



San Lucas, Guatemala

Volume 2, Issue 2

November 2021

A'KALA Family Foundation

P.O. Box 52

Cologne, MN 55322

Dear A'KALA Family,

I am so thankful for your support of this ministry over the past few years! It takes each and every one of us to make this happen. In honor of those who we serve, I thank you!

Other things I am thankful for include;

- Mauricio who was born with 12 toes. With the help of Otto and Marcos Galindo, we were able to have boots made for Mauricio so he doesn't have to go barefoot.
- I am thankful that this brother and sister in the photo on the right no longer sleep on the ground, but in their own beds, in their remodeled house.
- With thanks to God, we will be traveling back to San Lucas in February and July of 2022.
- Your prayers and gifts of stewardship - offering your time, talent, and treasures to A'KALA.
- Countless other blessings that God gives us each day.

Thank you and please be assured of my prayers for you!
Father Brian Oestreich



Julie Cink -

Thankful.....

I am so thankful to God for our friends and partners in San Lucas that enable us to help the families and children. Especially during this pandemic, we have relied on them to continue the ministry of A'KALA, feeding the children and families, remote schooling (much more difficult without technology!) building construction, sponsorships etc. Looking back, we had received our non-profit status just months before the pandemic hit and haven't been able to travel to Guatemala for two years. With the help of our staff in San Lucas, we have been able to continue God's work, and for that I will be forever grateful! I am also grateful for my family and all their support of A'KALA, the board of directors and all the people who help to make this work possible. We couldn't do it without all of you! God Bless You!

Join us in San Lucas!

Our next visits will be February 4-11, and July 15-22 of 2022. Please know that because of Covid, there are many safe guards and extra procedures that we need to adhere to.

We will be staying and eating at The House of Healing, in San Lucas. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Father Brian. Each group is limited to 25 people.

One of the additions to our visits will spending part of a day IMAP. Here we will study the Mayan culture, language, and traditions.

Marcos Galindo-

I work as the group's tuk-tuk driver when they are in San Lucas. It is exciting and fun to be able to share with the group, since one gains experience, knowledge, friendship and above all love of the neighbor.

I am grateful to A'KALA for the opportunity to work. I am grateful for so many blessings that they have given to the town of San Lucas Toliman, to all the families that help the children, for the houses, for the groceries, and so much support. They are a great example of love for others. They are angels who came into people's lives to help them.

God bless A'KALA Family Foundation for all the work they do for people.



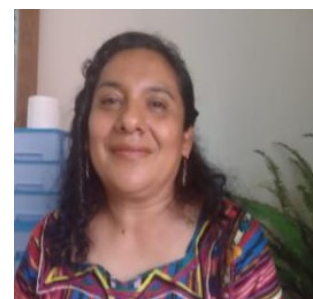
Chona and Sandra-

We give thanks to God, because the A'KALA Family Foundation has grown from a small seed, planted by people with good hearts, selflessly helping others, regardless of the social class, religion, culture, and economic status.

Because we have been given the opportunity to see the change in the lives of the people, and see the smiles of the kids that receive the items, there is no better way to express love than to love your neighbor and serve our community. We also get the opportunity to be with the kids alongside their education, nutrition, and helping with housing for them so they can create their home. Our prayers are for these families that are in difficult situations, right now we are living in a food crisis and so it is a huge support that these kids receive.

We are so grateful for the help, it wouldn't have been possible to assist 80 families, 400 people, through the foundation, and now they can enjoy the benefits of those donations given through the very generous support from everyone to help families in need. We have confidence in God that we will continue, with your support, to keep the smiles on the children's faces.

We are grateful for your donations, everything that we receive helps us to continue our work for a dignified life and development.



Contact information: Mallory Raymond- m.raymond@akalaff.org

Cody Schyma- c.schyma@akalaff.org Julie Cink- j.cink@akalaff.org

Meghan Stordahl - m.stordahl@akalaff.org Sydney Wittnebel- s.wittnebel@akalaff.org

Father Brian Oestreich- b.oestreich@akalaff.org or call 507-829-6667

Thank you so much for sponsoring a child through A'KALA Family Foundation! We are so excited to be on this journey with you. By sponsoring a child for one year, you provide them and their family with food and education opportunities. This includes monthly food distributions as well as costs for school tuition and supplies (such as uniforms, backpacks, etc.). See our website (www.akalaff.org) for more information on what your sponsorship covers

Here are some details regarding a sponsorship:

