



2021 ANNUAL REPORT



[www.transformingfutures.org](http://www.transformingfutures.org)

# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



**To our valued donors and partners,**

2021 was a year like no other for Transforming Futures. It was a year of persistence and preparation. Our mission—to transform the futures of children in Guatemala—has never been so important.

We have so much to be proud of in 2021. Because of your support, we were able to keep serving hundreds of children in need of nutrition and education, even in the face of a relentless global pandemic.

In this 2021 Annual Report, we share what we accomplished: We continued to feed more than 500 children every day in the Guatemala City Garbage Dump. We opened a new elementary school in a rural community. We launched a partnership to feed children in a rural town. And we restarted our education program and created a computer lab.

None of this would be possible without you. On behalf of our staff members, volunteers, board members, and Pastora Mercedes, I want to express our deepest thanks for your support.

We have even bigger plans for 2022. Your continued commitment to our mission will be essential to us achieving our goals in the new year, including launching a training program for teenage orphans.

To stay up to date on our work, please visit our website, follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and subscribe to our newsletter. Thank you for joining us in transforming the futures of Guatemalan children.



Best regards,  
**Pablo Villagrán**  
Transforming Futures Executive Director

## WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED IN 2021



Supported nearly **800 children** across all our programs



Served **190,000 meals** in the Guatemala City Garbage Dump



Tutored **24 students**, all of whom moved up to the next grade



Started a partnership to feed **60 children** in a rural town

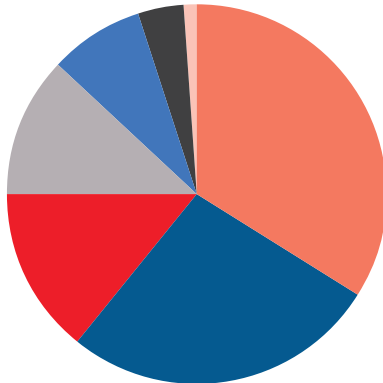


**Finished construction** of the Michelle Pho School

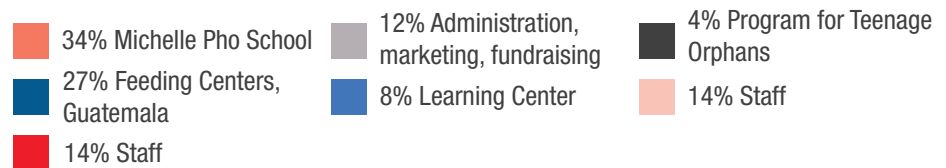


Prepared to launch a **new training program** for teenage orphans

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY



In 2021, for \$1 donated to Transforming Futures, \$0.88 funded our programs and projects and \$0.12 covered administrative expenses. A significant amount of funds went toward our long-running programs, including the two Feeding Centers in Guatemala City, as well as toward completing construction of the Michelle Pho School.



