



Casa Guatemala 2025 Program Report

October 2025

Heather Graham

www.casa-guatemala.org





Project Summary 2025

In 2025, Casa Guatemala consolidated its role as a pillar of comprehensive development in the Río Dulce region. Thanks to the continued support of donors from around the world, our institution provides education, nutrition, and health services to a total of 214 children and young people. This population comes from more than 30 isolated communities in Izabal and Alta Verapaz, and the majority are of the Q'eqchi' Maya ethnicity.

Of the 214 beneficiaries, 194 students are enrolled in our primary school; 13 students participate in our basic and vocational education programs, 85% of whom are girls; and 7 students are alumni who live in the village of Las Brisas and receive support in the form of school supplies and daily boat transportation to attend secondary school in the town of Fronteras Río Dulce.

Our total enrolment includes 52% girls, reflecting our commitment to gender equality. In addition to quality primary education, and thanks to our partnership with 1Bot and the BI Foundation, we have integrated Digital Literacy and STEM for sixth-grade and middle school students, ensuring they acquire essential skills for the future.

The program's success is based on holistic care, which includes providing daily nutritious meals and primary medical, dental, and psychological care at our on-site clinic.

Casa Guatemala has a team of 44 local professionals, 59% of whom are women, guaranteeing culturally relevant care and strong female leadership. This commitment to comprehensive development and leadership training within the community is the driving force behind building a more just and equitable future.

Mission:

Casa Guatemala seeks to provide a quality education, healthy meals and primary medical care in a loving and safe environment to the vulnerable children from the Eastern Region of Rural Guatemala.

Vision:

Casa Guatemala strives to equip the children in its care with the skills and education necessary to become upstanding and empowered citizens of their communities in order to break the cycle of poverty and abuse from which they come. To help Casa Guatemala to become more self-sufficient through the social enterprises it runs, which provide financial support and meaningful job training for the youth of the communities they serve.

Our Team

Heather Graham
Executive Director

Lilian Duarte
General Director

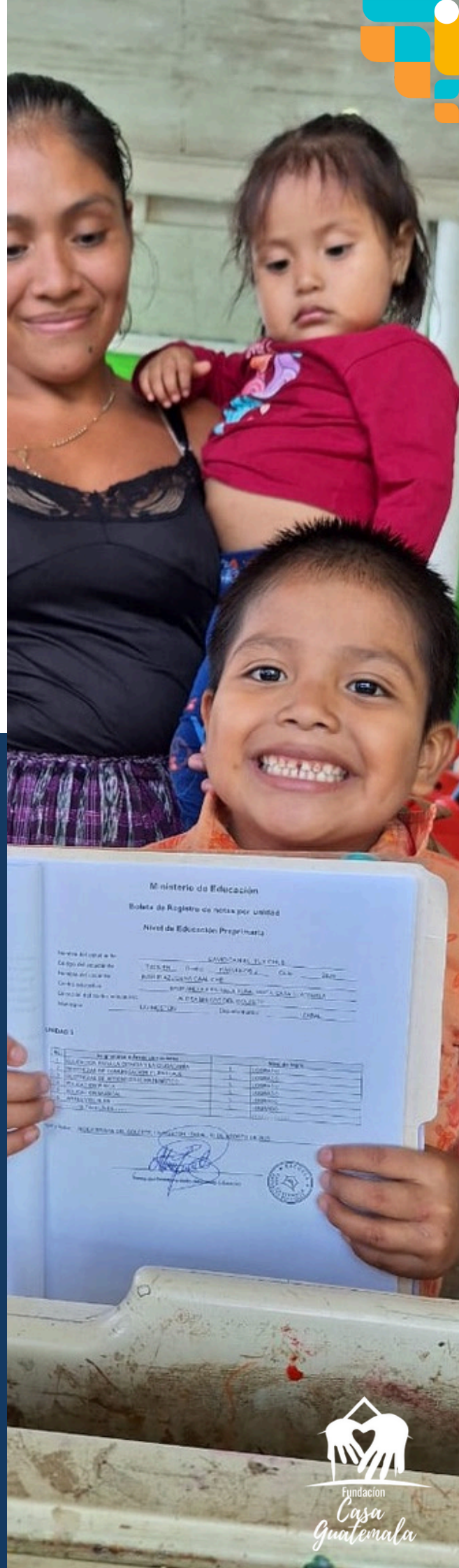
Yadira Navas
Preschool Program Supervisor

Maria Elena Pop
Boarding Program Supervisor

Elmer Ramos
Director of Administration and Board President

Armando Milla
Head of Maintenance and Transportation

Total Employees: 44



Education Program Summary

Education is the fundamental pillar driving Casa Guatemala's vision to transform lives, ensuring access to quality, equitable, and comprehensive schooling for children and young people from remote communities in Izabal and Alta Verapaz. Our program addresses the high rates of dropout and low literacy historically prevalent, particularly among Indigenous girls.

