

# *The Behrhorst Ripples*

*A 2007 Story Gathering Project*





**Heidy Quex** (standing)  
Chimaltenango, Guatemala

I started working for Behrhorst Partners for Development in October of 2006. I always wanted to be a nurse because my mother was a nurse. My dream was to work in the campo (countryside), and I studied Home Economics and started my career by working as a teacher.

Then I heard about an opportunity to work for BPD as an educator. I didn't know it had the historical connection with the hospitalito. I was hired to provide education about birth spacing, family planning and nutrition.

Since working at BPD my mother and I have had lots of opportunities to talk about the BPD work. I can see that I am able to continue the idea from one generation to another. I know the hospitalito, but didn't know Dr. Behrhorst personally although I have seen photographs of him. He was a very good person.

What was the secret of Behrhorst's work? Having programs that integrated work in the campo and the clinic. Integrated health. Preventive health/health promotion approaches and medical services. It was a great idea. If people can't come to Chimaltenango, then we'll go to them. And it is a process in which people see our work as supporting their ideas. We work as a team. We work together.