# PROGRAMS

## FEEDING CENTERS

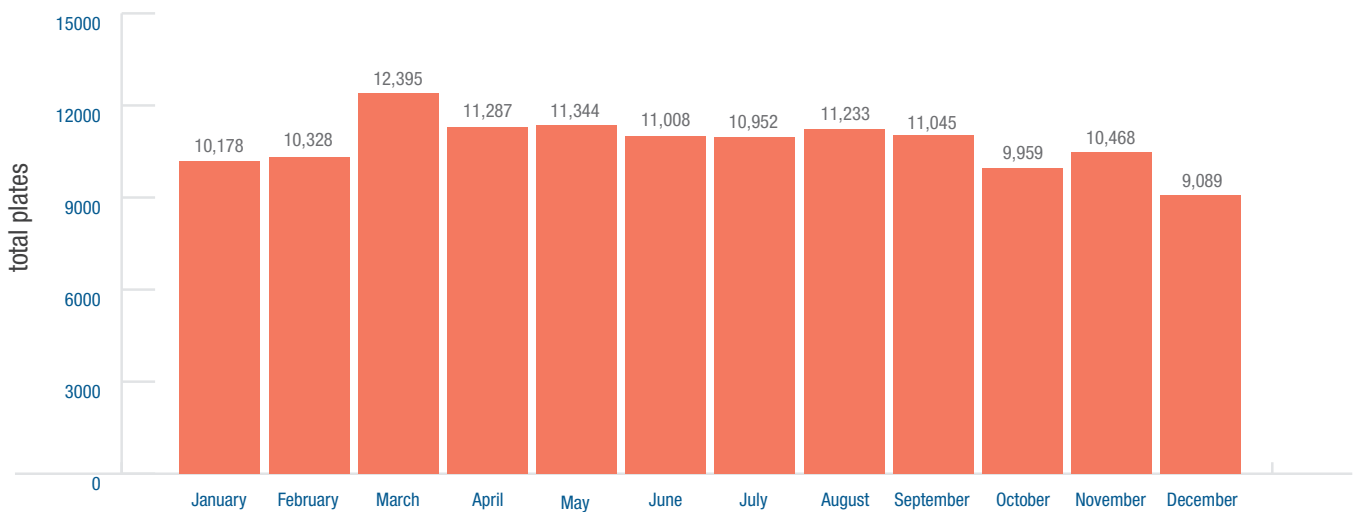
### GUATEMALA CITY



Transforming Futures' two Feeding Centers continued to serve hundreds of people in the Guatemala City Garbage Dump. In 2021, we served more than 190,000 plates.

Led by Pastora Mercedes, the Feeding Centers provided daily meals to an average of 530 children who live in extreme poverty. When including their families, we estimate that we reached 750 people. We improved our system to identify children receiving meals and understand their unique needs. Despite challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, Pastora Mercedes and volunteers guaranteed that the Feeding Centers stayed open.

#### TOTAL PLATES VS. MONTH



**Food donations from a grocery chain.** Transforming Futures also began a partnership with La Torre, the second-largest grocery chain in Guatemala. The store provides unsold vegetables and fruits to our Feeding Centers. This relationship has allowed us to lower food costs and use food that would have been thrown away.

**New volunteers.** Bread of Life, a Guatemalan church, is now providing donations, volunteers, and spiritual support to our programs. The church has developed a spiritual training program for their members to get involved in the community.



## LEARNING CENTER

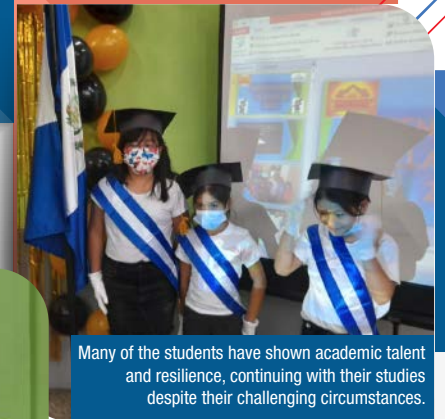
### GUATEMALA CITY

In March, Transforming Futures reopened our Learning Center in the Guatemala City Garbage Dump after we were forced to close it during the pandemic. All 24 children we tutored moved up to the next grade.

We also set up a new computer lab, where students can practice their digital skills, and hired a bilingual teacher. The Learning Center continues to be a safe place where children can receive one-on-one tutoring and learn skills necessary for careers outside of the garbage dump.



Students who participate in the education program live in impoverished conditions in the Guatemala City Garbage Dump and surrounding areas.



Many of the students have shown academic talent and resilience, continuing with their studies despite their challenging circumstances.

## NEW FEEDING CENTER



Claudia has worked in Santa María de Jesús for two years and provides daily educational support to children there



Transforming Futures launched a Feeding Center in the town in June 2021.

### SANTA MARÍA DE JESÚS

Transforming Futures started working with Claudia Roncal, an organization partner, in June to launch a new Feeding Center in a rural town, Santa María de Jesús. Claudia provides educational support to 60 children who live in extreme poverty, and Transforming Futures has been giving lunch to her students.

## NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### PIE DEL CERRO

Transforming Futures opened the new Michelle Pho School in a rural community after nearly a year of construction. Built in honor of Michelle, a Canadian teacher who passed away suddenly in 2018, the elementary school will serve more than 170 students. It will also be a space for community members to gather, vote, and receive health care.

We plan to continue to develop the land to benefit the community, including by building a field for soccer and other sports in 2022.



The Michelle Pho School has seven classrooms, a principal's office, teachers' rooms, a kitchen, a storage area, and a bathroom.



The new school is fully equipped with desks, whiteboards, shelves, and kitchen equipment.