In 2025, the program benefits a total of 214 students. Of this population, 194 are enrolled in our Mixed Rural Primary School (from Pre-K to 6th grade), with an enrolment that maintains gender equity, as 52% are girls. Furthermore, Casa Guatemala ensures educational continuity through scholarships for 13 students in the Junior High (Básico) and High School/Vocational (Carrera) levels, 85% of whom are girls, and supports 7 alumni with transportation and supplies so they can attend secondary school in Fronteras Río Dulce. This focus on higher education is crucial for developing future female leaders.

The curriculum extends beyond academics; the school is registered with MINEDUC (Ministry of Education) and offers a holistic education that integrates English, art, music, and sports. Our boarding program provides a safe environment, allowing the children and youth to concentrate on learning, away from child labor and violence. It is a 24-hour care and guidance model where house supervisors complement classroom instruction with experiential workshops on emotional intelligence, morals, values, respect, and coexistence, all essential for comprehensive character development.

Technological and financial innovation is a priority, especially thanks to the partnership with Fundación BI. Together, we have implemented the 1Bot program to introduce Digital Literacy and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) learning to students in sixth grade and the junior high level, ensuring they acquire essential skills for the future. Additionally, Fundación BI sponsors classes in Financial Education for all grades in our primary school, as well as for the secondary school in Las Brisas, promoting responsible resource management from an early age.



Nutrition Program Summary

The comprehensive development of every child and young person depends directly on adequate nutrition. The Nutrition Program is a fundamental pillar in combating chronic malnutrition, a significant challenge in the region, and in optimizing our students' academic performance by eliminating a critical barrier to learning.

In 2025, Casa Guatemala projects serving a total of 228,460 meals to the children and young people. This service ensures 24/7 food security for boarding students by providing five daily mealtimes (breakfast, two snacks, lunch, and dinner), in addition to a school feeding program for day students. The provision of balanced diets, rich in proteins and nutrients, is essential for the energy and concentration required for the educational process.

To foster sustainability and education in healthy habits, food security is linked to our integrated farm. Children actively participate in cultivating and caring for fruits, vegetables, and animals, learning about the origin of food. This farm annually produces an average of 2,000 pounds of fruits and vegetables that are integrated directly into the children's diet.

To further bolster development and micronutrient intake, all children and young people receive a daily fortified protein drink. This supplementation ensures they receive all the essential vitamins and minerals necessary for a balanced diet and healthy growth.

Furthermore, to complete the learning cycle of the integrated farm and foster a comprehensive understanding of where food comes from, the institution raises its own chickens, ducks, and pigs. Students participate in the complete process, from care to the preparation and consumption of these animals on special occasions, connecting sustainability with tradition and nutrition.

In addition to the internal service, the Nutrition Program extends its impact to the community, serving as a relief from food scarcity. During 2025, the program projects distributing over 15,000 pounds of staple grains to all families of our school, and provides constant support to 20 other community families who seek our help monthly due to food insecurity. Finally, in coordination with the health team, constant monitoring of weight and height is carried out for the early detection of nutritional problems and the implementation of specific feeding plans.



Health Program Summary

The Comprehensive Health Program ensures the physical, dental, and mental well-being of the children and young people, complementing education and nutrition with high-quality preventive and curative care that is accessible in the region.

The internal clinic at Casa Guatemala serves an average of 5 to 10 patients daily. 80% of these are our students, ensuring constant monitoring of their health, while 20% come from nearby villages, extending our impact into the community. In addition to daily care, the clinic organizes the periodic vaccination of all our children with the relevant doses and collaborates actively with the national health center, providing logistical support with boat transportation for their medical campaigns in neighboring villages. In 2025, this coordination was fundamental in successfully controlling and mitigating the dengue outbreaks that affected the area.

To reinforce specialized care, the clinic receives international medical teams at least twice a year, who conduct comprehensive examinations for all students and staff. This year marks a milestone with the expansion of health services: a fully operational dental clinic has been inaugurated. This new unit will host international dental teams, as well as local Guatemalan professionals and students, to address the dental needs of our children and expand outreach to 500 additional children from the surrounding communities.

