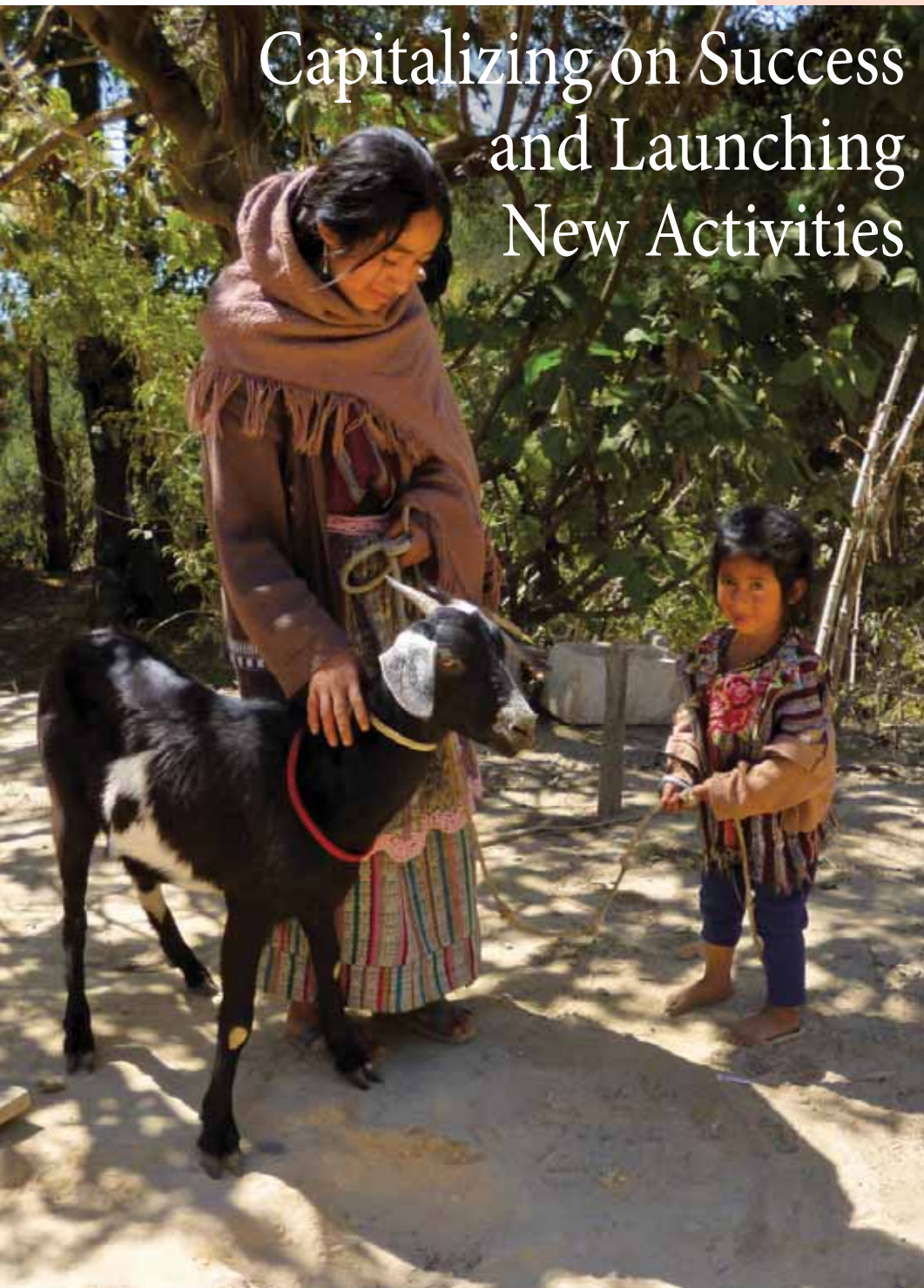




BPD



Capitalizing on Success and Launching New Activities



As you will read in this issue, our Guatemalan partner Asociación BPD (ABPD) is launching some exciting new activities to serve extremely needy communities, such as enhanced food production techniques, nutrition education and empowerment programs directed at women and youth. Some of you have asked how these new activities relate to the successful water, sanitation and nutrition work that BPD has been known for and which we know is effective.

