



Newsletter | July 2026



HALFWAY THROUGH 2026: what's built and what's needed

Sharing the Impact *You've Made Possible*

Seven years ago, Safe Passage began planning a Middle School built specifically for how our 120+ middle schoolers learn, create, and grow at this stage. That vision became a \$1 million building, inaugurated October 9 alongside our 25th Anniversary Celebration, with more than 100 supporters from the U.S., Europe, and Guatemala there to see dedicated classrooms, sports courts, and arts, music, and STEM spaces come to life.

We're now at the midpoint of 2026, and the classrooms, gym, and studios are finally filled with students every single day.



One of our teachers shared: *"Today I felt happy and fulfilled, happy to see my students excited to have facilities of their own for the first time, and fulfilled to see the years of work our team put in finally giving students the best we can."*

We recently released our Annual Report, and we invite you to read the full story behind this milestone and everything else your support has made possible.

[Read the Full Annual Report](#)

Why *Monthly Giving* Matters and a Special Opportunity

As we reach the halfway point of this year, a few giving trends have emerged that reflect the times we're in. Grants are at least three times more competitive than in previous years, and foundations with international funding priorities are even more stretched.

This has affected Safe Passage's ability to *win* new grants and renew funding that's reliably supported us in the past. At the same time, some individual donors who've given generously before are giving more conservatively amid economic uncertainty.

This is exactly why individual, month-to-month giving matters so much right now — and honestly, always. Consistent giving lets us plan thoughtfully and run the programs and services that create the greatest

impact.

Right now, a special match from a supporter who cares about the sustainability of our core programs is helping us go further. With **\$7,200** secured, any new monthly giving commitment — or increase to an existing one — will be matched dollar for dollar up to that amount.

Monthly donors giving **\$25+** will also have their name added to our Giving Wall with a hand-painted hummingbird tile, made by an Indigenous, family-owned business in San Antonio Palopó.

The wall keeps growing, showing our students and staff the strong community of people lifting this work.

To join in, click on the link below!

Become a Monthly Donor





How *Respect* Is Lived at Safe Passage

Respect is one of Safe Passage's six core values, alongside love, responsibility, collaboration, honesty, and belonging. It shows up in how staff treat students and families, and in how they treat each other.

Executive Director Erin Mooney puts it this way: "Our relationships with students and families should not be built on charity or pity, but on respect for the strength and agency they bring to this shared work... we do so as collaborators, *not saviors*."

Director of Development Rachel Meyn adds: "Respect also means having the courage to speak up against injustice, especially so our students understand that defending people's dignity isn't just allowed, it's everyone's responsibility."

Rachel reflects that respect often asks something of us, not just a feeling, but a choice to act.

Where in your own life have you had to make that choice?





Partnership Highlight: *Rentokil* - Healthy Learning Starts Behind the Scenes

Some of the most important contributions to education are the ones we rarely notice.

A healthy learning environment depends on much more than classrooms and textbooks. It relies on the daily systems working quietly behind the scenes to protect students, staff, and the spaces where learning happens.

For many years, **Rentokil** has generously donated comprehensive pest control services for Safe Passage, helping safeguard our kitchens, dining areas, and educational facilities. Their ongoing support also provides the pest control certifications required for our Early Childhood Center, and Colegio ensuring that our learning environments meet important health and

caregivers ensuring that our learning environments meet important health and safety standards while giving families confidence in the care we provide each day.

Their partnership continues to evolve alongside our needs. Most recently, **Rentokil** strengthened its support by installing fly control lamps in our kitchens and providing rodent monitoring systems that further protect our facilities and food preparation areas. They also donated a printer for our Middle School, giving teachers and staff another valuable resource to prepare educational and administrative materials that support students every day.

Rentokil's contribution reminds us that education depends on many things that often go unseen. Safe, healthy spaces allow students to focus, teachers to teach, and our community to thrive.

We are deeply grateful to **Rentokil** for walking alongside Safe Passage for many years—not simply as a service provider, but as a trusted partner whose quiet commitment helps make learning possible every single day.



Ready to *Visit Us*?

Visitors and volunteers get to see Safe Passage the way our students experience it every day: full classrooms, busy hallways, and a community that shows up for each other. Spending even a few hours on campus tends to deepen the connection people feel to this work. and many stay involved

deepen the connection people feel to the money, and many stay involved afterward as donors, advocates, and friends.

A single day on campus or a hands-on group trip both offer a real look at what your support builds.

To schedule a visit or learn more about joining a Support Team, write to info@safe.org.



Learn more about how to visit, volunteer, or travel with a support team by clicking below.

[Learn More](#)

Thank you for being part
of this community!

Seven months into 2026, your support has kept classrooms running,

sustained daily needs, and opened the door for more people to see this work firsthand. Here's to everything still ahead.

Warmly,
The Safe Passage Team



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