



Niños de Guatemala

Annual Report 2016
Niños de Guatemala

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Letter from the President

Dear friends and supporters of NDG,

What an honor to once again address you in our annual report. Being the president for some years now I see an unbelievably steep learning curve within our organization and that is thanks to all of you. We move forward because of the growing group of very inspiring people and organizations we work with. I hope our annual report will provide a clear image of what we have grown towards to this year.

In 2016 we celebrated our ten year anniversary in the Netherlands. The Dutch organization was founded in 2006 because we had a dream to make a difference. Today we are making that difference!

Many of you were present in December to celebrate our work and to support us with your presence and your generosity. In Guatemala, we will celebrate this milestone in 2017, with graduating classes from all three of our schools: Nuestro Futuro, El Porvenir and our Básico, El Horizonte. We are helping the leaders of the future build their knowledge and skills to really make a difference in their community and country.

I am so proud of the team in Guatemala. In 2016, we finished the second floor of the Básico school building, so that this middle school can start receiving students from both elementary schools in 2018. Furthermore, we expanded our social businesses and have been working on programs that support the students and their families to change their business ideas into real businesses.

I am very happy to continue as president of the board for another year, and hope that we can keep counting on your support. On to another 10 years!

Mireille Goos - President of Niños de Guatemala





Mission and vision

We envision a world in which all people are educated, empowered, and entrepreneurial.

Niños de Guatemala empowers communities in marginalized areas of Guatemala. We achieve this by providing education that extends beyond the traditional classroom across three levels: students, their families, and the larger community.

We aim to be sustainable both at the organizational and community level through initiating and supporting social business activities and fostering an entrepreneurial spirit.

Education

News from the Schools

Our main goal is to assure that our students receive a good education in a safe environment. This is why NDG runs three schools in the communities of Ciudad Vieja (an elementary school, Nuestro Futuro, and a middle school or 'Básico' named 'El Horizonte') and San Lorenzo el Cubo (El Porvenir, an elementary school). The middle school now receives children from Nuestro Futuro and will start to welcome graduated students from El Porvenir in 2018. All three schools continue to grow and strive to improve the level of education every single day.



In 2016, the second floor of the Básico building was completed and it received children in the first two of its three grades. In 2017 it will educate students in all three grades. The sports area at Básico allows the students a large and well-equipped location for their sports classes, providing physical as well as intellectual stimulation for children in all grades.

All schools participated in community events this year and the school staff lead the Independence Day parades in Ciudad Vieja, which is a very important event on the school calendar. This is not only great fun, but also demonstrates the importance of community involvement to our students and staff and reinforces our overall commitment to the municipality as a whole.



A childhood without violence...

Crianza con Cariño helps parents learn that they can raise their children differently from how they were raised by their parents in the past.



Empowerment

Crianza con Cariño and more

In 2016 we continue to work closely with our communities and our staff to involve them in the activities of our organization. At all of our schools we have the Crianza con Cariño program, which focuses on guiding students and their families through a healthy and positive upbringing.

Furthermore, we have run the monthly 'Escuela de Padres' classes (education for parents) in which topics that are top of mind are discussed, such as the challenges of having a large family or the existence of violence in the street and the community. We also run 'Aflatoun' classes, which focus on financial education and teach the basics of entrepreneurship and business. At Niños de Guatemala, we find it important to work on these topics so children get a good idea about how to provide for themselves and their future families at an early age.

The number of programs offered by our Community Centre was increased to include entrepreneurial projects including cooking, baking and exercise classes for not only the parents of our students, but anyone from the community our schools are located in.

In collaboration with local educational institutions, other NGOs, and the municipality of Ciudad Vieja, relevant training and support was provided to all our staff members, and a total of 3 staff members were promoted in 2016 within the organization.



My dream...

I want to make books; I have seen many people do not have enough money to buy one, I have great plans for the future, so that everyone can have books. Only my mom knows about my dream, I will study hard to achieve it, Aflatoun teaches me finances and that will help me.



429 Students

195 students at **Nuestro Futuro**
172 students at **El Porvenir**
62 students at **El Básico**



58 employees

46 in schools and 12 in the office.
49 Guatemalans and 9 expats.
26 teachers, 5 Social Workers and
3 psychologists



90 participants
from 32 different families
in **Crianza con Cariño**

200 participants
160 students and 40 parents
in the psychology program in 2016

2016 in numbers



My name is Karla...

