



Safe Passage
Camino Seguro

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



Safe Passage is a US-registered 501(c) (3) organization. Camino Seguro is a Guatemala-registered non-governmental organization.

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[youtube.com/SafePassageVideo](https://www.youtube.com/SafePassageVideo)

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF PROGRESS

REMEMBERING OUR FOUNDER

Hanley Denning was a woman of compassion, determination, and vision. In 1999, upon witnessing children and adults scavenging in the Guatemala City garbage dump, her life was forever changed. Inspired to create what is now Safe Passage, Hanley devoted her life to empowering children from one of Latin America's largest landfill communities to break the cycle of poverty through education. Although Hanley died tragically in 2007, we remember her smile, her encouragement and love, and her profound belief in the potential of every child. This year, we celebrate the growth, progress, and success Safe Passage has achieved in 15 years.



"My dream is that these kids will one day be running the program."

Hanley Denning
Portland Press Herald, August 2003

INTRODUCING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TODD AMANI

It has been incredibly exciting for me to take over as Executive Director starting in January. Having served with USAID in Guatemala from 2001–2007, I developed a strong passion for Guatemala and its people. I first learned about Safe Passage through my wife, Mary Jo. She volunteered alongside SP founder, Hanley Denning, in the small church across from the dump, soon after Safe Passage began. Returning to Safe Passage, I am impressed to see how the program has expanded to reach over 550 children. Some of the children I met years ago are now graduating. Our Próximo Paso (Next Step) program is helping them find employment or move on to higher education.

We have plans to do even more to fulfill our mission of hope, education, and opportunity. Moving beyond our dependence on local schools, we are transitioning from a half-day reinforcement program to becoming a full-day, private school. By adding 2nd grade this year, we now provide a full day of active and engaging education to 175 students (read more on page 6).

We have come so far, with your help, in the 15 years since Hanley first visited the dump and felt compelled to do something to help these children. Thank you—donors, sponsors, and supporters. YOU sustain our work and change lives. We look forward to 2015 as we add a full-day program for 3rd grade and contemplate major, new ideas for our work with this community in Guatemala City.

With gratitude,
Todd Amani, Executive Director



- 26 years with USAID including work in Guatemala & Mozambique
- Volunteer leadership in schools in Guatemala & Honduras
- Peace Corps volunteer in Costa Rica
- Experience managing relief efforts & comprehensive programs
- Fluent in English, Spanish, & Portuguese



THEN

1999

Staff members: 1—Founder, Hanley Denning

Volunteers: 5

Budget: Approximately \$5,000

Children served: 90 receiving a meal each day

Mothers served: 0

Family members touched: Unknown

Donors: Less than 40

Sponsors: 0

Children sponsored: 0

Services provided: Daily meal and shelter in a safe place

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF GROWTH



Safe Passage's original location—a small, run-down church across the street from the garbage dump.

2014

Staff members: 90 in Guatemala, 5 in Maine

Volunteers: 68 Guatemalan, 90 International and 90 Corporate

Budget: Over \$2 million

Children served: More than 550

Mothers served: 100

Family members touched: Nearly 2,000

Donors: 3,300+

Sponsors: More than 700

Children sponsored: 450

Services provided to students: Comprehensive education, nutritious meals and snacks, medical care, activities, professional development, and individualized support from tutors, social workers, and psychologists

Services provided to parents: Educational programs such as Adult Literacy and Family Nurturing, access to on-site medical clinic, monthly food bags, and Social Entrepreneurship opportunities

NOW



Our Educational Reinforcement Center with classrooms, a cafeteria, library, & medical clinic.



"I used to teach math and reading by drilling and repetition, but this is so much better. My students are learning to read, write, and do math better and faster. And they are engaged and busy in the classroom—I don't have any of the discipline problems I had before."

Safe Passage Teacher

CELEBRATING LEARNING

Full-Day Education for Pre-K through 2nd Grade

In 2013, we began our transition from being a half-day reinforcement program to becoming a full-day, private school. By providing eight hours of instruction and loving care to our youngest learners, our students receive *double* the amount of classroom time typically received in Guatemalan public schools. Utilizing the Planting Seeds teaching methodology, our students learn through hands-on activities and play. In contrast, most Guatemalan public schools rely on rote memorization and repetition.

Fully recognized by the Ministry of Education in Guatemala, our school has ninety-five Pre-K and Kindergarten students, forty 1st graders, and forty 2nd graders. In 2015, we will add two 3rd grade classrooms and look forward to adding an additional grade each year.

HOPE. EDUCATION. OPPORTUNITY.



