

## From Houses To Homes

## **IMPACT REPORT 2023**



"From Houses to Homes aims to create pathways out of poverty by providing safe housing, education and healthcare."

#### A Note from our Executive Director

Dear friends,

As we embark on this journey of gratitude and reflection, we must express our profound appreciation for your invaluable support to From Houses to Homes. Your unwavering commitment to our cause has driven our successes, and we are truly grateful for your positive impact.

#### **Our Board:**

Judy Baker (Executive Director)

James Bellis (President)

Oscar Mejia (Project Director)

Archie Purcell

Jody Gardner

Jeffrey Ingelman

Maria Maldacena

Andrew Gellert

Cary Lloyd

Suzy Moran

Judy Weinstein

Kent Walley

Darren Collins

Bill McGahan

In 2023, we saw increased volunteers, including high school, college, and religious groups returning, some for the first time since the pandemic. Graduates from Escuela Kemna'oj are reaping the rewards of their hard work and dedication to their education. Our families, staff, and students use the clinic when in medical need. We built 130 homes!!!

In June, Oscar and I visited two of our graduates employed in the retail sector. Both Nancy and Fernando greeted us with broad smiles. They told us they love their jobs and are grateful for all the opportunities their education at Escuela Kemna'oj has brought them. Seeing the fruits of our labor, especially that of the dedicated staff at our school, warms my heart. I hope it does yours as well.

Our hardworking men built 130 homes this year. They show up every day and give it 100%! More important than the actual building of the home is how they welcome our volunteers. Our masons play a crucial role in making the experience our volunteers have a very positive one. We hear nothing but great things about them.

Please follow us on Facebook under the name From Houses to Homes-Guatemala, and our Instagram handle is @fhthguatemala. Consider joining us as a volunteer-it's a life-changing experience!

As we approach 2024, we anticipate an exciting milestone: building home #2000! With your continued support, we are confident that we can reach new heights and make an even more significant impact on the lives of those in need.

*Judy Baker*Executive Director





# HOUSING

# 2023



In 2023, we significantly impacted the lives of 130 families by giving them a safe and secure place to call home. Since our inception in 2005, we have completed a total of 1966 homes!



We welcomed 311 (100+ than 2022) volunteers this year, including Westminster School, Montclair Kimberly Academy, Newark Academy, University of North Carolina, and The Champlaign School. We were thrilled to see that schools were returning post-pandemic! Our partnership continues with Home for a Home, which donated 39 houses.









We went beyond just providing a house this year by encouraging donors and volunteers to purchase additional items for families, such as stoves, water filters (Ecofiltros), and bunkbeds, including bedding and pillows. We continued to provide bags of food, thanks to the donors that donate them monthly, averaging 63 a month.





115 stoves



687 bags of groceries



101\_bunkbeds



113 water filters



# **EDUCATION**

# Education Report 2023

## Escuela Kemna'oj

These highlights illustrate the impact of your support on our school and high school program:

- Increased enrollment by 20 students.
- Comprehensive enrollment package covering teaching, school supplies, two daily meals, psychological services, and social work visits to students' families.
- Differ one month of summer school in November, effectively providing 11 months of continuous schooling for all children.
- Parent support program, conducting bi-monthly sessions to address topics ranging from parenting and education to health, nutrition, and human values.
- > Undertook campus maintenance with the painting of the school.

# By the numbers



174
Sponsored students

10 9th grade graduates



# Education Report 2023

- Supported nine students continuing their education into high school or vocational school, showcasing the school's impact on long-term educational pursuits.
- Attained a sponsorship rate of 92%, with an increase attributed to volunteers who visited the school and supported its mission.
- Established effective communication channels with sponsors, providing bi-yearly reports, student cards mailed to sponsors, and an option for sponsors to send messages to their sponsored students.
- Secured salaries for 20 dedicated teachers and staff, ensuring the continued provision of quality services.



# Education Report 2023



## **High School Program**

- 22 Kemna'oj alumni studied in different area high schools and vocational schools and we covered tuition, transportation, internet, school supplies, and uniforms.
- 10 students earned their high school diplomas in 2023.
- Between 2020 and 2023, 30 students completed their high school education and are now proudly working in various occupations in restaurants, retail, and industry. Five graduates are enrolled or plan to attend university.
- Some graduates are starting their own families and have gotten married.

# By the numbers



**22**High school students

**10**Graduated high school in 2023

30 2020-2023 high school graduates

## Success Stories

#### Carlos and Félix - 9th grade graduates

Two exemplary students, Carlos Mixtún and Félix Pío, recently graduated from 9th grade at Escuela Kemna'oj. They showed respect, enthusiasm, and a strong desire for improvement throughout their 11-year educational journey, with unwavering parental support. Thanks to our sponsorship program, Carlos and Félix will continue their educational journey in high school.



Carlos (left), an outstanding graduate who ranked first in his class, demonstrated academic excellence and a deep passion for the arts. His dedication to studies was complemented by a strong interest in drawing, leading to his successful participation in this year's Mural Contest in Santa María de Jesús. Carlos is set to specialize in Technical Drawing, a pathway that aligns with his dream of studying Architecture at the university level.

Félix (right) radiates qualities beyond the classroom with a spirit marked by simplicity, humility, respect, and generosity. As the son of our cherished and dedicated mason, Félix Pío, he embodies the resilient spirit that defines our mission. Félix's academic journey will lead him to the field of biological sciences in high school, paving the way for his future nursing degree.



## Success Stories

#### Erick and Jonathan - High school graduates

These two high school graduates, Jonathan Porón and Erick Yucuté, were alumni of Escuela Kenma'oj. Their stories exemplify the power of education and represent FHTH hopes of creating pathways out of poverty through education.

Jonathan (right) attended the excellent culinary program at INTECAP in Escuintla. His dedication was evident during his practical training in a restaurant where they hired him permanently.





Erick (left) worked in a textile factory while attending weekend classes in high school. Despite the challenging circumstances, he graduated at the top of his class and went on to obtain an accounting degree. With his skills, he is now ready to secure a job as a bookkeeper.



## **HEALTHCARE**

## Clinic Report 2023

Under the management of Order of Malta, Clínicas Médicas San José provides medical, pediatric, and dental consultations to families who have received homes through our organization, as well as our staff, and the families of Kemna'oj students.



944

FHTH patients in 2023



521

adult patients



361

pediatric patients



57 dental patients













# **Build a home today**



## Make an impact

Individuals, families, and groups who are interested in a life changing experience are welcome to join us!

You can also donate a home for \$3,000 with or without volunteering!

5 DAYS + \$600

fee per volunteer



# You can make a difference Be a sponsor today



When you become a sponsor, you help us provide access to quality education, 2 meals a day, free healthcare services, psychological support and access to reliable learning resources!

US\$60/month

OR

US\$720/year

## **HOW TO DONATE?**



## Online on our website

- By check
- Coporate matching funds
- Gift of stock
- Planned giving

## **SCAN TO DONATE**



#### See how we use the money you donate

# TOTAL EXPENSES

2023

Other\*

School 26%

US\$ 857,577

Homes 53%

USA admin 13%

<sup>\*</sup>Groceries for families in need. Donations/gifts to individuals.



**Executive Director:** 

Judy Baker: judybaker@fromhousestohomes.org

PO Box 85, Mt. Tabor, NJ 07878-0085

Tel: 973-214-1119

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!



#### De Casas a Hogares

Oscar Mejia: oscarfhth@gmail.com Calle del Hermano Pedro #9 Antigua Guatemala 03001, Guatemala Tel. +520-7832-5074