the official yellow-ribbon inauguration of 17 CETC buildings.

The audience was seated on the earth-packed tire walls that constitute the architectural scaffolding LWH has made famous since school construction began. The amphitheater shape of the campus allowed good sight lines to the wooden platform below where a local marimba band began the festivities and the official speakers were to follow.



With ritualistic pomp and circumstance, school and community officials delivered their words of reminiscence and gratitude. CETC Basico Principal, Werner Bal, spoke of the contribution LWH has made to the educational and economic needs of Comalapa. Several teachers endorsed the curriculum, the habits of trash removal LWH has taught and reinforced, and the diligence and happiness of the children.



Matt Paneitz, Founder and Executive Director, was the final speaker. He stressed LWH's past of improving the local educational and environmental landscape, and highlighted the numerous employment opportunities for locals that LWH has created. Paneitz mentioned the unusual construction techniques that use trash in building and its unique business model which combines local work crews and 2000 paying volunteers from 35 countries. Paneitz then dedicated the 17 school buildings forward for many more years of joyful education-filled days. A lunch provided by local cooks capped the morning's celebration with gastronomical enjoyment.





## CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT - THE HERO SCHOOL

A centerpiece of the education offered at CETC and developed by LWH teachers is The Hero School model and curriculum. This model utilizes the green construction process to teach Deweyan principles of democratic participation while also satisfying national curriculum requirements. Content and learning is relevant to context and oriented towards action to ensure that students cultivate critical problem-solving skills in order to address the interconnected challenges of the modern world – climate change, economic injustice, environmental degradation and mass migration. The curriculum is built on the assumption that democracy and self-determination are inexorably linked and that education can be a vehicle of empowerment in the pursuit of freedom for individuals and communities.

In 2017 - 2018, the Hero School curriculum committee focused on the comprehensive development of the 7th and 8th grade curricula and their applications in the classroom. The curriculum committee is made up of select teachers from the 7th and 8th grades. Students and teachers also conducted a living conditions survey in the neighboring village of Xiquin Sanaii in 2017 to determine where to focus Hero School efforts. Through this baseline survey, students determined that smoke inhalation, poor sanitation, access to clean water, and safe housing were major concerns in Xiquin. From these results, students were able to identify families in Xiquin whom they would partner with to implement community projects. From the community projects, which are explained in the next section, teachers and parents noted a mental shift among the student population. A purpose light was turned on. A confidence not previously present became palpable.



## GRADUATION OF CETC BASICO OCTOBER 2017

The excitement at the CETC campus continued in October 2018 when the school celebrated the graduation of the Basico students. In Guatemala, Basico is the equivalent of middle school education in the United States and runs from 7th to 9th grade. In Guatemala, publicly required education ends at 6th grade. Students therefore have to pay to study in Basico. CETC charges a very affordable monthly tuition for the Basico students and also requires students to turn in eco-bricks as another form of tuition.

In this October celebration, CETC graduated 14 students! Basico teacher, Señor Delmy Mux, spoke about the achievements of these 14 students. The Director of the Parent's Committee, Doña Edna Bal, also gave a congratulatory speech. For the students continuing their studies in the CETC Bachillerato (high school) program, they will continue their integrated green building and democracy-focused curriculum, while also preparing to move on to work or university after the program is finished. CETC and LWH seek to equip these Bachillerato students to be critical thinkers with 21st century employability and democratic participation skills once they leave school.





## COMMUNITY PROJECTS, 2017-2018

In 2017, CETC then launched this very exciting aspect of its new Hero School Curriculum - the grade-level community projects. In 7th grade the project is the smoke-efficient stove; 8th the tinaco (water storage tank); 9th the dry compost latrine; 10th the tire retaining wall. In social studies class, students design and deliver a survey in a neighboring village, assess the need for their assigned project, and work with the community and available resources (monetary and physical) to determine where to construct their assigned project. Then they implement their plan! In this curriculum, students not only learn how to design, plan, and execute large projects, but also how to participate in the democratic process of allocating resources to address local challenges. Students at Técnico Chixot are forming a new generation of entrepreneurs, uniquely equipped to lead their communities with innovative solutions to complex local and global challenges.

