

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

PROMOTING HEALTH, HEALING, AND  
EDUCATION WITH THE PEOPLE OF GUATEMALA



INTERNATIONAL HANDS IN SERVICE  
(PROJECT SALUD Y PAZ)  
825 EAST AVE NE,  
ATLANTA, GA 30312

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## LETTER FROM THE LEADERS

SOCIETY BEGAN TO RETURN TO ITS PRE PANDEMIC RHYTHM IN 2022, **YET THE EFFECTS OF THE PANDEMIC WERE FAR FROM GONE**. AS THE YEAR PROGRESSED, INFLATION SOARED, REACHING 9% BEFORE STARTING TO LEVEL OUT. THE COST OF THE "MONTHLY FOOD BASKET" ALREADY EXCEEDED MINIMUM WAGE AND BY THE END OF THE YEAR WAS EVEN FARTHER OUT OF REACH FOR A FAMILY WITH STABLE INCOME, LET ALONE FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION LIVING IN THE INFORMAL ECONOMY-THE POPULATION SALUD Y PAZ PRIORITIZES FOR ITS SERVICES. **THE COUNTRY EXPERIENCED A CRISIS STATE OF CHILD MALNUTRITION**, WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EL QUICHE, WHERE SALUD Y PAZ WORKS, ONE OF AREAS MOST DEVASTATED BY FOOD INSECURITY.

**LAURA SHEARER**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,**  
**PROJECT SALUD Y PAZ**

IN THIS CONTEXT OF SO MUCH CHANGE, SO MUCH CHALLENGE, **SALUD Y PAZ MATTERED MORE THAN EVER BEFORE**. FOR THE CHILDREN OF CAMANCAJ WHO NEEDED OUR SUPPORT TO DEVELOP TOOLS TO CREATE PATHWAYS OUT OF POVERTY. FOR THE MANY PATIENTS WHO FOUND IN US A RELIABLE PARTNER TO KEEP THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES HEALTHY.

THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE WITH US, SO WE COULD BE THERE FOR OUR COMMUNITIES.

### **2022 Board of Directors**

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While Guatemala's educational system partially opened up in 2022, a full reopening was not yet indicated in light of the country's fragile public health system, low vaccination rates and vulnerable populations. **We maintained a hybrid of in-person and distance learning, dividing up our preschoolers in "bubbles", taking turns in class.**

In what was the third year of the pandemic, the learning gaps became even more evident for the children who had now spent their entire pre-primary years in a pandemic learning context. **Salud y Paz responded by offering parent information sessions, individual tuition, dividing classes into sub groups to support key literacy and math milestones, and giving desks to families who didn't have anywhere in their home for their children to study.** We implemented extracurricular, trauma-informed approaches to address the increased inequities experienced by our student population, including identifying and referring students for evaluation and intervention by a psychologist and group education programs for parents.

- In 2022, **52** pre-primary students advanced their education in preschool, kindergarten, or first-grade class
- **13** of those young students became proficient in writing, reading and basic mathematical concepts and operations, graduating to the second grade at their local elementary school
- **9** students were provided specialist evaluation and intervention to lower barriers to educational access and attainment
- **1** student benefited from individual tutorial support to supplement the classroom learning environment
- **52** students received medical, dental and nutritional screening, in addition to vitamin supplementation
- **52** students received de-worming treatments in partnership with the local public health post





## 2022 IMPACT IN HEALTH AND EDUCATION AT PROJECT SALUD Y PAZ

As international borders opened, we reengaged with our medical, dental and optical mission teams, allowing Salud y Paz to once again leverage its valued global partnerships for optimum patient outcomes and impact. Our teams provided critical care to patients from the Mayan indigenous highlands of Guatemala, communities that face many barriers to accessing essential services, and connected them into our network of clinics staffed by our Guatemala clinical team, to receive follow up care they wouldn't otherwise be able to access or afford.

We continued to invest in our local partnerships, adapting our programs and services to meet the evolving needs of our communities. We increased capacity in our dental clinic in response to the needs of our patients and continued to leverage our reputation as a trusted health provider in the community to promote vaccine education and access.