"It's great that the school is the whole day because it means I don't have to drop everything at midday and come and pick him up and take him to another school. They provide everything he needs for school: pens, pencils, books, and uniforms."

Rosa Aguirre Marroquin,
Mother of 2nd grade student,
Cesar Leonel



"Music education helps students develop abstract thought, critical thinking, and communication skills. We are reinforcing their self-esteem and offering them positive forms of expression."

Noel Armando Arevalo Lemus, Creative Expression Program Coordinator



CELEBRATING CREATIVITY

Music, Critical Thinking, and More

Seventh grader, Luis Gustavo, shares, "Playing music is important because I can express myself and my feelings. Music class motivates me to come to Safe Passage every day." Music is just one of the many programs offered at our Educational Reinforcement Center (CRE). Attending local schools for half a day and Safe Passage for the other half, our 3rd—9th grade students come to the CRE for academic support. They participate in programs such as Computer Literacy, Creative Expression (Music and Art), Sports, and English. We provide each student with a healthy meal and snack, access to our library and Wellness Center (health clinic), support from Safe Passage social workers and psychologists, and most importantly—encouragement, love, and acceptance.

This year, our students were delighted when the Creative Expression program received several generous donations of new musical instruments and equipment: 3 keyboards, 20 guitars, 20 ukuleles, 2 microphones, a sound system, guitar rack, and a 2-day training workshop for key staff.



At times, students need specialized, one-on-one attention. Our Tutoring Program provides just that. This year we added 11 peer-to-peer tutors—student leaders who are tutoring younger students.

On weekends, students attend extracurricular activities like Breakdancing, Soccer, Urban Art, Ludiclub (Clowning), and Library Club.

CELEBRATING NEW OPPORTUNITIES



Our Social Entrepreneurship Program (SEP) offers practical business skills to about 50 mothers and a chance to leave the garbage dump for a life of financial independence through 3 major initiatives: Creamos, a women's jewelry business, the Sewing Initiative, and Family of Women where our most at-risk mothers make simple retail products and attend self-esteem workshops. Safe Passage also offers Adult Literacy classes and the Family Nurturing Program for mothers and families to learn and practice non-violent communication and conflict-resolution skills.

For more info, please visit creamosfuturos.com

“ Before, I couldn't even think about next week. Now, because of Safe Passage and Creamos, I'm planning not only my future, but my children's. ”

Aide Madrid, Mother & SEP Member

CELEBRATING HEALTH AND WELLNESS

SHARED BEAT

Shared Beat, a fellow non-profit and our partner in health and wellness, provides services to our students, families, and community members. Seeing between 70 to 100 patients a week, our medical staff provides basic medical care. Through one-week medical teams in February and July, 46 volunteers provided:

- Physical & visual screenings for more than 550 Safe Passage students
- Check-ups and evaluations of 615 family & community members
- Over 400 pairs of glasses
- Over 1,700 prescriptions for medication

Students Receive:

- Daily Vitamins
- Twice a year flouride treatments
- Health and wellness classes
- Nutritious meals and snacks



Shared Beat



CELEBRATING NEXT STEPS

Through strategic alliances with local businesses, universities, and Guatemalan professionals, our Próximo Paso Program helps graduates and upcoming graduates pursue jobs and enter higher education. Resume writing, interview techniques, and job shadowing are just a few of the skills students learn. With 51 high school graduates through 2013, we anticipate another 100 graduates by 2018.

MUCHAS GRACIAS TO OUR...

VOLUNTEERS

Classroom Assistants, Tutors, and Program Coordinators—just a few of the roles our volunteers fulfill. In 2014, 68 Guatemalan, 90 international, and 90 corporate volunteers dedicated their time and talents. safepassage.org/volunteer

FRIENDS GROUPS

Through local events and outreach, 13 Friends Groups in the U.S. and abroad spread awareness about Safe Passage and raise funds. Join one or start your own! safepassage.org/friends-groups

SPONSORS

More than 700 families and groups sponsor a Safe Passage child or mother. Sponsors make a personal investment in the lives of our students and sustain our work. 95 students are in need of a sponsor today! safepassage.org/sponsor

SUPPORT TEAMS

Through one week of service learning, support teams get to know our students and staff. In 2014, we hosted 26 teams of youth and adults. Join us in 2015—there's still time to form a team! safepassage.org/teams

VISITORS

Through a one-day tour, visitors see our work and the community we serve firsthand. In 2014, 920 people attended one of our tours. safepassage.org/visit

AMBASSADORS

As former volunteers and support team members, our 79 International and 16 Guatemalan ambassadors take the Safe Passage story home. safepassage.org/ambassadors