YEAR	LOCATION	PEOPLE IMPACTED	DESCRIPTION
2017	Comalapa, Guatemala	5	8th grade built a water tank
2017	Comalapa, Guatemala	5	7th grade built a stove
2018	Xiquin Sanhail, Guatemala	200	Students and volunteers built 36 stoves
2018	Comalapa, Guatemala	2	7th grade built a stove
2018	Comalapa, Guatemala	6	8th grade built a water tank
2018	Comalapa, Guatemala	4	9th grade built a latrine/solar shower
2018	Xiquin Sanhail, Guatemala	4	10th grade built a retaining wall
2018	Xiquin Sanhail, Guatemala	20	Students and volunteers built 4 water tanks





# GREEN BUILDING UPDATE

## GREEN BUILDING ACADEMY JULY 2018

Check out an overview of the construction process

[here](#)

Hear the student perspectives [here](#).

In our first Green Building Academy in July 2018, we launched the construction of three houses next to the CETC campus. The first of the three houses was started in the July Academy and will belong to our lead builder Roberto and his family. Expert instructor Peter McIntosh from Natural Building Collective led five students through the immersive month of green building, covering the topics of earth, water, design, structure, and power. Not only did students learn how to build with the local environment, but they also learned how to build in support of the local environment. As there is no central waste collection system in Guatemala, we repurpose waste into our green buildings that would otherwise end up in the local ravine. Our July Academy students engaged in this important process. We are grateful to Roberto and his family for committing to this building process and for their commitment to modeling a new, alternative housing design and lifestyle for Comalapa and the world.

## CORPORATE SERVICE GROUP - VIV NETWORK

LWH started an exciting new partnership with the VIV Network in 2018. Together, 23 corporate service volunteers from VIV, CETC teachers and students, LWH builders, and administration staff built 36 stoves for families in need in the nearby village of Xiquin Sanaii. These stoves were constructed as a part of the CETC Community Projects efforts. Teams were led by 7th grade CETC students who directed materials, design, and people. Prior to the execution of the project, these 36 families were living at high risk of upper respiratory infection due to improper ventilation and residual smoke filling the room - the #1 reason for visits to the community health center.



## VOLUNTEER GROUPS - ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AND CAFETERIA

From 2017 - 2018, service groups joined us to continue the construction of the CETC campus. In these two years, these groups helped us to construct and complete our administration building and begin construction on the cafeteria, teacher's lounge, and science lab. These groups were active members in LWH's unique development process of assessing local challenges and opportunities, partnering across disciplines and context, and assembling resources to construct a healthier future. We thank the below group partners for their contributions to our work in making green designed structures accessible to low-resourced and climate stressed communities.



### 2017

Temple Beth AM - Social Justice Teen Fellowship  
 Colegio Americano  
 Noble & Greenough  
 Asheville Habitat for Humanity  
 University of Maryland Hillel  
 Dickinson College  
 UC San Diego Hillel  
 San Diego State University Hillel  
 UC Santa Cruz Hillel  
 Leap Now  
 Thrive Global

### 2018

Temple Beth AM - Social Justice Teen Fellowship  
 University of Maryland Hillel  
 Leap Now  
 Broward and Palm Beach University Hillel  
 Southern Utah University  
 University of Pacific  
 VIV Network



## GROUP PARTNERS



Temple Beth AM - Social Justice Teen Fellowship (2017)



Broward and Palm Beach University Hillel (2018)



Colegio Americano (2017)



Leap Now (2018)



Noble & Greenough (2017)



UCSD, SDSU and UCSC Hillel (2017)



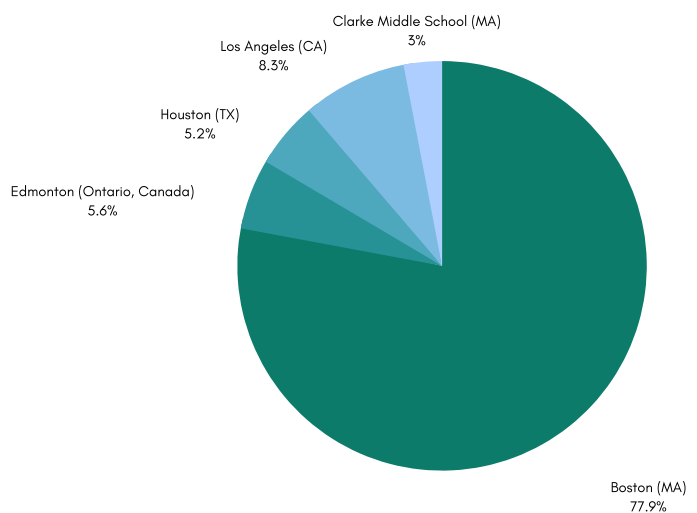
# PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

