

Grant from P&G Alumni Foundation Fund Helps Bring Computers to Guatemalan Schools

(1/15/18 – Westwood, Cincinnati OH) Two middle schools in rural Guatemala will receive computers for the first time thanks to a \$15,000 grant from the P&G Alumni Foundation Fund of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation.

The \$15,000 grant will create two Computer Centers at Cantel and San Antonio middle schools in Guatemala's impoverished Western Highlands. The centers will provide 448 youth a year with the skills and training necessary to compete for better jobs in Guatemala. The grant will also help purchase fifty computers for the centers from Guatemalan providers.

An official ribbon-cutting ceremony on each of the two new Computer Centers will occur during CoEd's project tours in February 2018.

CoEd's self-sustaining Computer Centers are designed to improve traditional and technological literacy in the communities they serve. They provide the skills for young people to transform their own lives from poverty to opportunity. To date, CoEd has established 46 Computer Centers (serving more than 13,000 students) in the indigenous Mayan communities of Guatemala's Western Highlands. A recent study showed that 95% of Computer Center graduates have found employment or furthered their education.

One Computer Centers graduate, Roberto Xinico Tun, credits CoEd's Computer Center with giving him the skills needed to land a job at Banrural, a large, national chain. "I have a steady income and know I will be able to support my family," Roberto said. "It isn't like that with my parents and so many others in my town. Some of my friends who didn't have access to CoEd programs are farmers, and others went to the U.S. to see how life is there. Now they work in the fields or as gardeners. That could have been me." Instead, Roberto has set his sights on becoming a regional manager for Banrural.

The P&G Alumni Foundation Fund is part of the P&G Alumni Network's commitment to improving the quality of life by economically empowering individuals in need around the world.

Cooperative for Education helps students learn to read, graduate high school, and thrive throughout their entire lives. CoEd's mission is to help Guatemalan schoolchildren break the cycle of poverty through education. CoEd was founded in 1996 by two Xavier University graduates and has offices both in Cincinnati and Guatemala City.



These students from Cantel can compete for better jobs thanks to their skills from a new Computer Center.

For more information about CoEd, please visit www.cooperativeforeducation.org.

This project was funded in part by a grant from the P&G Alumni Foundation Fund of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation.

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