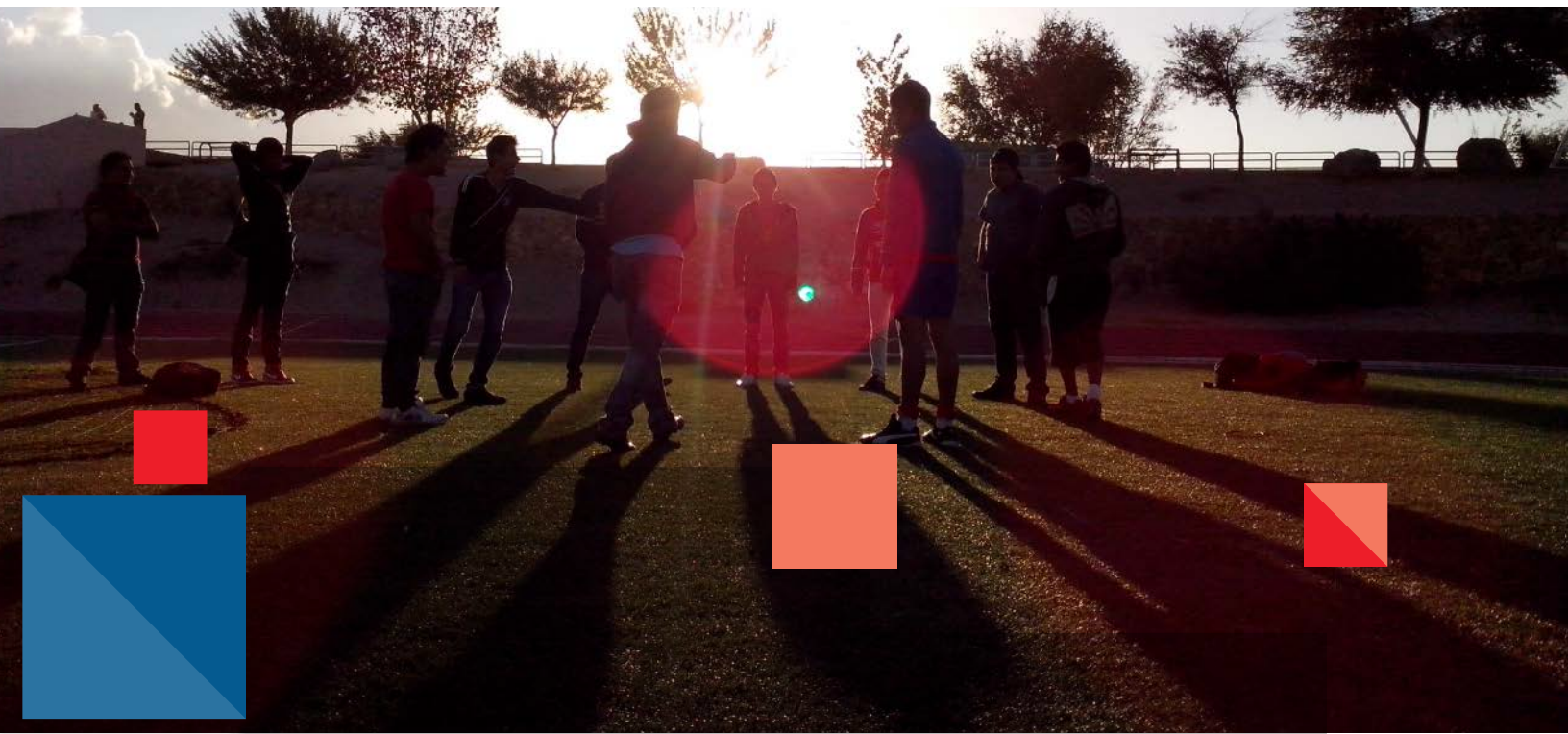
## NEW PROGRAM FOR TEENAGE ORPHANS

### GUATEMALA CITY

Transforming Futures continued to prepare to launch a new program, "Thinking Outside of the Box," to support teenage orphans throughout Guatemala. Our goal is to start the program in mid-2022.

Through the program, we aim to transform the futures of young Guatemalans who are at risk, particularly those living in children's homes. An estimated 75 percent of teenagers in Guatemalan children's homes lack a support network and the skills to do meaningful work after they turn 18 years old and have to leave the homes. They can fall into the traps of homelessness, substance abuse, trafficking, and crime.

Transforming Futures will teach these teenagers professional skills, connect them with foster families and mentors, and provide opportunities for counseling and spiritual guidance. We hope to put them on a path to self-sufficient and productive lives.



# HOW TO SUPPORT US



**DONATE.** You can become a monthly donor or give a one-time donation.



**VISIT** Guatemala by coming on a Quick Trip. During these three-day trips, you will work side by side Transforming Futures staff, pray with community members, and see our mission in action.



**SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER.** We send monthly newsletters with updates about our work.  
<https://transformingfutures.org/newsletter/>



**FOLLOW US** on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.



**SPREAD THE WORD.** Tell your coworkers, friends, and family about Transforming Futures.



**PRAY** for our team's health and safety in 2022.



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