## RUBBISH TO RUNWAY

The Rubbish to Runway ReFashion Show is the premier yearly fundraiser for LWH. The event is a showcase of wearable art made from materials that are recycled from the trash, upcycled from the used clothing bin, or reimagined from other materials that are unlikely to become clothing, such as construction materials and garden hoses. The more outlandish the material used, the more fun the piece, although elegant dresses have also been made from old curtains or tea cloths left after a daughter's wedding.

The first Rubbish to Runway was held in 2011 in Newburyport, MA. It was organized by board member Elizabeth Rose and sixteen dresses were showcased. Since then, 4 other LWH board members have stepped forward to produce a Rubbish to Runway in each of their communities. Organizers include Yessenia Ruvalcaba in Houston, TX, Danny Paz in Los Angeles, California, Alyson Brown in Lexington, MA, and Ashley Kravetsky in Edmonton, Ontario. Each community has displayed a unique flair and presence on the runway.

In addition to creating a fun event for families, singles and couples to attend, the event has raised significant funds to support the construction process and school infrastructure of LWH. The following chart shows the funds that were raised in 2017 by the five Rubbish to Runway events.



Total 2017 Rubbish to Runway ReFashion Show income: **\$35,920**



## COLEGIO INTERAMERICANO WORKSHOPS FOR CETC TEACHERS

As CETC begins to implement its new curriculum, teacher training is a primary focus of the school. We observed that our teachers have spent their personal learning years in an educational system different from the one being created at CETC. Therefore, the practices they are being asked to implement are foreign to them. Creating spaces and opportunities for teachers to learn is just as important as doing the same for students. That is why we are excited to partner within Guatemala to carry out these trainings.

In May and November 2018, CETC and Colegio Interamericano, a private grade school located in Guatemala City, partnered for teacher training and exchange. Teachers from Colegio Interamericano came to the CETC campus to train 12 CETC teachers in cognitive learning, creating positive classroom atmospheres, fostering interactive group dynamics, and Montessori principles.

A photograph showing a portion of a classroom wall. The word 'nidos' is written in large, colorful, 3D-style letters. The 'n' is blue, the 'i' is green, the 'd' is light green, and the 'o' and 's' are dark green. The letters are mounted on a light-colored wall.

## EWB - PARAJAJ PROJECT

In 2017, LWH and Engineers without Borders (EWB) - University of Minnesota Chapter, partnered for the 6th time to install water systems in surrounding villages. This time the focus was on the neighboring aldea of Parajax, a community of approximately 1200 people.

In 2017, the EWB team assessed the water supply in Parajax. In 2018, the engineers dug a well and began mapping out how to connect individual households to the well. Connecting the well to the households and the conclusion of the project will occur in 2019. Through the five prior projects, fresh water has been delivered to nearly 1,000 families.



## IMAP PERMACULTURE WORKSHOP

LWH partnered with The Mesoamerican Permaculture Institute (IMAP) in February and November 2018 to deliver a course on the core principles of permaculture. Learning focused on: permaculture ethics and principles of natural systems and design; Mayan cosmology and the influence on natural systems; understanding natural systems; water management, capture, and efficient use; permaculture gardening techniques, soil basics, and fertility management; seed banks and plant propagation; natural building.

IMAP was founded in 2000 by Guatemalans concerned with the environmental, social and cultural problems affecting the nation. Their mission is to bring permaculture that ensures food sovereignty and the preservation of biodiversity and ancestral knowledge to communities.