In addition to daily curative care, our internal nurse conducts regular health and wellness workshops for the children. These workshops are crucial for fostering prevention and self-care, covering vital topics adapted to each age, including: age-appropriate sexual and reproductive education; promotion of proper hygiene habits; best practices for nutrition and exercise; and informative sessions on local bacteria, parasites, and diseases that can be avoided through the use of safe drinking water, handwashing, and other preventative practices.

Finally, Casa Guatemala plays an essential role as an emergency medical response provider in the community. We provide emergency boat transportation for local residents in need and cover the cost of the local ambulance service to ensure quick transfer to the nearest hospital, located 50 kilometers away. This support saves lives in a region with limited access to urgent healthcare infrastructure.





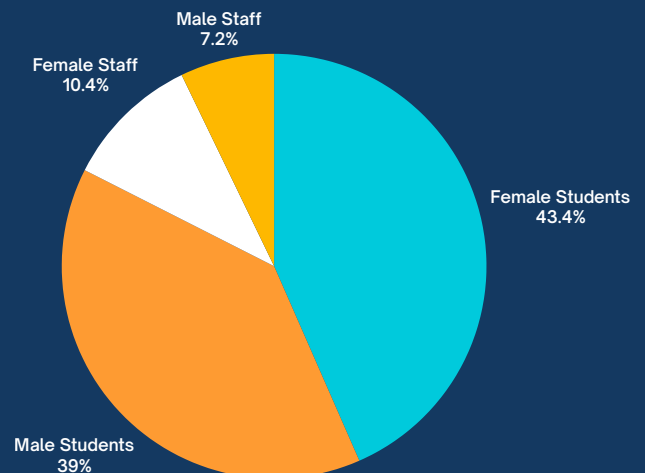
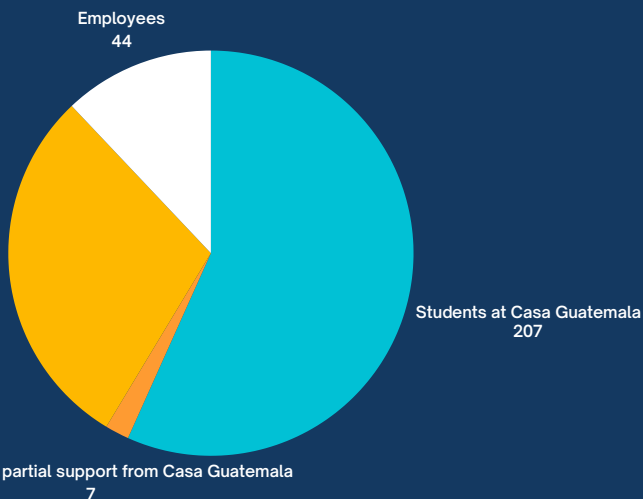
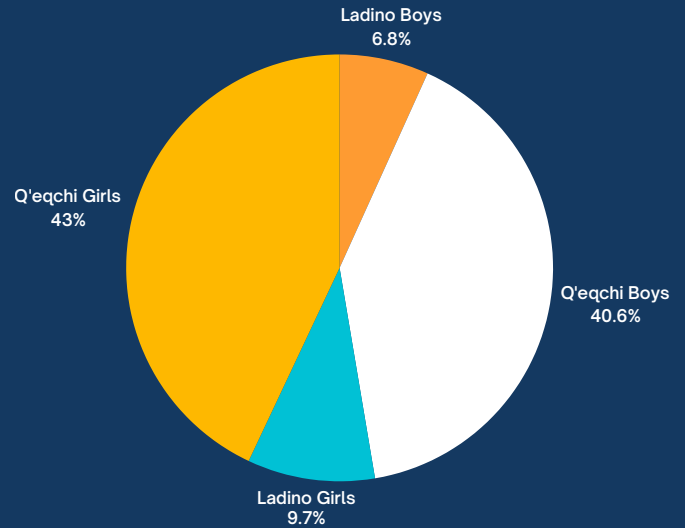
Casa Guatemala Statistics 2025



Years Old	Boys	Girls	Total
4	0	0	0
5	6	1	7
6	6	12	18
7	13	21	34
8	15	13	28
9	18	15	33
10	13	12	25
11	14	10	24
12	6	10	16
13	4	4	8
14	2	3	5
15	0	2	2
16	0	2	2
17	0	2	2
18	0	2	2
19	1	0	1
Total	98	109	207

Grade	Total
Jr Kindergarten	7
Sr Kindergarten	18
First	42
Second	38
Third	30
Forth	22
Fifth	18
Sixth	19
Middle School	13
Total	207

Position	Total	Women	Men
Directors	3	2	1
Accountants	3	2	1
Social Worker	1	1	0
Drivers	1	0	1
Psicologist	1	1	0
Teachers	15	10	5
Care Givers	8	7	1
Cooks	2	2	0
Nurse	1	1	0
Maintenance	8	0	8
Security	1		1