Will you still be working with communities to provide water systems, smoke-free stoves and latrines?

Yes. We are continuing to make the provision of access to water a key focus of our program. Drinking clean water and having enough water to wash hands frequently is crucial to reducing the diseases which cause and exacerbate malnutrition. Latrines help ensure that the environment surrounding the home remains free of contamination. Reducing smoke inhalation in the home through smoke-free cook stoves helps children absorb the nutrients they need. Having water at the home also frees women and girls up to produce food and feed little ones.

Weren't you already doing home gardens?

In the future we will be focusing more attention on better growing techniques and on producing more

Thanks to a grant from Feed the Dream, ABPD is providing goats to families who are using their milk to better the nutritional status of their children.

Continued on page 4





LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

The last few months have been an amazing time for us, largely thanks to your help. Last month in Guatemala the BPD and ABPD celebrated the fact that we had a record-breaking year for fundraising and were consequently able to provide more people with water, and sanitation than ever. Furthermore, two of our nutritional centers “graduated” from our assistance. This means that the level of malnutrition in those communities is now so low that we think (and the communities agree) that they can continue the work on their own using the knowledge and resources we leave behind. This is vitally important as it frees us to begin new projects with some of the neediest villages in Chimaltenango where there is so much to be done.

This past month also brought home once again how truly challenging it is for the ABPD staff in Guatemala. The ABPD offices were ransacked and every computer, camera and projector was taken. Thanks to the generosity of several donors we quickly raised the funds to replace everything and upgrade security substantially. This includes hiring two security firms...an increasingly common practice in Guatemala. We are hoping that this will provide the protection necessary to keep working in this difficult environment.



What was incredibly impressive was that three days after the break-in, some of the ABPD staff were out in the field and ten days afterwards they were fully operational again. It was a tremendous show of resilience on their part and solidarity on the part of our donors.

Your past gifts to BPD make you a partner with the strong and incredibly resilient Mayan people. Your continued financial support and partnerships like that of the ABPD staff are essential to making

lasting changes in their lives, and empowering a stronger, more prosperous future – for themselves and their children.

We look forward to our continued partnership with you as we fight chronic malnutrition and bring improved health and better lives to the children of rural Guatemala and their families.

As always, I thank you for all you do.

With gratitude,

Victoria M. Ward
President, Board of Directors



Women from two Strong Family Centers “graduated” as they are now able to work on their own to address chronic malnutrition in their villages.



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

2012 is a very important year for the Mayan culture. December is the end of a more than 5,000-year era and the beginning of a new one. According to Mayan cosmology, the new era will bring a new way of life—not catastrophe as many people worldwide might think. At ABPD we want to be part of this big change, contributing to improve the quality of life for the Mayan population with whom we work.

To achieve this, we began implementing our new strategic plan focused on reducing the rate of chronic malnutrition among children in rural areas. In Patzún and Santa Apolonia, where we are concentrating our work, over 67% of children under age five are chronically malnourished.

We started two pilot projects in Patzún with staff specialized in nutrition, agriculture and social involvement to improve the nutritional conditions in the communities. At the same time, these projects give the population the opportunity and resources to become more participative and empowered; ABPD's goal is to serve as a facilitator.

ABPD also wants to be a model organization in terms of efficiency, so we are working with administrative experts to improve our accounting processes, and monitoring and evaluation skills and tools. At the same time, we're spreading the impact of our efforts by sharing our organizational skills, and technical expertise in chlorination and water purification, with other interested organizations.

Not all has been easy this summer. As many of you know, we recently suffered an office break-in here in Guatemala, losing all of our electronic equipment. This experience made us appreciate the extraordinary support network we have with our board of directors, donors and friends. In a very short time, they helped us to recover from this brief setback.



In Patzún and Santa Apolonia, 67% of children under age five are chronically malnourished.

We knew before that we were not alone, but now we're more aware than ever of the strength of our entire team of extended supporters. We invite you to continue to work together as a team on the enormous but not impossible challenge of reducing chronic malnutrition in Chimaltenango. I know we will have your support in the years to come to achieve this goal.