## VISIONARIES PUBLIC TELEVISION SERIES

In 2018, 5 members of the Visionaries film production team came to our campus in Comalapa to capture the essence of our accomplishments and mission. During one week in April 2018, Visionaries staff interviewed volunteers, teachers, administrators, students, donors and builders. The episode was hosted by Sam Waterston and will be aired on public television stations across the U.S. beginning March 30th, 2019. The team from Visionaries has been instrumental in advertising our Green Building Academy and cheering on LWH's pursuit of financial sustainability and community building.



You can see the full Visionaries episode here - [LWH Documentary - with host Sam Waterston](#)



## ELDERS, XIQUÍN SANAI'I

This picture is from the village of Xiquín Sanaii, just outside Comalapa. It's a place where multiple sources report that a family member can spend 6 hours each day collecting water. This responsibility usually lies with the mother. While the team from the Visionaries series was with us, the town elders were gracious enough to host a meeting. During this meeting, students from CETC were able to present green building techniques to the community, which were then interpreted into Kaq'chikel, the local language.

After some good-natured jokes at the outsiders' expense, the town shuffled them off so they could have further discussion. It was in this discussion that the town agreed to let CETC secondary school students come and build stoves, latrines, water tanks, and retaining walls using local materials and waste as the primary resource.

Watching the students present what they had learned to a rural community was one of the highlights for board member Alex Sinclair. He was delighted to observe their command of the curriculum and green building principles and speak in both Spanish and Kaq'chikel to a large group of adults.

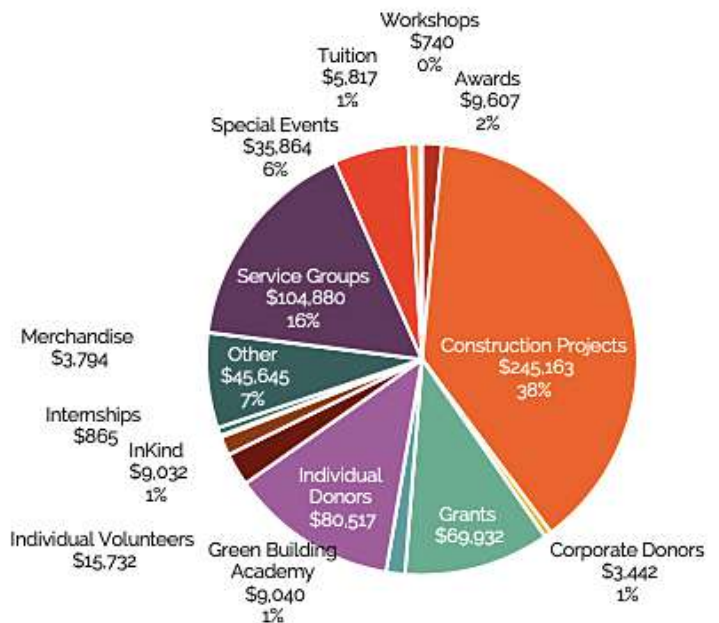


# FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY

January 1st 2017 - December 31st, 2018

Long Way Home, Incorporated Statement of Activities Years Ended December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2018		
	2018 USD	2017 USD
<b>Revenue</b>		
<b>Contributed Revenue</b>		
Individual Donations	\$ 42,526.10	\$ 38,567.68
Corporate Donations	\$ 2,665.36	\$ 776.68
Grants	\$ 55,661.32	\$ 14,270.35
Awards	\$ 9,606.72	\$ 0.00
InKind	\$ 3,075.52	\$ 5,956.89
Net Contributed Revenue	\$ 113,535.02	\$ 59,571.60
<b>Earned Revenue</b>		
Fees for Educational Products	\$ 14,105.81	\$ 1,490.42
Fees for Experience Programs	\$ 59,920.33	\$ 60,979.77
Fees for Other Products	\$ 4,234.61	\$ 35,423.25
Construction Projects	\$ 52,037.67	\$ 193,125.38
Net Earned Revenue	\$ 130,298.42	\$ 291,018.82
Other Income	\$ 36,477.32	\$ 9,167.86
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 280,310.76</b>	<b>\$ 359,758.28</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Program Services	\$ 197,119.26	\$ 317,290.86
Operations	\$ 22,574.22	\$ 15,661.98
Fundraising	\$ 44,968.79	\$ 24,412.26
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 264,662.27</b>	<b>\$ 357,365.10</b>
<b>Net Activity</b>	<b>\$ 15,648.49</b>	<b>\$ 2,393.18</b>

