

T.R.E. L'IB'E'

The Ripple Effect's 2017 Newsletter

YEAR IN REVIEW



THANKFUL

At this time of year, we at T.R.E., reflect on the many miracles we have witnessed throughout 2017 while working with the Ixil villages in northern Guatemala. These simple, loving and kind people, descendants of the Mayan civilization have taught us a lot about shared comfort, the human heart and the spirit of a beautiful people.

With the love and support of our wonderful donors, T.R.E. has been able to bring fully funded project resources to co-implemented with the Ixil villages. It is our hope that through the implementation of diversity in diet, clean water, vented stoves and permaculture systems, we have created sustainable improvements of lifestyle and health which will last into perpetuity.

We are so grateful for the opportunity to serve the Ixil.

MAJOR PROJECTS IN 2017

CLEAN WATER / SANITATION

We Organize village teams to build simple reservoirs to collect rain water, implement conveyance systems, village distribution and faucets to provide fresh, clean water on tap. We provide water filters. We build eco-friendly composting latrines.

IXIL EDEN PROJECT

We have developed a centrally located site to establish permaculture gardens, plant nurseries and animal husbandry facility. It will include facilities to create and test various technologies and a training center for nutrition, hygiene, food preparation and healthcare. Creating a diversified diet will help fight malnutrition and avoid crop failures due to blight.

SUSTAINABLE FOOD

We distribute diverse heritage seed packages, a variety of small animals and educate the Ixil people in garden cultivation, animal husbandry and composting.



CLEAN WATER & SANITATION

CAPTURING WATER

We continue to build concrete rain water collection tanks and have put in piping to syphon water from natural springs and deliver to needy villages.

WATER LOCAL DELIVERY

We organize local villagers into work teams to lay pipes, install pumping and create clean reservoirs for water containment. The teams install local pipes and faucets for access. We also distribute manual water filters for people who are waiting on infrastructure projects.

This year we have added 450 end faucets and delivered 200 water filters.

LATRINES

We have developed a simple composting latrine build which is movable for permaculture farming practices. Through the introduction of the latrines we have incorporated a hygiene education which benefits the health of the community.

This year we have built 70 movable composting latrines. We have completed a hygiene training and plan on rolling it out to 500 families (40 classes)

Learn more...

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IMPACT STATEMENT

WHAT WE FOUND

People were using open muddy cisterns to collect water that became fouled or collecting it from local streams, sometimes often downstream from where they eliminated. Walking for miles through rough terrain was a daily way of life for many just to collect only as much water as they could carry.

CHANGE FOR IXIL PEOPLE

Piped water from remote collection points to the villages with enough pump pressure to service many faucets for local use. 10 year water filters for those not on the water system yet. Local water is becoming common to their daily life.



FUTURE VISION

2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We burned the mortgage and owe no debt on the Ixil Eden farm / training center. Training center, bunk building and out buildings are built. Tree nursery, planting areas and aquatic farming development is all underway.

FUTURE FULFILLMENT

The Ixil Eden Training Center will provide 15 major sources of aid to the surrounding 20 villages T.R.E. supports.

IXIL EDEN PROJECT

HORTICULTURAL CENTER & NURSERY

Setup a full scale testing, propagation for permaculture local farming plants , technologies and practices to support 20 surrounding Ixil communities.

TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL CENTER

Created nutrition and hygiene training program and will roll out to 500 families in 2018.

EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT & STORAGE

Central storage and management of equipment and assets which can be shared among the communities, developing certain economies of scale for future projects.

INTERN AND STAFF LIVING QUARTERS

Built buildings for housing staff, interns and visiting guests. Creating a training center, complete with a kitchen and food lab.

MISCELLANEOUS NEEDS

T.R.E. distributed 200 blankets, 75 baby quilts, 1000 coats, pants and shirts and built 60 animal corrals / chicken coops.

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IMPACT STATEMENT

WHAT WE FOUND

Food sources lacking nutritional and agricultural diversity, subject to blight and nutritionally starving people. Results of infant mortality and children with developmental issues.

CHANGE FOR IXIL PEOPLE

Diet diversity with incorporating more vegetables, animal protein, and fruit. Education on permaculture farming, nutritional and cooking classes, vented stoves and access to fresh water have improved the lives of the Ixil.

SUSTAINABLE FOOD

FAMILY GARDENS

Distributed 75 pounds of new seeds for vegetables and 3000 fruit trees.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Delivered 50 pigs and 30 chickens. We hope to improve this program for 2018. Donations needed. \$30 buys a pig or 2 chickens. The animals are used to produce fertilizer for gardens, eggs for eating and off-spring for pro-creation.

PERMACULTURE AND NATIVE CULTURE

Training, education, experimentation and implementation continues in the development of a permaculture supported environment for the Ixil villages.

TEACHING: COOKING & PERSERVING

Developed and translated training materials on nutrition and hygiene. Started training program with Ixil locals as co-trainers for 40 classes impacting 500 families.

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HOW TO HELP

We understand that not everyone can be a big donor even when your hearts are big. However, now through our partnership with Crowdwise, T.R.E. can accommodate even a \$10 donation!

Here's an idea of what a difference a small donation can make:

- \$7.50 buys a blanket or pair of shoes
- \$5 for a backpack or package of plant seeds
- \$25 for garden fencing of 15 sf area
- \$20 a package of 5 fruit trees
- \$30 a pig or 2 chickens
- \$60 for a 10 year water filter
- \$100 vented stove
- \$100 adds a family to fresh water system
- \$80 sanitary movable composting latrine

T.R.E and the Ixil work teams supply everything else!

Also, our Crowdwise fund raising website (<https://www.crowdrise.com/tre-ixil>) has a recurring payment option for the smaller donor. \$10 per month automatically sent so you don't forget! ☺ It beats Starbucks or McDonalds and we promise it will go to the best possible use.

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THANK YOU - LARGE & SMALL

Thank you again, to all our supporters and donors. Without you, nothing would be possible. As you know, T.R.E. works with a very small budget. Less than 3% to pay for transportation and Ixil labor costs. So nearly all of your generous donations go directly into project resources and improvements for the Ixil people.

Special thanks to the following organizations who have funded large projects for us; Not in any particular order:

Gig Harbor Rotary
Miracles in Action
Susanna Badgley Place
Herrod Foundation
Red Tanscar

Pelican Bay Rotary
Moorings Presbyterian
Cole Foundation
Hand Family Foundation
Sanibel Captiva Rotary