Thank you.

Paco Enriquez
Executive Director

BPD donors are saying...

I have been responsible for many Rotary projects in the past, and am happy to say that this is the best project I have ever been involved with. That is due to the great work of ABPD.

—Deborah Walters, Rotary District Governor, Main and Quebec



CAPITALIZING... *Continued from page 1*

protein-rich foods such as goats' milk and traditional staples. We will also focus more attention on working with climate-change resistant crops and storage techniques.

What is different about your new nutritional education program?

We will now focus more attention on **the first 1,000 days** (pregnancy and the first two years) because research indicates this is the key to reducing malnutrition. This includes providing women with education on nutrition during pregnancy, supporting them to continue their practice of prolonged breastfeeding and helping them learn how to wean babies with nutritious foods.

Why will you continue with family planning?

Having babies frequently contributes to families' inability to feed their children, so we will ramp up our efforts in family planning.

What else is different?

We are also planning to focus even more attention on empowering communities to solve their own problems. We will place great emphasis on empowering women and especially youth. This will include training older children and youth to participate very actively in the development process and working with their parents to encourage this participation. ■



Making Connections Across a Continent to Change Lives in a Village

The 256 families in Chipastor finally have running water in their homes, improved latrines and vented stoves, thanks in large part to connections facilitated by BPD between Rotary Clubs and organizations working in Guatemala, and other Rotary members hundreds of miles north in Maine and Quebec.

Chipastor is a large village 22 kilometers from the municipality of San Martin Jilotepeque. Women had to walk 35 minutes each way to the Pixcaya river twice a day to do their laundry and fetch water for cooking and cleaning.

Fifty-three District 7790 Rotary Clubs in Maine and Quebec wanted to help this village, but were not part of a Rotary pilot project in Guatemala. Then, BPD Board Member Sue Patterson introduced Deborah Walters, the clubs' governor, to Bruce Powell of the Centerville-Farmington Rotary Club of Utah. His District is part of the Rotary's pilot project with Guatemala.

The Maine and Quebec clubs were then able to provide the lion's share of the funding for improvements in Chipastor, and Bruce's club and District added \$12,000 in funding and



Deborah Walters, 2011-2012 Governor, Rotary International District 7790, Maine and Quebec, helps cut the ribbon at the inauguration of the Healthy Homes projects in Chipastor.

were able to submit the necessary paperwork to Rotary International. Bruce's club also brought in the Antigua Guatemala Rotary that was responsible for overseeing the project paying out the grant money. Rotary money paid for the water system, gray water filters and latrines, and the Create Good Foundation finished the Healthy Homes projects in Chipastor by providing funding for the vented stoves.

Sometimes, connecting the dots – or the organizations – makes all the difference. And that was the case this past spring thanks to this excellent and innovative collaboration among Rotary Clubs in Maine, Utah, Quebec and Guatemala, and the Create Good Foundation. ■





Recognizing Our Donors for Thoughtful Planning and Generous Giving

Behrhorst Partners for Development is pleased to announce the creation of the Dr. Carroll Behrhorst *Legacy Society* to honor those who partner in our work with indigenous communities in rural Guatemala through a gift in their wills or estate plans.

The Dr. Carroll Behrhorst *Legacy Society* recognizes our forward-thinking donors who notify BPD of their thoughtful gift planning intentions. We welcome those who have created provisions in their estate plan to benefit our work and who have informed us of their generosity.

We Would Be Honored

We invite you to make a difference and be celebrated for leaving the gift of a lifetime that will inspire future generations.

Please join with others as a founding member of the Dr. Carroll Behrhorst *Legacy Society*. Simply click [here](#) to download the Declaration of Intent form. Complete it and return it to us by mail, fax, or email.

The generosity of *Legacy Society* members – large and small – will enable BPD to continue to team with Mayan communities as they work to overcome poverty and disadvantage, securing their right to health and well-being.

Important Information to Assist You

Our legal name is Behrhorst Partners for Development. We are located at 2411 S. Superior Street, Milwaukee, WI 53207. Behrhorst Partners for Development is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Our tax identification number is 13-6266540.