- * A donation of \$480 will sponsor a child for a year. You can choose to either pay this amount month to month or one time a year. We accept PayPal (via the website) and check payments. Please fill out the payment information below indicating how you would like to remit your payment and send either via mail in the enclosed envelope or by email (take a picture of the application or scan) to j.cink@akalaff.org.
- * Yearly payments are due on January 31. If you want a A'KALA sponsorship, please let us know!
- * Monthly payments of \$40 are payable via PayPal or check and are due on the first of each month.
- * We encourage continued communication between sponsors and the children/families. All correspondence from either party (letters, pictures, etc.) will be translated and shared via email. Our staff in Guatemala will ensure that these items are printed and given to the family.
- * If you have specific requests for gifts or donations (for birthdays, special events, etc.) please reach out to a board member and we will help make it happen.

Thank you again for partnering with us, and please contact us if you have any questions!

Indication of Payment

☐

Monthly payment of \$40.00-- due on 1st of the month

☐

Via check

☐

Via PayPal - you will receive invoices from PayPal

☐

Yearly payment of \$480.00 (If your sponsorship begins in the middle of the year, please pro-rate your yearly payment in your remittance- i.e. if your sponsorship begins in March, please remit the first year payment of 10 months x\$40 or \$400)

☐

Via check

☐

Via PayPal - you will receive invoices from PayPal

****Make checks payable to A'KALA Family Foundation (PO Box 52, Cologne, MN 55322)****

Prayer for the People of San Lucas

Loving God, you gave us the gift of life to serve You and Your children. We ask You, dear Lord, to help and bless the people of San Lucas, Guatemala!

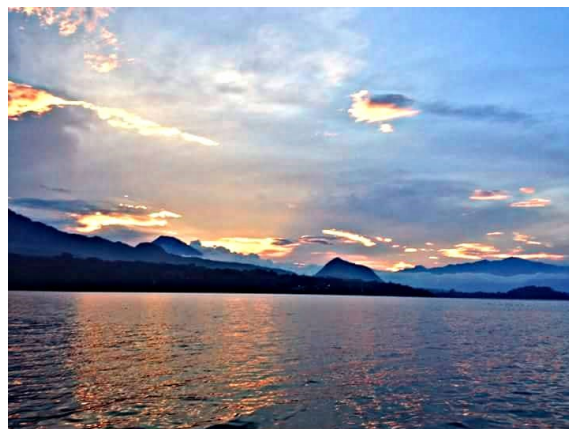
Please grant them happiness and good health, love and safety, prosperity and justice.

May they know of Your love for them through our prayers and support, and may their faith in You grow every day. May they help us, O Lord, see You through their unconditional love and acceptance. May we see You in their eyes, hearts, and homes.

We pray this with Saint Luke, Blessed Stanley Rother, Father Greg Schaffer, and all the holy innocent souls of the people of San Lucas.

A'KALA Family Foundation Mission Statement

A'KALA is a Christian charity committed to embracing hope for children and families by providing and sustaining basic life needs, including food, pure water, clothing, housing, health care, education, and employment skills, principally in San Lucas, Tolimán, Guatemala.



Support A'Kala Family Foundation while you shop!

AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to A'Kala Family Foundation. Simply shop at smile.amazon.com and choose "Akala Family Foundation" (no apostrophe) in the listing when you log in. Shop as you normally do and A'KALA Family Foundation will receive the benefits. What a great way to get your holiday shopping done and support your favorite charity in the process!

Giving Tuesday November 30 Facebook Competition.

Thanks to all of our donors, A'KALA Family Foundation received over \$4,000 last year for Giving Tuesday. Let's see if we can beat that number this year!

Fr. Brian Oestreich and Julie Cink will be having a competition on Facebook to see who can raise the most money for A'KALA Family Foundation! Check out their facebook pages; if you're not friends with them, become friends and donate for a great cause. Julie has more FB friends, but Fr. Brian has the priest collar. We will see who can beat whom for the most donations! Again this year, anyone making donations to A'KALA Family Foundation during the Giving Tuesday competition will have their name printed and given to an A'KALA family in San Lucas and they will be praying for you!

If you want to stay neutral, you can still donate via the A'KALA Family Foundation facebook page.

These donations will be used for Christmas food, gifts and other items for our families in San Lucas.

Foundation Board of Directors

Father Brian Oestreich ~ President ~ b.oestreich@akalaff.org ~ ph: 507-829-6667

Julie Cink ~ President Elect ~ jcink@akalaff.org

Mallory Raymond ~ Vice President ~ m.raymond@akalaff.org

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