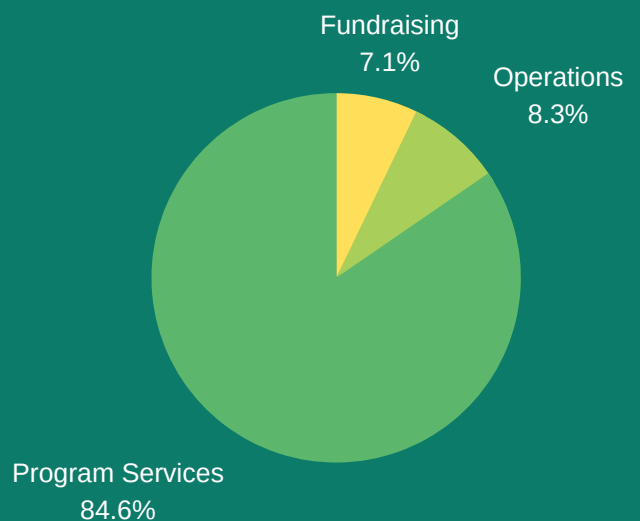
## INCOME SOURCES, 2017-2018



Financial sustainability is vital for a non-profit's ability to generate and contribute impact, yet it is often the most challenging. We have been able to reach a steady point of financial stability due to our unique approach of income diversification across 16 sources.

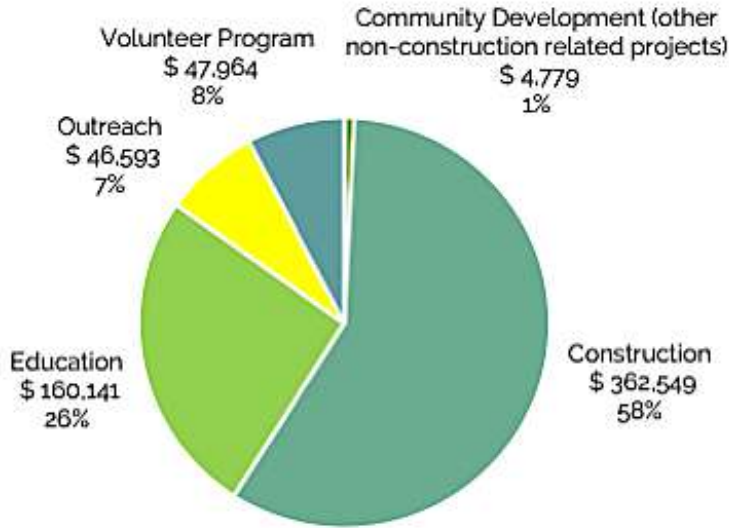
For any non-profit to live up to their mission, most of their budget should be allocated to the programs and services they provide. We believe that we have effectively mobilized funds raised and received in dedicated support of our mission.

