





#### A note about 2021

This year, the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the social, economic, and structural inequalities faced by the Indigenous Maya in Guatemala, and a long-desired return to normalcy was delayed by low vaccination and high infection rates.

Despite these challenges, Mil Milagros' staff did what they do best. They coordinated with local leaders to deliver emergency supplies monthly to all families in 11 partner communities. They worked with teachers to create a library of math and language videos for remote learning. And they continued to educate their community through videos and podcasts.

What a difference it made. Shortly after our team created a video dispelling COVID-19 vaccine myths, Santa Lucía Utatlán boasted a 46% vaccination rate, more than twice the national average and one of the highest rates in the nation among rural, Indigenous Maya municipalities.

We know you join us in our excitement to soon hear the buzz of students and teachers in their classrooms and to see more leaders change lives in their communities. Thank you for making it all possible.

## WHERE WE WORK

Santa Lucía Utatlán is a rural municipality in the state of Sololá, Guatemala



Mil Milagros partner community

Future partner

Former partner

Interamerican highway

Main roadway

Two way road





#### **FAST FACTS**

- 22,000 residents
- 96% Indigenous Maya
- Primary Language is K'iche'
- More than 80% of the population lives in poverty

### WHO WE SERVE

- 11 communities
- 3,129 direct beneficiaries
- 33,000+ people reached through television and radio



# Early Childhood Development

Mothers prevent chronic malnutrition and promote their young children's healthy growth

## **OUR PROGRAMS**



School Nutrition

Mothers are trained in
nutrition and provide a
healthy snack each day to

students at school



Health and Hygiene
Mothers and student council
members promote healthy
hygiene practices through
public health campaigns



**Literacy**Teachers are equipped with training and supplies to

training and supplies to ensure that their students graduate sixth grade literate



Local mothers, teachers, and students discover their leadership potential, develop specialized skills, and deliver results by implementing each of these core programs





Heidi Spear Clerk

Fred Muehter Treasurer

Barbara Doe

Juan Antonio Gil

Cristina Pachano



# Meet Dalila

Dalila grew up in the tiny town of Campo Verde. She had a loving family, but she and her eight siblings had to work hard on her dad's farm just to put food on the table. There wasn't any money for luxuries like nice clothes or school supplies. Dalila remembers that one year, on Independence Day, her dad bought her and her siblings their first pair of shoes. But the shoes didn't last long, and soon she was back to being barefoot each day.

No matter how hard her life got, Dalila never stopped dreaming. When she was young, she dreamed of helping others by becoming a doctor. As she grew older, she dreamed of making Campo Verde a healthier and safer place to live. She started a movement for her community to get access to safe drinking water, and she led a support group for survivors of domestic violence. Her peers were so impressed that they elected Dalila to represent Campo Verde in the Indigenous mayor's office. And the whole time, she supported her two daughters as a single mother.





One day, Dalila learned about Mil Milagros. She immediately rallied parents and got permission to take the children to our office to advocate for Mil Milagros to come to her local school. Despite money being hard to come by, everyone paid for travel on multiple buses just to make the case for their community. But, Mil Milagros didn't have the capacity to work in Campo Verde.

This didn't stop Dalila. She kept calling and organizing visits to our office until finally, she received the news that Mil Milagros would be coming to support Campo Verde. She jumped at the chance to volunteer with Mil Milagros' board of directors. When the pandemic hit, Dalila worked hard to ensure that her neighbors had what they needed to stay safe and healthy.

Dalila still has big dreams for Campo Verde. She wants to improve health at her local school by ensuring healthy lunches and building working bathrooms. And she will have plenty of opportunities to make her dreams a reality. In November, Dalila got a phone call from Mil Milagros' In Country Director offering her a full-time job as a Community Coordinator starting in 2022. We can't wait to see what Dalila does next.

## **FINANCIALS**

2021 Revenue: **\$713,531** 

2021 Expenses:

Program: 84%

Administration: 11%

Fundraising: 5%

Total Expenses: \$569,043

Because of your generous support, Indigenous Maya leaders are creating a brighter future for rural Guatemala.

Maltiox! ¡Gracias! Thank you!



## **BECOME AN AMIGO**

The mothers, teachers, and students in our partner communities are doing incredible work to improve health and education in rural Guatemala.

But, they aren't doing it alone.

Their 'amigos' are with them every step of the way.

The amigos are monthly givers dedicated to ensuring that Indigenous Maya leaders can transform their communities for years to come.

#### Will you join them?

\$5 a month can help prevent malnutrition in a baby by providing daily vitamin supplements for the year.

Become an amigo by making a monthly gift at: www.milmilagros.org/donate