- In the western highlands, our Guatemalan doctors, dentists, nurses and staff saw **4,346** medical and dental patients
- **4086** laboratory tests were provided in our clinics
- We performed **76** minor procedures
- Our clinical team ran **69** satellite clinics in rural communities to ensure our most vulnerable patients received continuity of care
- **309** patients were provided referrals assistance through our social work program
- **70** staff and community members received Covid-19, Hepatitis B and Influenza vaccination in clinics hosted by Project Salud y Paz
- **7** volunteer medical, dental and optical teams treated **2,264** patients in rural communities of Chichicastenango and Nahuala



## 2022 IMPACT IN HEALTH AND EDUCATION AT PROJECT SALUD Y PAZ

**We ran a focus group of mothers of our Colegio Susanna Wesley students to deepen our understanding of the challenges they face and how we can be part of the solution. We used a methodology of a "problem tree", where we explore together a problem, its causes and its effects, and then possible solutions. We asked, from their perspective, what were the root causes of poverty in their community? Themes of water supply, land, education and opportunity, all arose. As an outcome of this focus group, the women designed our health promotion and empowerment program.**

**As 2022 progressed, Salud y Paz responded to the food security crisis, acute malnutrition and other devastating effects that the soaring food, gas and fertilizer prices were having on our most vulnerable families. We offered safe, nutritious snacks to students in addition to the groceries bags, supplements and nutritional programs that we had provided throughout the pandemic.**

- We prepared and delivered **524** care packages with food staples to families
- Our integral health team provided classes in nutrition and follow up to **3** families of school children suffering from acute malnutrition
- **29** women designed and participated in our health promotion and empowerment program, attending workshops on soap making, nutrition, family gardens, parasites, crocheting, organic insecticides, nutritional recipes and food security.

**Thank you, Gracias, Maltiox for all the ways you help health, healing, and education become a reality in Guatemala!**

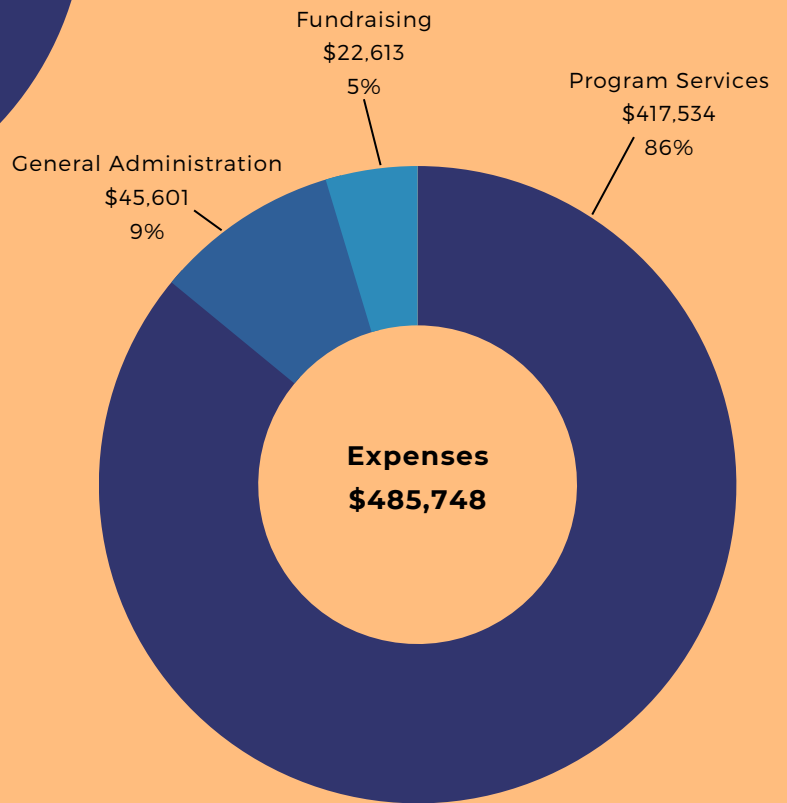
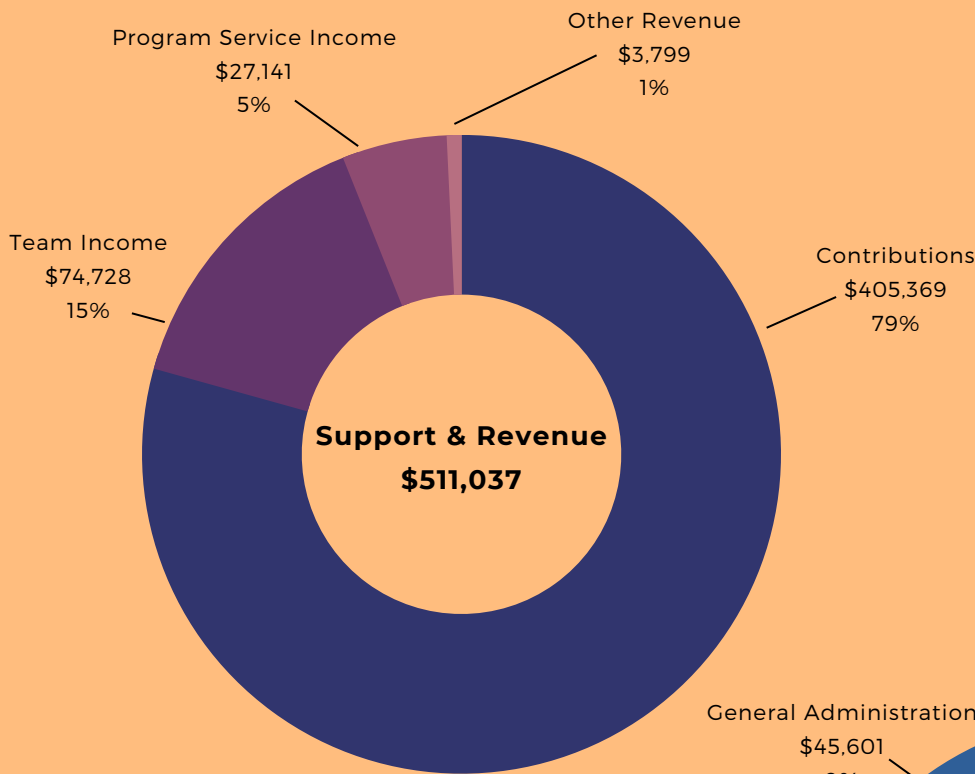