Bequest Suggested Language

You may specify that your gift be used for general purposes of the organization which provides BPD with the most flexibility. Simply have your attorney insert the following language:

“I give, devise, and bequeath (insert dollar amount or percentage of estate) to Behrhorst Partners for Development located at 2411 S. Superior Street, Milwaukee, WI 53207, to foster and promote the growth, progress, and general welfare of Behrhorst Partners for Development as the Board of Directors may direct.”

BPD can help you and your legal advisors to design a planned gift that suits your particular needs.

Please contact Jennifer Turck, director of fund development at 607-749-2545 or jturck@behrhorst.org, if you would like more information about making a planned gift, or to let us know that you have made provision for such a gift in your will or estate plan. ■

Estate Gift Opportunities

Bequests

Specifying in your will either a dollar amount or percentage of your estate that you want to go to Behrhorst Partners for Development, while retaining the use of your assets during your lifetime.

Gifts of Real Property

Donating your home or other real estate to Behrhorst Partners for Development and receiving immediate tax benefits, even if you continue to live in your home. This keeps the property out of your taxable estate.

Life Insurance

Transferring ownership of a paid-up life insurance policy to Behrhorst Partners for Development and receiving an immediate tax deduction, as well as eliminating possible estate taxes.

Retirement Benefits

Naming Behrhorst Partners for Development as beneficiary of IRA or other retirement plan assets, eliminating substantial income and estate taxes on these assets at the time of your death. ■

Dedicated Rotary Clubs Work with BPD to Bring Fresh Water to El Pericon

An impressive group of New England Rotary Clubs and three anonymous donors have joined together to fund a BPD project that will bring fresh drinking water to El Pericon, a rural community of 75 families (450 people). The funding raised between the 19 clubs and three other donors will be used to build a complete gravity-fed water system with gray water filters and vented pit latrines.

Providing fresh water and better sanitation contributes greatly to BPD's goal of reducing childhood malnutrition. Children who have frequent gastrointestinal illnesses cannot absorb sufficient nutrients, even if their diets are nutritious. The critical funding for projects such as this one helps prevent the constant illnesses that afflict the population, particularly children.

The clubs are in Connecticut (Bloomfield, Broad Brook, Danielson, E-Club, East Hartford, Farmington, Glastonbury, Manchester, Rockville, Torrington, Watertown, Wethersfield/Rocky Hill, Willimantic and Windsor/Windsor Locks) and Massachusetts (Southwick, West Springfield and Wilbraham/Hampden). Two clubs from neighboring Massachusetts/Rhode Island District 7950 (East Greenwich and Wakefield, RI) also contributed to the project.

This is the seventh BPD project funded by these local Rotarians, continuing the Rotary International goal to have every Rotary Club support an international water and sanitation project every year. By working together and pooling their resources, the Rotarians have been successful in adding size and strength to their chosen projects.

Rotary District 7890's Water Committee Chair and Manchester Rotarian Rick Lawrence again spearheaded the drive to raise the necessary funds by making presentations about the project to the area clubs. In February, he and his wife traveled to Guatemala to visit the village that was funded the previous year. While there, he photographically documented the improvements and expressions of gratitude displayed by the members of the village, using these during his presentations to show the Rotarians how important their past contributions have been.

The anonymous donors, three sisters who have ties to Guatemala through adoption, also traveled to Guatemala last

year. When they saw the conditions in El Pericon, especially the plight of the women who had to walk to springs several times a day to collect water for drinking and hygiene, they were motivated to partner with the Rotary Clubs, providing funds to complete all of the projects in this village.

BPD salutes the great support of the Lawrences, these Rotary Clubs and the individual donors! ■



BPD corporate board member, Zoe Kopp, accepts the \$37,000 raised by 19 Rotary Clubs to fund water and other projects in El Pericon.

Break-in Update

When we put out the word about the loss and destruction associated with the break-in of ABPD offices in June, our loyal donors responded with characteristic generosity. In just a few days, we received more than \$12,000 to cover the needs in Guatemala. Paco and our hard-working staff have replaced everything stolen or destroyed and upgraded the alarm system. We are grateful to everyone who played a part getting operations up and running fully within a little over a week so that our work could continue uninterrupted. Thank you!