I am ten years old and now in 4th Grade. I come from a family of seven children. My mother works as a nanny in Antigua or helps out in one of the schools and in the weekend she sells necklaces. She isn't home that much, because she has to work.

I really like going to school at Nuestro Futuro. My favorite subjects are math and artistic expression. The favorite thing about my teacher is that he is strict and punctual, no one dares to come late.

My oldest brother is a teacher at Kindergarten, he is my big example and when I grow up I want to become like him. So I study hard to accomplish those goals.

Entrepreneurship

Cambio Language School

2016 has been the most successful year in the history of Cambio Language School. Following a rebranding in the first quarter, Cambio was able to attract more students than ever before.

We have partnered with Danish Volunteers and Spring Arbor University who bring large groups of students on a consistent basis throughout the year. Both partnerships flourished due to the unique nature of Cambio's commitment to the communities of Ciudad Vieja and San Lorenzo el Cubo.

Working alongside UN Volunteers, Cambio has also designed and implemented its own curricula, from legal and business Spanish to more conversational classes for students or travelers.

Cambio is now also able to give out University Credits for its courses, which will greatly increase the number of university students wishing to study with Cambio.



I'm Emma...

My Spanish teacher is brilliant, he has a lot of patience and knows my gaps in knowledge. At Cambio the structure is good, the teacher understands the problems I need to work on.

The reason why I chose Cambio is because of Niños de Guatemala. In my opinion everyone can give a review on websites about a Spanish school, but you don't know what the quality really is like. The work of Niños de Guatemala really makes a difference and that made the difference for me.



Experience Guatemala Tours

Tours to the communities NDG works in, are a key part of Cambio's activities. The growth of tours to our schools as well as to exemplary businesses representing local industries continues at pace. Cambio has begun to work with the Universidad Mariano Galvez to provide tourism students with the opportunity to guide our tours. They are fluent English and Spanish speakers and, as Guatemalans, can provide a unique perspective to our visitors.

Good Hotel

In 2016, Good Hotel Antigua, a boutique hotel offering Premium Hospitality with a Cause, opened its doors.

The hotel is a profit for non-profit supporting the activities and mission of Niños de Guatemala. All investor and hotel profits are donated to provide education for many of our students. Staff members are locally recruited, many of which are family members of the children studying at one of the schools.



Sponsorship Programs

2016 has seen significant growth and expansion of the Padrino Program. The Padrino Program allows for sponsors to support the organization and be in touch with one of our students to chat about their school activities, grades and other hobbies. The support from such a sponsor is greatly appreciated by students, parents and teachers. The idea that there is another 'parent' somewhere that really encourages our students to work hard and study gives them a sense of value and importance. Some have even proclaimed to have 'two mothers'.

We welcomed 46 new Padrinos into the program, as well as one new corporate sponsor.

We have had 60 visits from Padrinos to the school this year, a 50% increase from 2016. Visits to the schools are a great way for our Padrinos to become even more connected to their ahijados. We also arrange skype sessions so our padrinos, allowing padrinos from other countries to directly connect with their ahijado (sponsor child).

We thank all of our Padrinos for their generous donations and for the ability to make this happen!

Furthermore, we continue our 100% sponsorship initiative in 2017 and pushing for every one of our children to have a sponsor by 2018.





My name is Fernando...

Some time ago I got involved with the Padrino Program of Niños de Guatemala, for which I began to *sponsor* Angel Bladimir, a precious child that thanks to Niños de Guatemala can attend the school and have more opportunities in the future.

All this may sound socially correct, but that changes radically when you have the great luck to visit Guatemala and see the work that Niños de Guatemala is doing, moved by a real and profound wish to help others, so that many children like my "ahijado", Angel Bladimir, can have that opportunity.

Being able to visit the schools, see the joy of the children and the complicity of Niños' staff, made me feel that somehow, I am a tiny part of them. It makes you believe in that "better world" that we all promote.