# financials

January-December 2022

## Statement of Support, Revenue, and Expenses - Modified Cash Basis

Extracted from financial statements as prepared and reviewed by JDS Professional Group  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022



Your financial gifts are the foundation for long-term sustainability of our mission to promote health, healing, and education with the people of Guatemala.





# GET INVOLVED

## HEALTH

Salud y Paz operates clinics from the far northern reaches of El Quiché to the western highlands of Sololá and Quetzaltenango. Our clinics are staffed by Guatemalan clinicians and have an on-site pharmacy and lab. Our consistent presence enables us to provide continuity of care to our many patients with diabetes and chronic illness.

## EDUCATION

Our Colegio Susanna Wesley school educates and prepares indigenous Mayan children to enter and excel in the Spanish-speaking public school system. Our program seeks to address the whole child through a focus on Language and Education, Nutrition and Hygiene, and Medical and Dental Care.

## MISSION TEAMS

Mission teams allow us to do more than we are able to do on our own. Medical, dental and surgical teams provide opportunity for people in rural villages to receive care they wouldn't otherwise be able to access or afford. Construction Teams are a key part of our ministry of presence and focus on building relationships and infrastructure in the Mayan highlands.

## Why Guatemala?

Guatemala is a predominantly impoverished country that struggles in several areas of health and development. The large indigenous population—who Salud y Paz primarily serves—is disproportionately affected. Guatemala, while lacking in basic services, is incredibly rich in spirit and beauty. Guatemala changes us!

## Get Involved

- Serve on a mission team
- Sponsor a child
- Join monthly giving
- Follow us on social media
- Host a fundraiser
- Share why this mission is important to you and the people of Guatemala!

Learn more at  
[www.saludypaz.org](http://www.saludypaz.org)









THANK YOU. GRACIAS. MALTIOX.  
FOR WALKING WITH US ON THIS  
INCREDIBLE JOURNEY.

**OUR VISION:**  
EMPOWERED COMMUNITIES WITH  
SUSTAINED WELLNESS OF MIND,  
BODY AND SPIRIT.

**OUR MISSION:**  
PROMOTE INTEGRATED HEALTH,  
HEALING, AND EDUCATION IN  
GUATEMALA BY ENABLING ACCESS  
TO HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND  
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION  
WITH LOCAL AND GLOBAL  
PARTNERSHIPS.

**OUR VALUES:**  
WE ARE AN INCLUSIVE FAITH-BASED  
ORGANIZATION WHICH WELCOMES,  
RESPECTS, AND EMBRACES THE  
PLURALITY OF FAITH TRADITIONS,  
CUSTOMS, AND BELIEFS.

SALUD Y PAZ IS INCORPORATED AS  
A 501(C)3 TAX-EXEMPT NON-PROFIT  
CORPORATION UNDER THE NAME  
"INTERNATIONAL HANDS IN  
SERVICE" AND HOLDS A  
CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME  
FOR THE NAME "PROJECT SALUD Y  
PAZ".