Guatemalan Staff Trains to Empower Communities

As noted in our March newsletter, BPD is focusing on empowering communities so that extended support from BPD or other outside groups won't be necessary over the long term. We're focusing on the empowerment and leadership of women and youth, education and access to family planning methods, adaptation to climate change, and—one of our strengths—work on water and sanitation, which helps reduce gastrointestinal diseases and improves intake of nutrition.

As part of this new strategic direction, the ABPD team in Guatemala attended a one week training course in July focused on an empowerment methodology called SARAR. SARAR stands for: Self-esteem; Associate strength; Resourcefulness; Action planning; and Responsibility. ABPD will be using the methodology in the communities where it works to empower the population – specifically, helping families become the main actors of their own development.

SARAR has been proven worldwide to be more successful than traditional methodologies used by organizations in

SARAR training provides the tools and methods to train communities to become the primary actors in their own development.



rural areas, such as formal meetings and slide presentations. Its participative focus helps people develop problem-solving and resource management skills, to foster a sense of control of their own lives and environment.

ABPD staff are excited about immediately employing these participative tools to improve the quality of our work in Chimaltenango villages. ■

Texas A&M Students Train Junior Gardeners in Chimaltenango



Learning the best ways to grow nutritious food can help communities with issues of malnutrition. So the ABPD field staff was happy to welcome three Texas A&M University students who spent their spring break working with local students on Junior Master Gardener activities in Pacoxon, Cruz Nueva and Los Tunayes. Janos Arnosky, Loren

Children participate in Junior Master Gardener activities led by horticulture students from Texas A&M.

McKoy and Gabriela Reid, three horticulture majors, served the internship for a course entitled “Leadership Without Borders.”

“[ABPD staff] Ismael, Sylvia and Luis did an outstanding job of planning and coordinating,” said Dale Rogers, the training coordinator for the AGTEC Project (Agriculture in Guatemala, Technology, Education, Commercialization), which is conducted by the Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture, Texas A&M University.

The students also donated gardening equipment and supplies valued at \$1,500 to six schools associated with ABPD to conduct school gardening activities.

“In addition to the school activities, the A&M students provided valuable training to our staff,” said ABPD Director Paco Enriquez. “And local farmers were very grateful for the training Dale provided on climate change adaptations.” ■

Newsletters are occasional publications of Behrhorst Partners for Development, 2411 S. Superior St., Milwaukee, WI 53207. The non-sectarian, nonpolitical organization is a network of friends dedicated to continuing the labor begun by Dr. Carroll Behrhorst in 1962, promoting health and development, especially among the rural poor of Highland Guatemala. Tax-deductible contributions to Behrhorst Partners for Development are forwarded directly to projects, except for the minimal amount required to provide for advocacy.

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BPD

Behrhorst Partners for Development

2411 S. Superior St.
Milwaukee, WI 53207

Community Members are Saying . . .

We have learned how to cook nutritious recipes so now, even with little resources, we can provide our children vegetables and herbs which will help them to be healthy and grow.

María Humberta Estrada Velazco, Cambalcol, San Martín Jilotepeque

BPD Board

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**INTENSIFY YOUR SENSES & JOIN US FOR AN EYE-OPENING
TOUR IN GUATEMALA**

We are looking for one to two more people to join us on a unique January 12-20, 2013 tour. We will visit rural villages showcasing BPD projects with some "must see" parts of highland Guatemala including Antigua and beautiful Lake Atitlan. You'll taste mouthwatering cuisine, see colorful garments and vibrant flowers, smell roasted coffee and wood-burning stoves, touch exquisite tapestries, and wake up to church bells, roosters, and singing birds. The \$1,100 cost for double accommodations includes eight nights lodging, 21 meals, land transportation, and gratuities. It does not include airfare. To learn more and see an itinerary, visit our web site at www.behrhorst.org and click on "More Ways to Help" at the top of the screen and then "Tours" on the dropdown menu, or contact us via email at BehrhorstUS@yahoo.com.