CELEBRATING CHILD SPONSORSHIP

After serving as a long-term volunteer in Guatemala and seeing firsthand the immense need, Harry Rosedale returned home with the desire to do something more. Knowing the important role sponsors play, Harry chose to sponsor Escuelita student, Maria Cristina. He shares, “we are excited to build a relationship through letters and photos... and encourage her as she goes through the program.” Sponsors provide financial support as well as much-needed hope and encouragement. **Watch an interview with Harry & learn how YOU can invest in a child or mother's future in Guatemala City by visiting safepassage.org/sponsor**



CELEBRATING ADVENTURE



Board member and grandmother, Dr. Deborah Walters, is kayaking 2,500 miles from Maine to Guatemala to raise awareness and funds for Safe Passage. Receiving support and lodging from churches, Rotary Clubs and friends of Safe Passage, Deb is stopping throughout her journey to give presentations and rest. We anticipate her arrival in Guatemala in Spring 2015 and wish her safe travels! **You can learn more and follow her journey at: safepassage.org/kayak**

Deb's story has been featured on:



Read these stories & others at: safepassage.org/news



WANT TO HELP?
safepassage.org/take-action

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

As of June 30, 2014

Richard Howe - President, US*
Sandra de Gonzalez - Vice President, Guatemala
Jacob Carter - Secretary, US
Wayne Workman - Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair, US*

Xavier Andrade - Guatemala*
Drew Casertano - US
Jordan Denning - US
Margeret Downing - US
Susan Egmont - US
John Gundersdorf - US*
Juan Mini - Guatemala
Guillermo Montano - Guatemala
Maureen Pennington de Riojas - Guatemala*
Ray Tripp - US
Deborah Walters - US*
Tania de Zedan - Guatemala

FINANCE COMMITTEE

* Denotes board members who also serve on the Finance Committee.

Maureen Ghublikian
Susanna Place

TREASURER’S REPORT

My fellow Board members and I recognize the financial imperatives of fulfilling Safe Passage’s mission. In the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2013, Safe Passage balanced an operating budget of approximately \$2 million, with gift and other revenues slightly exceeding expenses. We continue to have a high reliance on annual fund, sponsorship and other gifts to balance the budget and provide the care and services needed. In fact, over 90% of this year’s support came from donors. The balance of resources needed to finance our project comes as income from our modest endowment, and from the sale of goods, tour revenues, and program fees. The total of gifts for operations at Safe Passage exceeded our yearly goal. We are deeply grateful for this level of support and all that it makes possible for the children and families we serve.

The Board’s Finance Committee, indeed our entire Board, takes seriously our responsibilities to steward carefully the resources entrusted to us by generous benefactors. We monitor spending, cash flow, capital improvements, liabilities, and cash assets to ensure both excellence in what we do and long-term sustainability. We are proud to salute our 15th anniversary as an organization and to report that our finances are solid and well-maintained, thanks in no small measure to thousands of donors and a very dedicated staff—each deeply committed to our mission.

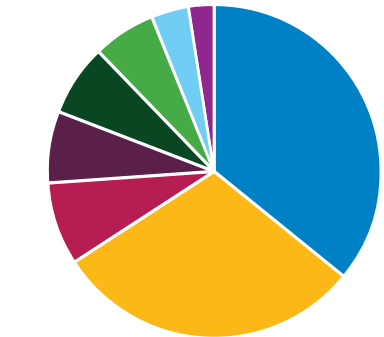
Wayne Workman, Treasurer



2013-2014 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

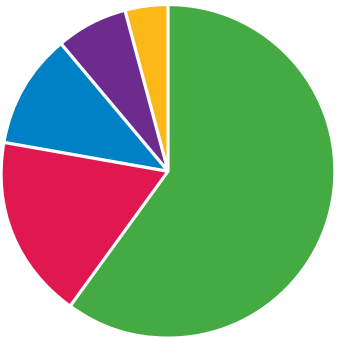
Data Reflects Figures From July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014

Sources of Operating Revenue



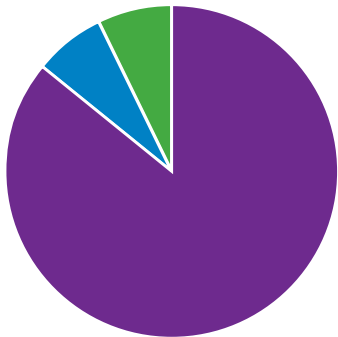
- Annual Campaign 38%
- Sponsorship 30%
- Grants 8%
- In-Kind 7%
- Endowment 7%
- Events 6%
- Teams 3%
- Other 1%

