



LIGHT UP GUATEMALA

The little stove with a lot of impact



DEVELOPINGWORLDCONNECTIONS



Globally, nearly three billion people use polluting, inefficient stoves or open fires to cook their food.

In Guatemala, more than half of families rely on open fires to cook. This causes the smoke to fill their homes and results in severe health problems.

Approximately, one ton of firewood per-person per-year is used for cooking and heat. Collecting that much firewood takes time and energy or costs money.

The need for firewood as fuel contributes to deforestation. Guatemala loses up to 2,460 hectares of tree cover annually. As a result, deforestation brings soil erosion, loss of animal habitat, and fewer oxygen-producing trees.

Due to the high rate of consumption, forests and trees become increasingly scarce, and villagers must travel even further to find wood.

DWC's **LIGHT UP GUATEMALA** program installs eco-stoves in homes to help stop all the harmful impacts of cooking fires. A vented stove is more environmentally friendly and can prevent a lifetime of health problems, but not everyone can afford one.





Years of smoke exposure can cause pneumonia, cancer, stroke, heart disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.



Respiratory infections are among the leading causes of death in Guatemala, particularly for women and children who spend a lot of time around the fires.



In Guatemala, the average home is shared by six to eight people. An eco stove instantly improve their lives. Smoke vents outside and firewood burns much more efficiently, so less wood is needed. That means less time collecting wood or less money to buy it, and fewer trees cut down.

Angelica Chiroy Chicay

Angélica is a young lady with a 3-year-old daughter. Her husband works in the fields and she takes care of her daughter and does the household duties. They live with her mother in-law in “El Paraíso”, a beautiful area in the skirts of the volcano.

Getting firewood is a very difficult task because they have to hike long distances to find it. This is one of the reasons many people in this community buy firewood.

With a traditional open fire, Angelica would spend twice as much on firewood as she spends now. These savings allows her to buy more food. She and her daughter don't get exposed to smoke and her home is cleaner. She likes to keep her house very clean.



The stove lets Angelica cook faster than with a traditional open fire. She is a very enthusiastic and entrepreneurial young lady who is always looking to have other sources of income for her family. With her extra time, she attended a workshop to make and sell handcrafted baskets for extra income.





\$275
DONATION



1 STOVE
DELIVERED & INSTALLED



8 FAMILY
MEMBERS HELPED

Eco-stoves pose a viable solution to the harmful impact of traditional cooking fires.

Family Health - The stove design filters, channels and disseminates smoke outside the home. Women and children are no longer exposed to polluted air for prolonged periods of time.

The Environment - The stove requires nearly 70% less firewood than traditional open-flame fires. This represents a drastic reduction in the number of trees that are cut down annually; as well as many of the other harmful environmental impacts of deforestation.

Family Resources - A fuel efficient stove that requires significantly less wood will consume far less of a family's income, time and energy, allowing the family to be more productive.

