



**JANUARY 2012 UPDATE**

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[Volunteer Today!](#)

[Weaver's Complete Sewing Classes](#)

[Generosity Keeping Kids in School](#)

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Banner Photo - *A family that benefits from Xela AID assistance takes a moment to pose for Katherine Sanchez, coordinator of Xela AID's PEX program in Guatemala. To sponsor a child, contact PEX Director [Patricia Maxwell](#).*

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**Sew Exciting!** -- Women from Xela AID's weaving cooperative enjoyed in-depth training. (See story, [this issue](#).)

**WE'RE PROUD OF OUR  
NUMBERS**

Dear ,

This marks Xela AID's 20th year of service, which we'll celebrate this coming December! We have much to be proud of, and look forward to keeping you up to date on our progress in 2012. Our work is made possible by your generosity as a volunteer or funder, and we are most grateful for your support!



We have finished tallying 2011 contributions, so look for your end-of-year letter for tax purposes later this month. We also wish to thank all those who made purchases in our new [Marketplace](#) and will put proceeds from your purchases to good use! (Birthday? Holiday gift? Remember to shop with us!)

In 2012, we hope you may join us on one of our 20th Anniversary [Volunteer Vacations](#). You can also help from the comfort of [your own home](#). Your efforts will make an important difference in the lives of others!

We wish you health, prosperity and joy in the coming year!

Warm regards,

**Leslie Baer Dinkel**, President  
*and the Xela AID Directors*  
**Carlos de la Rosa, Frank Long, Mel Dinkel,**

Many charitable organizations spend 30% and more of contributions on office space and administrative overhead. We are proud that Xela AID is able to apply 98% of your valued contributions directly to funding projects in Guatemala!

Of Each \$1 You Contribute:

**90 Cents** · Goes directly to health, education and other projects you've elected to support that directly benefit underserved children and families.

**8 Cents** · Augments other donations to pay our doctor, medical director and caretaker at Xela AID's June Russel-Glennon Clinic and Community Center in San Martín Chiquito. These professionals are there weekdays serving the needs of the community.

**2 Cents** · Covers the minimal costs of staying in touch with you and our other supporters (largely, without cutting down trees) including costs of our website, email, newsletters, and postage.

**ZERO!** · What we spend of your donations on employees in the U.S., expense accounts, office space, or telephones. This is possible because our Xela AID Board of Directors is 100% volunteer and our office is efficiently virtual!

Thank you for your support!

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## ABOUT US

*Xela AID recognizes that education is key to overcoming poverty and to creating abundance.*

*We aspire to ensure that every child in our current area of focus is safe, healthy, well-nourished, educated and equipped to be self-reliant.*

*Xela AID partners to address the health, socio-economic and environmental challenges that threaten well-being and pose*

**Patricia Maxwell and Sheryl Fontaine**

P.S. Look for our **2011 Honor Roll of Donors** in our next edition.

Like us on Facebook 



### WOMEN FROM XELA AID'S COOPERATIVE COMPLETE FIRST-LEVEL SEWING CLASS

The excitement in the air was palpable the first day of sewing class held in Xela AID's dental room at the Clinic in San Martín. "The ladies had all been very enthused about this day," said **Luis de León**, Xela AID's director in Guatemala. Luis spent a month gathering sewing machine's to borrow for the span of the classes.

The ladies in training are augmenting their skills as weavers to be able to fabricate purses and other products to maximize their profits. Thirteen women participated in the 6-month course.

This training was made possible through the **Karen Edwards Women Empowerment Fund**, fueled this year by numerous donations. A warm thanks to all who supported this fund!

*obstacles to learning.*

*We pursue an integrated model of community development, and solutions that are comprehensive, sustainable, scaleable and transferable.*

**The important work of Xela AID is made possible by the generous gifts of ordinary people who wish to do extraordinary good for others -- people just like you! Learn how to get involved, or donate now.**

## **CALENDAR**

### **20TH ANNIVERSARY VOLUNTEER VACATIONS**

**JUNE 2-JUNE 14, 2012**

**\* Application Deadline: 3-1-2012**

**JULY 21-JULY 29, 2012**

**\* Application Deadline: 1-31-2012**

**JULY 29-AUGUST 9, 2012**

**\* Application Deadline: 3-1-2012**



*Xela AID Volunteers and local friends at Lake Atitlan, summer 2011.*

Lend your time and talents to the development of the community of San Martín Chiquito and surrounding communities. For more information, click above.

### **CELEBRATE CLAREMONT FAMILY FESTIVAL**

**\* JUNE, JULY, AUGUST**

Benefits Xela AID. For more



### **THROUGH "PEX FOREVER" FUND, DONORS BRIDGE THE GAP**

Xela AID's educational scholarship program (PEX) continues to grow! Sponsors who signed on last summer welcomed eleven new students to the program. From time to time, a sponsor is unable to continue with their sponsorship, and rather than abandon the student, Xela AID created the "PEX Forever" fund to bridge gaps in sponsorship. Thank you to the many PEX Forever supporters who contributed in 2011!

Currently, four students who are in the PEX program need new sponsors, but are able to continue their studies without interruption because of the PEX Forever Fund:

**Dejri Madeleina Hanstein Perez** lives in the village of San Martin with her mother. She is an outgoing young lady, leading her peers in activities when we visit the community and go

information, click [HERE](#).



**Xela AID Partnerships for Self Reliance**

3571 Windspun Dr.  
Huntington Beach, CA 92649  
<http://www.xelaaid.org>  
[xela\\_aid@earthlink.net](mailto:xela_aid@earthlink.net)



**YOU CAN RAISE MONEY FOR XELA AID BY "GOODSEARCHING"**

Most of us search the Internet. Did you know that by using GoodSearch as your search engine, you can raise money for Xela AID each time you search? It's a great search engine, rivaling Google or others you may use. Why not switch and make your searching count?

**Switching to GoodSearch with Xela AID as your beneficiary is easy:**

Simply go to [GoodSearch](#) and follow their easy, step by step instructions. Xela AID will show as "Xela AID, Avalon." That's us!

Thanks ahead of time for GoodSearching to benefit Xela AID!

on outings with the students. She is 12 years old and attends the elementary school near her home.



*Dejri Madeleyzni Hanstein Perez*

**Andrea Yesica Gomez Ramirez** has been in our scholarship program since 2007. She is in elementary school, at the age of 12. Her annual sponsorship right now is \$275. As soon as she begins high school, her tuition needs will increase and the annual sponsorship will be \$375.



*Andrea Yesica Gomez Ramirez*



*Eddy Rolando Cabrera Molina*

**Eddy Rolando Cabrera Molina** lives in Concepcion Chiguirichapa, just outside of San Martín, with his mother. At the age of 12, he is in elementary school. His current annual tuition needs are \$275 and will be \$375 once he starts high school.

**Ilicia Catarina Lopez Vasquez** is a vivacious 13 year old living in San Martin with her family. Her older sister Claudia Dionicia Lopez Vasquez graduated from our scholarship program in 2009. Ilicia is in elementary school.



*Ilicia Catarina Lopez Vasquez*

Sponsorship for children in elementary school is just \$275 per year, \$375 per year for children in high school. Do you the ability to sponsor a child for about \$1 a day? If so, please contact program director [Patricia Maxwell](#) who will be happy to connect you with one of these hard-working children!

**Look for an update from Xela AID each month. Thank you for your continued interest and support!**

*"Poverty must not be a bar to learning and learning must offer an escape from poverty."*

--Lyndon B. Johnson



Try it FREE today.