## EXPENSES, 2017-2018





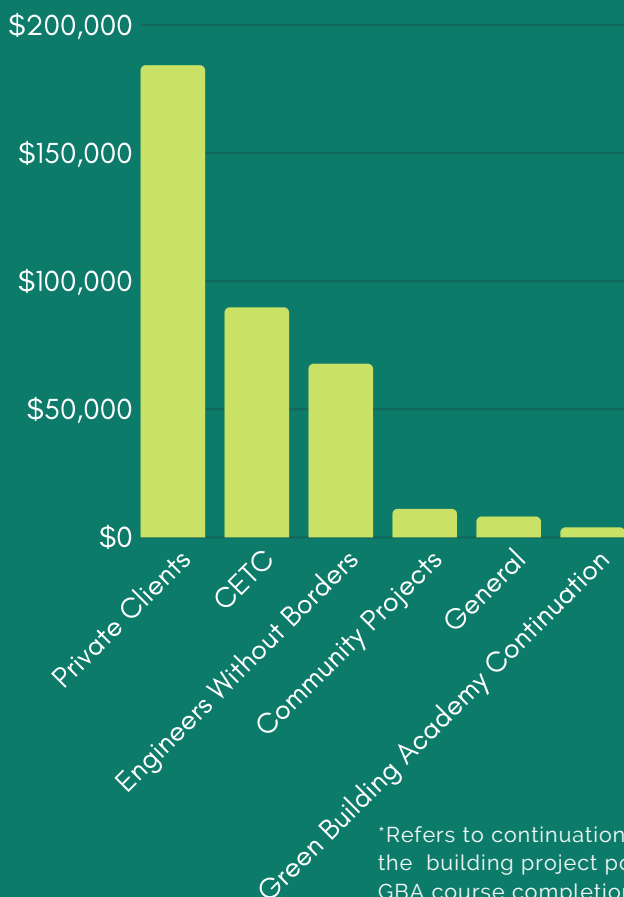
## DEPARTMENTAL EXPENSES



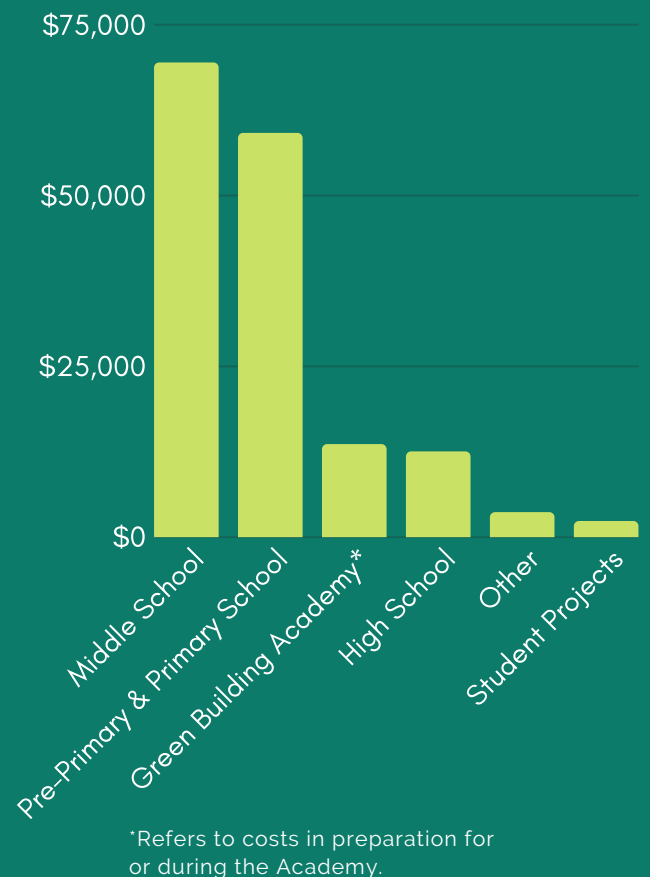
### DISTRIBUTION OF COSTS BETWEEN DEPARTMENTS, 2017-2018

Between departments, construction comprised 60% of all costs. Typically the majority of our construction costs are from the development of our CETC campus, but between 2017 and 2018 we had a private client-led project to construct a house. In 2018 we had the greatest diversity in types of green building projects, especially with the growth of Community Projects in other Guatemalan villages, and with the introduction of our first Green Building Academy.