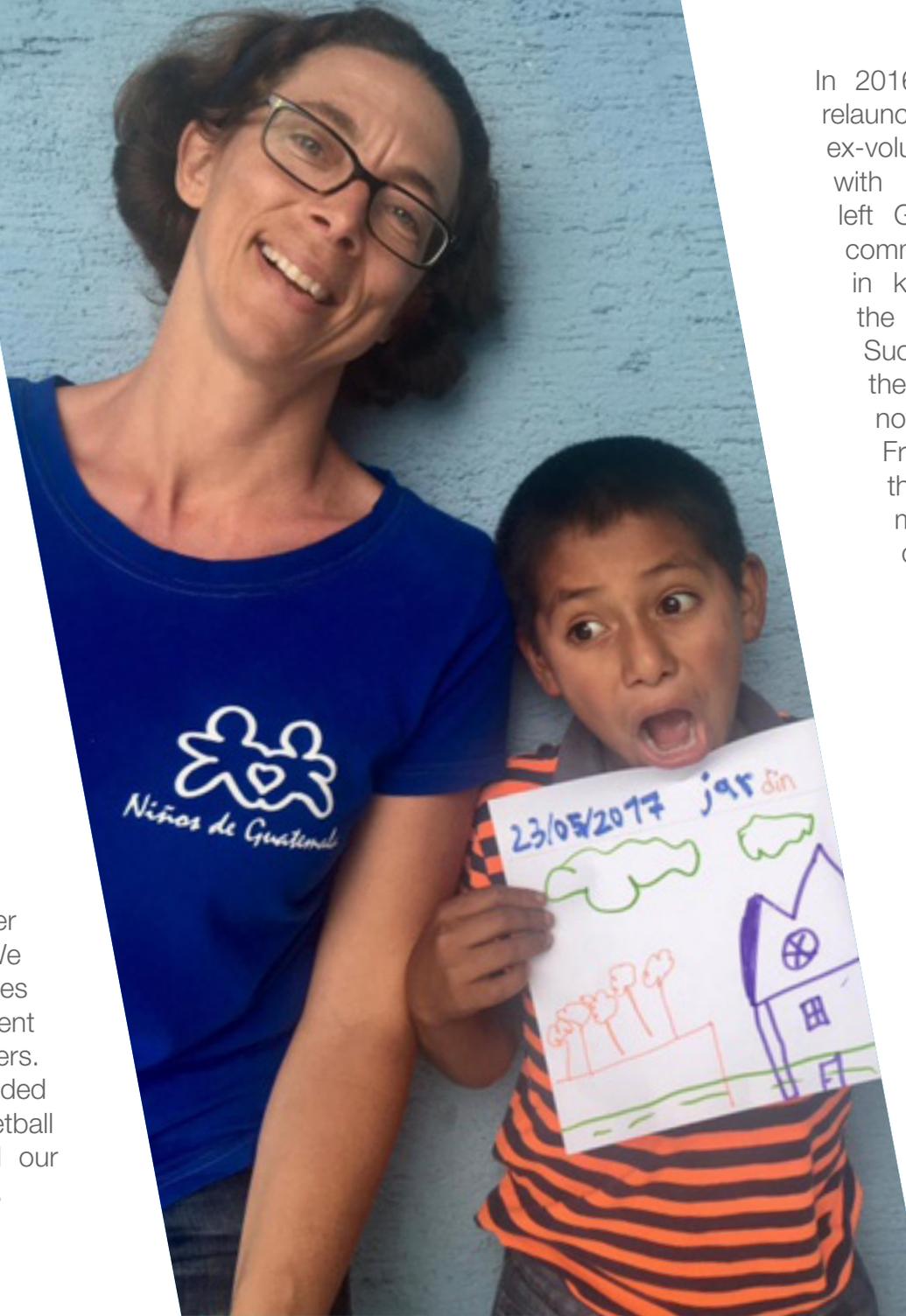
Volunteers

Service Teams

2016 was a great year for Service Teams. We welcomed a variety of groups who helped in different areas within the school. Construction groups helped us complete a new classroom, as well as the second floor of the Básico school building. Dental and medical clinics provided the students and their families with basic and much needed health care. Through these partnership programs, we are able to provide our students and families with preventative care so that they stay healthy and learn about personal hygiene as well as to signal medical conditions at an early stage.

Volunteer Program

2016 saw a 60% increase in volunteer numbers compared to 2015. We welcomed volunteers from 11 countries and saw a much higher involvement of local Guatemalan volunteers. Workshops led by volunteers included Football, Music, Tango, Basketball and Yoga which greatly enriched our students' and volunteer experience.



Ambassador Program

In 2016 the Ambassador program was relaunched. This program aims at keeping ex-volunteers and other partners involved with our organization after having left Guatemala. A more focused and communicative approach was taken in keeping supporters engaged with the NGO from their home countries. Successes included an expansion of the France Ambassadors program to now include a NDG hub in Southern France, an ambassador cycling across the US raising over \$10,000 and many Ambassadors going home and doing presentations and fundraisers on the NGO's behalf and recruiting further volunteers and groups.



