OUR TIMELINE: TWO DECADES OF INSIGHT AND PERSERVERANCE IN PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

1999

Hanley Denning visits the Guatemala City garbage dump, compelling her to create Safe Passage to meet the educational and nutritional needs of at-risk children working in the dump.

2000-2001

Safe Passage becomes an official 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, inspiring donors, supporters, and volunteers from around the world.

2004

We open our Educational Reinforcement Center building (now the site of our Primary School) to provide after-school enrichment including a comprehensive tutoring and mentoring program.

2006

Family Nurturing, Adult Education and expanded Family Support are added to address the needs of families.



FRAN DOONAN WALTE

2020-2021

We add 8th and 9th grade classes to our Middle School, which is the culmination of our vision to provide students with a full-day education until high school. The pandemic also required the implementation of our innovative remote and hybrid-school options.

2019

The Middle School is inaugurated with our first class of 7th graders. Site preparation and construction begin on The McAdams Family Learning Garden and Playground and its Annex. The Board approves a three-year strategic plan that includes construction of a new middle school building on the "Blue Building" property, in fulfillment of our mission and vision.

2018

The Primary School is fully enrolled by adding 6th grade. A Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) pilot is successfully implemented in all primary grades. The school library expands to include bilingual books and on-line resources. A lot adjacent to the Primary School is acquired for a future playground and outdoor learning space.

2016

The Multipurpose Center is built with volunteer and in-kind contributions as a facility for all part-time program activities, including after-school tutoring, the Next Step Program, Creamos, skills building workshops, and Saturday clubs.

2015

The Expeditionary Learning culture and curriculum is formally selected as the guiding pedagogy for our primary and middle schools.

2014

In preparation for future grade expansion, a new property ("Blue Building") is purchased close to our primary school.

Creamos, our women's social entrepreneurship program, becomes a registered business.

2013

Next Step Program (Próximo Paso) is created to assist high school graduates transition to internships, jobs, and opportunities for continued education.

2007

Hanley Denning dies in a tragic car accident. The Fran Doonan Walter Early Childhood Education Center opens.

2009

Health Clinic is expanded with our partner, Shared Beat. The University of Washington Peace Garden is inaugurated.

2012

The Board of Directors approves transition from a half-day reinforcement to a full-day school of our own. The Colegio Experimental Hanley Denning is certified by the Guatemalan Ministry of Education. A database office is added to track all organizational inputs and outcomes.