Program Breakdown



- Education 59%
- Nutrition 18%
- Family Services 11%
- Health & Wellness 7%
- Adult Literacy & Social Entrepreneurship 5%

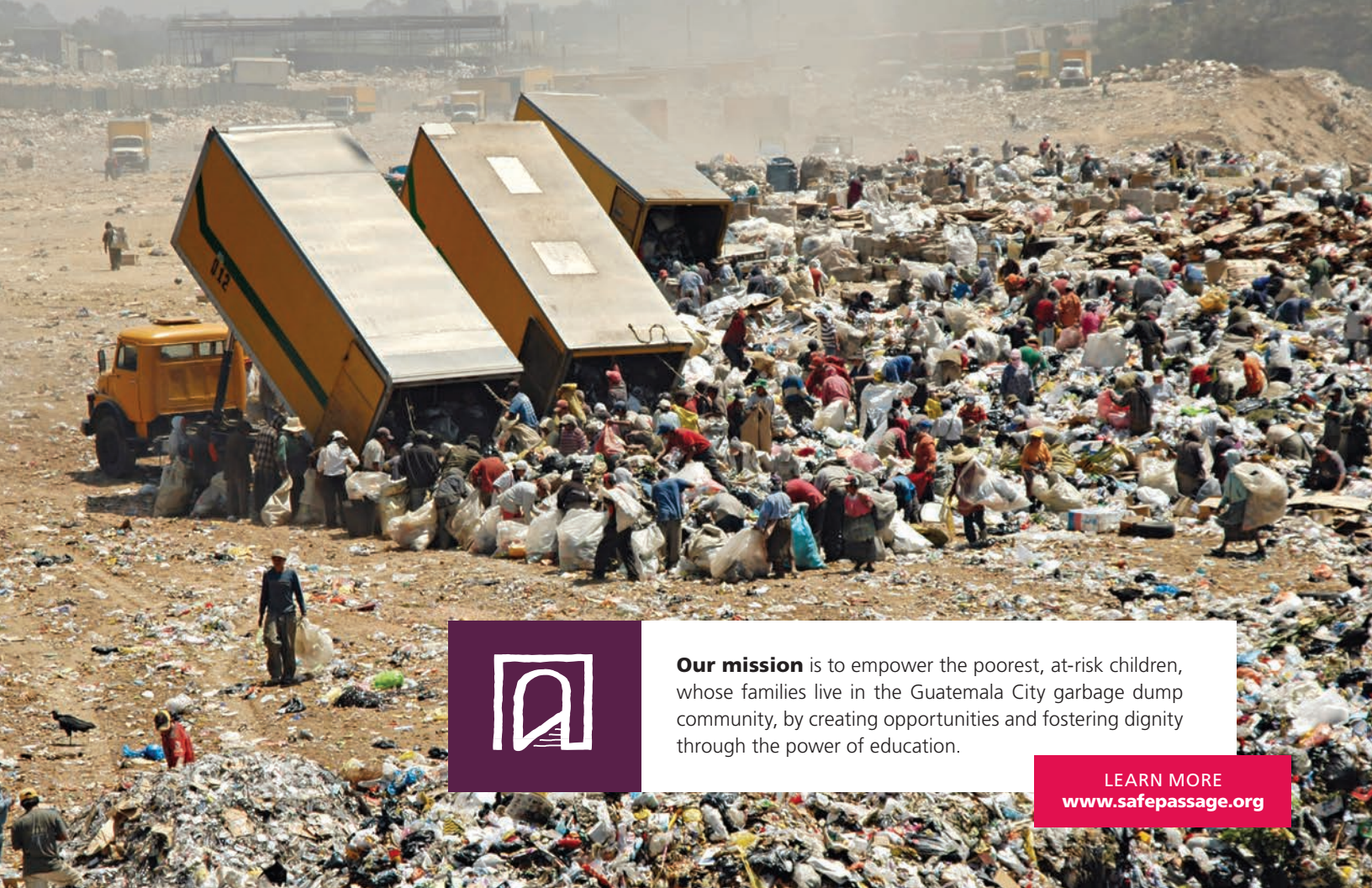
Use of Funds*



- Program 86%
- Fundraising 7%
- Administration 7%

*For Operating Purposes

To review our complete Financial Statement and IRS 990, audited annually by Macdonald Page & Co., LLC of Portland, ME visit safepassage.org/financials



Our mission is to empower the poorest, at-risk children, whose families live in the Guatemala City garbage dump community, by creating opportunities and fostering dignity through the power of education.

LEARN MORE
www.safepassage.org