Niños de Guatemala Worldwide

People from all the world come together to help Niños de Guatemala in so many different ways and we are grateful to every single one of you. This year we had a variety of individual events organized and our yearly fundraisers attracted many people.

We continue to grow our NDG USA branch and held an exhibition in New York City in November to spread the word about the work of Niños de Guatemala. Grassroots events are very important to us and we are happy to see more ambassadors and padrinos were able to speak at their local clubs, churches, schools and farmers markets. This is an incredibly important way of raising both funds and awareness in your community and helps get more and more people involved in the Niños de Guatemala family.





Niños de Guatemala Netherlands

In the Netherlands, our other home base, we organized a number of events to raise funds for our activities in Guatemala, such as our annual run, the Dam tot Damloop, which had more participants than any other year and raised funds for teacher's salaries.

In December we proudly presented the Charity Event 2016, celebrating our 10th anniversary with a five course dinner and a full evening of entertainment. We are very grateful to the mayor of Amsterdam for opening this evening. The event raised money for the Food and Health program, providing us with both funds to support our School Meals Programme as well as to educate students about personal hygiene, sexual education and other important topics. At the event we also highlighted our entrepreneurial activities and the plans we have to become more self-sustainable.

Over 30 volunteers who raised funds, organized events and promoted Niños de Guatemala in the Netherlands and more than 150 runners have supported our cause. We are very grateful to them for the efforts and dedication they show!

We would like to thank the following sponsors and supporters

Foundations

- Bruehl
- Builders Beyond Borders (B3 Foundation)
- BFB Foundation
- Campo Verde
- Cementos Progreso
- ConstruCasa
- HeSpace Children's Fund
- One, two, Tree Foundation
- Students Offering Support

Corporations and Private Companies

- Grupo Alza
- Marky Markers
- Meson Panza Verde
- Old Town Outfitters
- PepsiCo International
- Polyfluor
- Stichting Horeca Onderwijs Nederland
- Good Hotel Group
- Ecomama
- EntreMundos

Associations

- Club Rotaract Guatemala Norte
- Rotary Club, Antigua, Guatemala
- Rotary Club, Guatemala
- Rotary Club Oosterhout, the Netherlands
- Rotary Club Amsterdam West, the Netherlands
- Rotary Club Interadam, the Netherlands

Want to support us too?

Donate

With your donation, you offer a better future and the chance to break free from the cycle of poverty.

Use the donation form on the right to donate by PayPal, iDeal, Creditcard or Bank Transfer.

If you would like to transfer your donation yourself to one of our accounts in the Netherlands, US or Guatemala, please use details and instructions on our website

→ www.ninosdeguatemala.org/donate

Volunteer

Volunteer with us and make a lasting difference in our childrens' lives!

NDG's motto has always been that everyone can do something. Dedicated volunteers are key to our mission of breaking the cycle of poverty through education in Guatemala. You can be a volunteer in Guatemala, but you can also become a volunteer from home. If you are interested in more information about volunteering you can send an email to:

→ volunteer@ninosdeguatemala.org

Sponsor a child

Become a Padrino today and bring lasting change to a child's life! As a Padrino (sponsor), you not only provide education for a child, you also have the opportunity to become their mentor and friend. As many of our children are coming from unstable homes, Padrinos provide the support and motivation our students need to succeed in school and grow into capable and conscientious adults.

Become a sponsor today:

