

MAYA CHILDCARE, INC.

SUPPORTING THE ACORN CHILDCARE CENTER IN XELA, GUATEMALA



In 1960, CIVIL WAR broke out in Guatemala.



In 1996, the 36-year war ended.
Approximately 200,000 people died.



The Mayan people were specifically targeted in a
campaign described by the United Nations as
GENOCIDE.

The legacy of brutality was a major contributor to the abuse of women.



Making Guatemala one of **the most dangerous countries** in the world for women.

IN VIOLENCE SOCIETIES LIKE GUATEMALA:

- Violence correlates with poverty, lower rates of education and higher infant mortality rates
- Lack of upward mobility for families, especially female-led families
- Women and children are disproportionately affected in negative ways

THE ACORN CHILDCARE CENTER:



SERVES AS A CHILDCARE AND FAMILY RESCUE CENTER
FOR GUATEMALAN FAMILIES LIVING IN EXTREME POVERTY

HOW DOES *CHILDCARE* RESCUE A FAMILY?

- Women are able to work.
- Women can work without taking their children.
- Women are able to get better jobs.
- Children are able to go to school instead of accompanying their mother to work (typically to the market).
- Women are able to support themselves *and* their children.
- Women are able to leave violent relationships.
- Children are able to escape violent households.
- Children receive regular medical care.
- Children are fed nutritious meals.
- Parents are given educational resources to learn about how to keep their children safe and healthy.
- Parents develop a network to support, encourage and empower each another.

OUR FAVORITE FACTS ABOUT THE ACORN CHILDCARE CENTER:

- Families must fall *well below* Guatemala's poverty line and qualify as living in "extreme poverty" by Guatemala's standards (less than \$1.50/day)
- The Center is 100% run by Guatemalans, some of whom have used the living wage and job security to escape violent relationships.



MORE FAVORITE FACTS ABOUT THE ACORN CHILDCARE CENTER:

- The Center operates by word-of-mouth only. Childcare centers in Guatemala have a reputation for neglect and abuse (the government-run centers) or black market adoptions (privately-run centers). Guatemalans are extremely distrustful of childcare centers.
- The Center prioritizes children from violent homes. "If eight hours of safety is all we can offer a child, then we must offer it."
— Omar Meja, Director of Acorn Childcare Center



MORE FAVORITE FACTS ABOUT THE ACORN CHILDCARE CENTER:



- The Center employs three teachers, a cook, custodian, bookkeeper and director.
 - The Center has space for 21 children.
 - The Center offers parent education, medical care, preschool education, and well-balanced meals.
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- **Operating costs for 12 months is a mere \$60,000.**

GABY





VALESKA



MEET DANIEL



OUR FAVORITE FACTS ABOUT



(THE ORGANIZATION THAT SUPPORTS
THE ACORN CHILDCARE CENTER)

- 100% of the proceeds go directly to Guatemala.
- The 501(c)(3) is exclusively run by volunteers and in-kind donations.
- Maya Childcare's sole purpose is to financially support the Acorn Childcare Center.