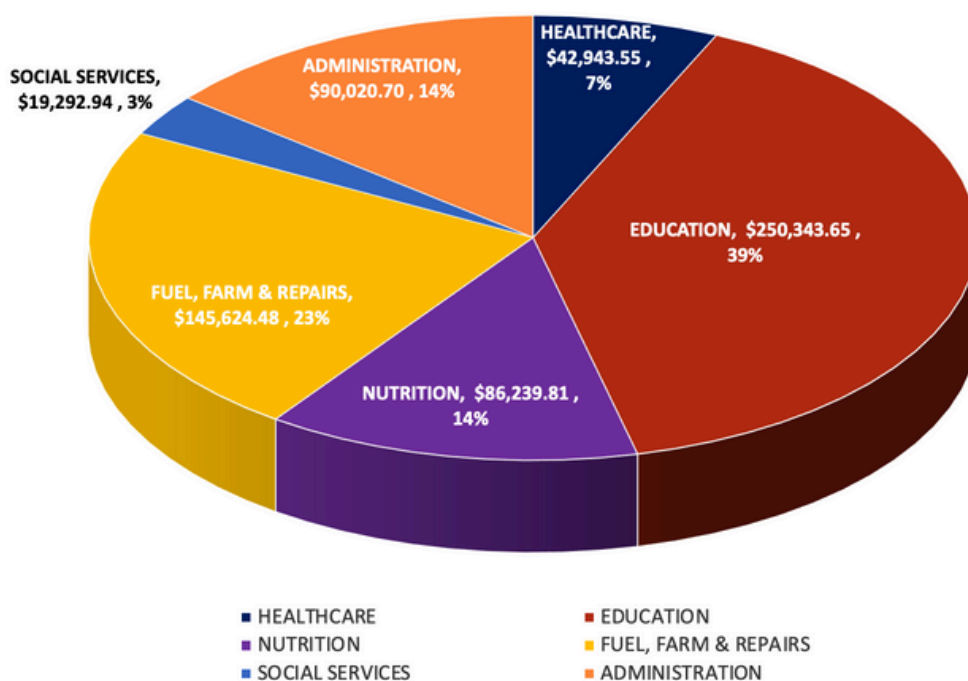


Students with partial support from Casa Guatemala
7

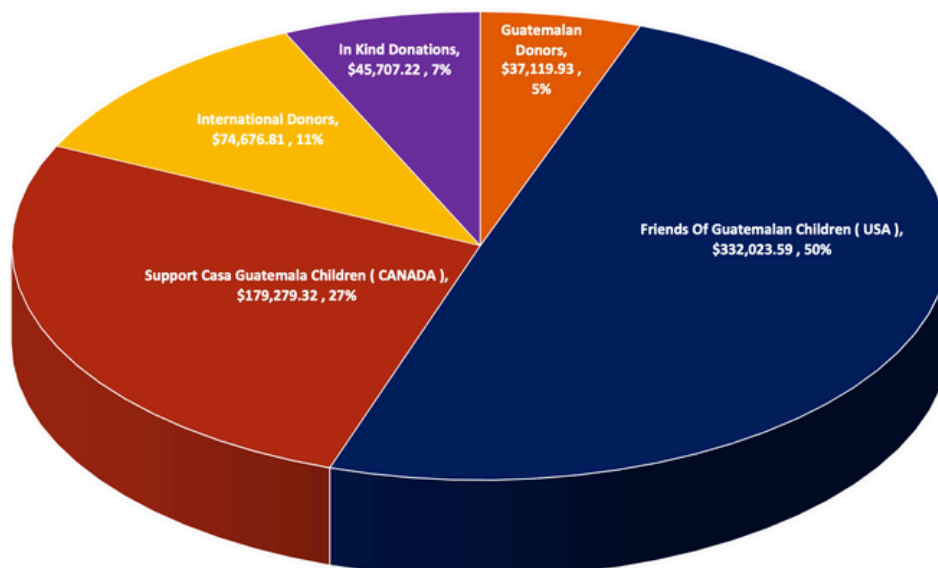


2024 FINANCES

CASA GUATEMALA EXPENSES 2024



CASA GUATEMALA INCOME SOURCES 2024





Thank you to our Major Donors!

We appreciate the support of our big and small donors!

Though we can't list everyone here, each and everyone of you are helping us to change the world, one child at a time!

Agua Viva International

Amy Baker and Friends

Anja Sadola

Asociacion Rescate

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Brighter Children

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