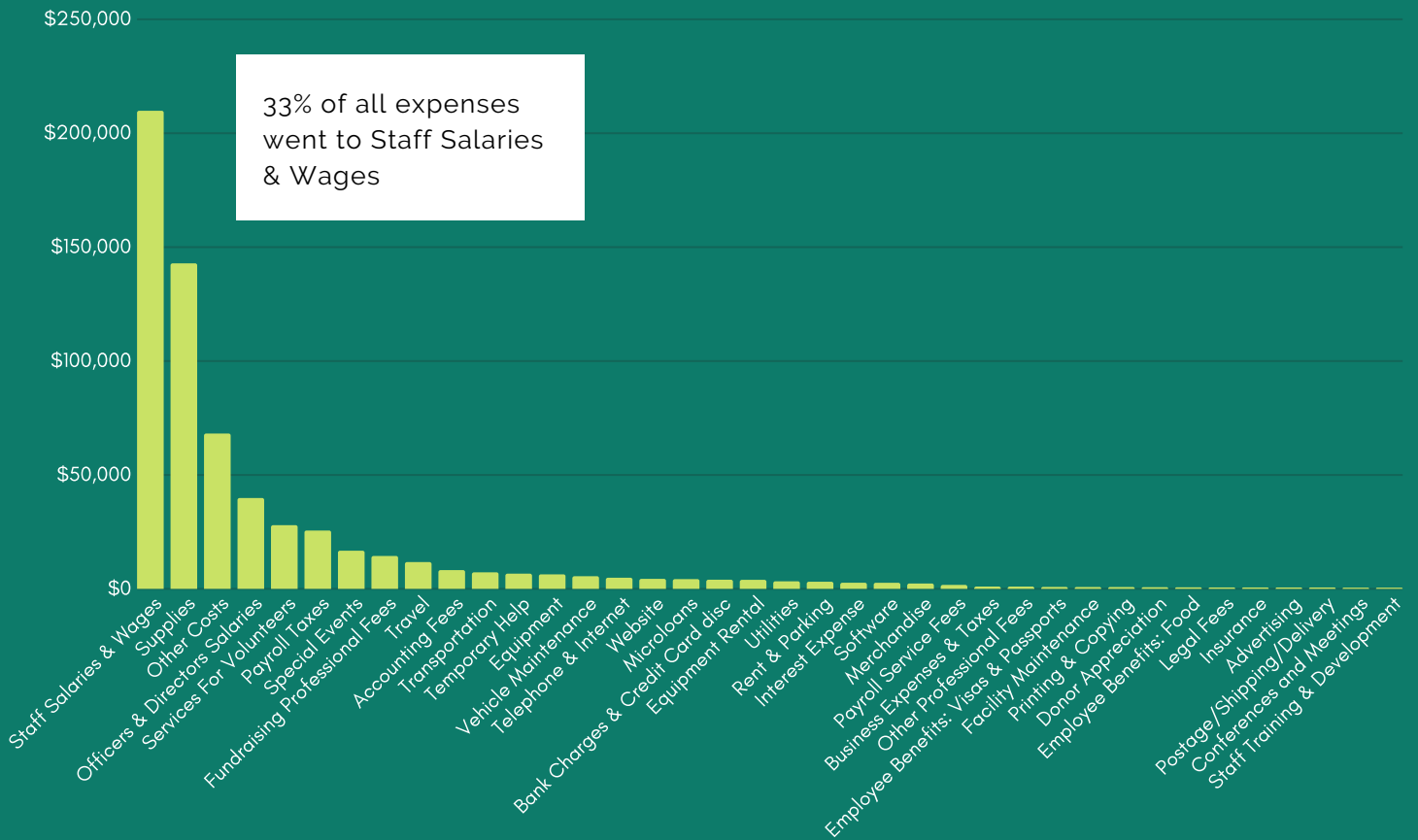
### COSTS BETWEEN CONSTRUCTION SUB-DEPARTMENTS, 2017-2018