→ www.ninosdeguatemala.org/padrino-program

Financial Reports

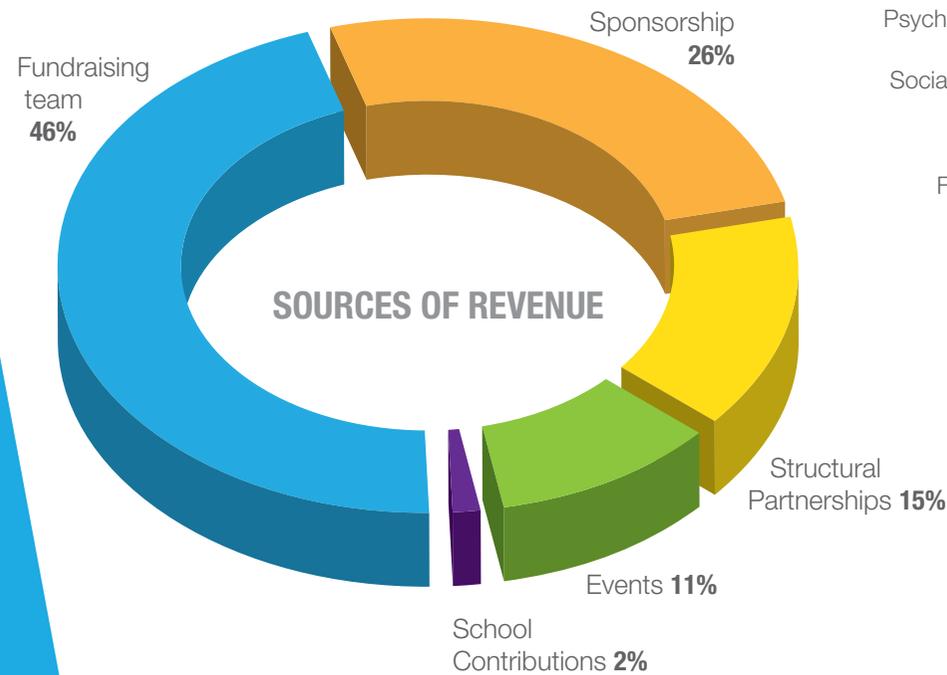
Due to the growth of NDG, 2016 proved to be a challenging financial year. Our Básico school became fully operational, including its Food & Health and Psychology programs, which has had a significant impact on operational costs.

The Euro-Quetzal exchange rate continued to drop over 2016, which also posed a challenge for the organization, as many of the fundraising efforts are made in the Netherlands. Furthermore, it continues to be difficult to raise funds for operational costs (vs incidental spending), which is why we start 2017 with a renewed focus on the core of our activities, as well as a stronger focus on the growth of our social enterprises.

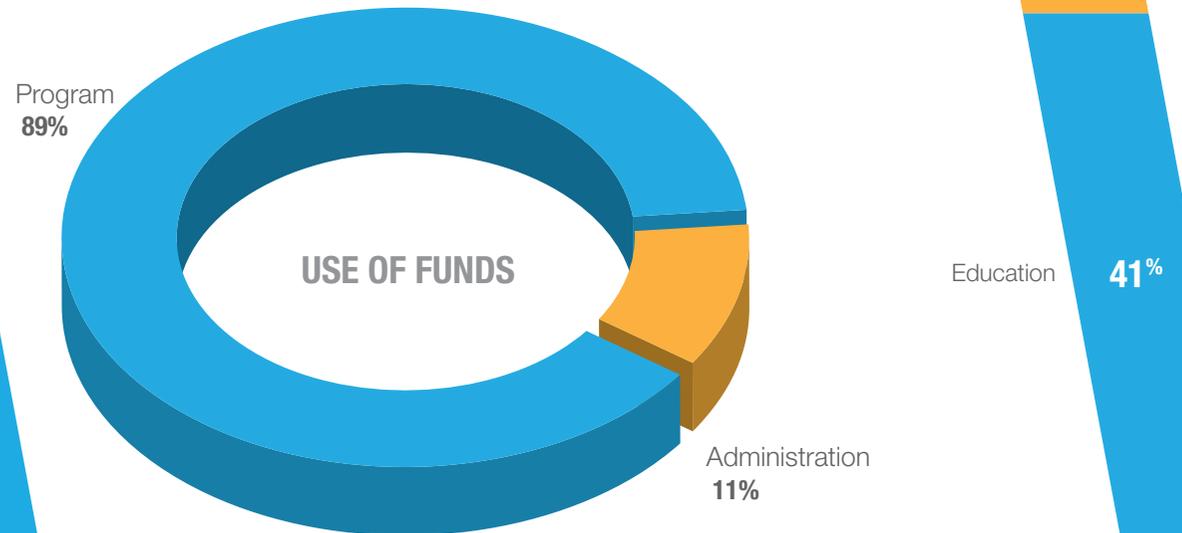
Due to international efforts for fundraising we have been able to cover all costs. However, we also have had to use some reserves from previous years. In 2017, we aim to build up these reserves once more as we make plans to create a more efficient organization and work towards a sustainable finance model through our social enterprises and partnerships.

The graph on programs in Guatemala shows the significance of the food and health program due to the Básico activities. Furthermore, a large percentage of revenue was brought in by the fundraising team, largely because of the incidental costs for the construction of the second floor of the Básico.

TOTAL INCOME: 602,172€



TOTAL EXPENSES: 746,563€



Contact Information

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Global Director

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Account details Guatemala

BIC/SWIFT-code: INDLGTGC

Account in Guatemalan Quetzales: 016 – 003233 – 4



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