### COSTS BETWEEN EDUCATION SUB-DEPARTMENTS, 2017-2018



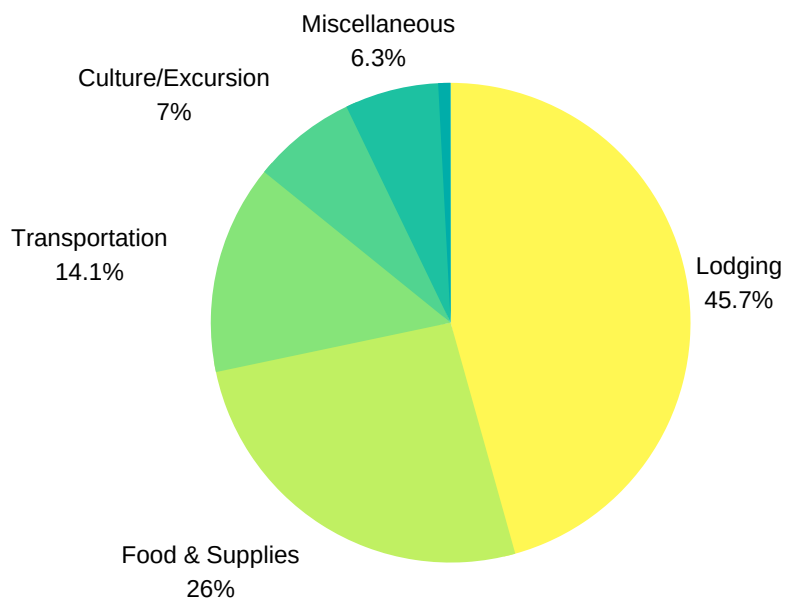
## EXPENSES BY TYPE, 2017-2018



## OUR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

### BREAKDOWN OF "SERVICES FOR VOLUNTEERS" COSTS

- \$38,481 spent on Volunteer Program in 2017-2018
- 70% of which was to provide Services for Volunteers (e.g., lodging, excursions, etc.)
- \$112 average cost to support each volunteer over duration of service (3 days – 6 months)





# HIGHLIGHTING OUR DONORS

A thank you to our community of dedicated supporters

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO

### Our Foundation Supporters

Global Giving & Facebook  
Visionaries

Hausman Foundation  
Westwind Charitable

Simon & Louise Henderson  
Foundation

### Our \$500+ Individual Donors

Alyson Brown

Bethe Hagens

Denies Chiropractic & Nate Denies

Deryck Kennedy

Elizabeth Borris

Ester Jogiel

Hans Tiefel

James Donovan

James Seely

Jeremy Micley

Kelli Nielsen

Kelly Restagno

Lawrence Reichard

Lisa Losh

Lisa Venn

Mac Sterrett

Margaret Burks

Nils Finger

Pam Branin

Victoria Angelo

Anonymous Donors

### In-Kind Donors

School and construction supplies are always needed at CETC and for our work projects. We thank all groups and individuals who leave a little space in their suitcases to bring us much needed goods.

Aaron Colvin

Alejandra Gill

Alexander Fraser

Broward & Palm Beach Hillel

Colin Caruthers

Daniel Sussman

Dickinson College

Dori Lavy

Elizabeth Omara

Esther Jogiel

Genevieve Croker

Haga Excavaciones

Industrias Assilen

Engineers without Borders

Janet Paneitz

Jessica Page

Julia Burke

Kelly Graber

Kiara Movido

Lauren Jane Hartig

Leilani Yats

Marcella Massa

Mark Montileone

Paulette Elster

Philippe Hilger

Rafael Lindau

Ralph Montileone

Renee Harms

Joe Hull

Rita Boukhriss

Rosa Vaisanene

Sarah Anderson

Temple Beth AM

Youth Group

Thrive Global

UC San Diego

University of

Maryland Hillel

VIV Network

## Our Board of Directors

Alexander Sinclair, Vice President  
Elizabeth Rose, Secretary  
Yessenia Morales  
Heidi Spinella (from 2019)

Danny Paz, Vice President  
Jeremy Micley, Treasurer  
Honey Rothermel

## MICROLOANS

In 2017 and 2018, we were able to complete two rounds of microloans, making a total of 16 loans. These were for things that included further education for teachers, business ventures, and home improvements.

Many teachers were willing to take out loans to further their own education. Loans that were granted to the teachers for furthering their own education were accompanied by additional funds that were not to be paid back. Heidi, CETC's first grade teacher, completed her studies, and was able to apply strategies in her classroom.

Business ventures that received loans included small shops and weaving operations. An internet café that needed new WiFi was able to increase connection speeds. One weaving business was able to get a much-needed wall to reduce theft.

All loans directed to new construction had an environmentally conscious aspect to the construction plans. While not every microloan venture increases profits, many of them do, and all of the loans are paid back in full with a modest interest rate.

## THANK YOU TO ALL DONORS IN 2017 - 2018

Individual donors are our second biggest source of funding. They allow us to continue to meaningfully and strategically invest in Guatemala. We thank all of the people who, through their individual donations, helped us to take critical steps towards achieving our mission in 2017-2018. We strive to model transparency and effective use of all donations and we hope this Annual Report demonstrates this. We look forward to working with our donor community in 2019 and onwards to grow LWH's investment in sustainability-centric education, green building, and community development.





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# LONG WAY HOME

[www.lwhome.org](http://www.lwhome.org)  
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San Juan Comalapa, Chimaltenango, Guatemala.  
Long Way Home is a registered 501(c)(3) in the United States.