



Executive Director Mid-Year Report

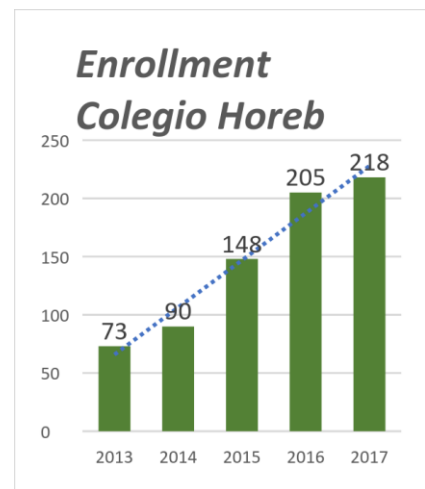
Written by Rich Rice

July 13, 2017

I am excited to report how your generous contributions are making a life changing difference in the community of San Juan Cotzal and surrounding villages.

Education is a critical component in creating a real, lasting, and sustainable difference in the lives of those living in the Ixil. WIND's sharp focus on improving the quality of education available to the community remains at the core of what we do. By supporting gifted indigenous educational leaders who are striving to raise the level of education in their community, your generosity is absolutely making a life changing impact. WIND guides and encourages these leaders as they work to forever affect tomorrow's generation.

- In 2017, enrollment at the Christian primary school Colegio Horeb swelled to 218 students, grades K-6. This represents a **200% increase** in only five years. The already cramped space limited enrollment this year.
- Today Horeb employs a staff of 14. All teachers live in the community and are encouraged to support the local economy. Seven teachers have returned to university to improve their teaching skills.
- 35 scholarships help the poorest of families make education possible for their children. We never want to leave a child behind.
- With your gifts, we provided new and replacement textbooks for every grade level and teacher!
- This year 25 malnourished children are receiving a nutritious lunch. Unemployed single moms are hired to prepare and serve the lunches.
- Scholarships are being extended to support 16 middle school and 3 high school students and one university student. Tutoring is made available to ensure academic success.
- Through our Emergency Medical Fund, we have provided life-saving medical care to three children by opening doors for treatment.
- More than 300 students and family members were cared for by our February Dental Team. Dental hygiene is now being taught at Horeb.



This is only a sampling of the work that is taking place in Cotzal. We continue to support the education of Pastors and the strengthening of local churches. It is encouraging to hear about Bible courses that are being taught through extension programs in very remote and hard to reach villages. We are excited that the long-awaited land purchase for the new and expanded Colegio Horeb school is moving forward. As I write, attorneys in Cotzal are preparing the purchase agreement with oversight from attorneys in Guatemala City. We hope to celebrate the completion of the land purchase soon.

I may possibly have the best job in the world! Next week I will be in Cotzal with a service team. As we go, we represent all of you who make these programs a reality. Your support is very much a game changer to this community. There is real change taking place! Together, our efforts are providing hope and a new course for a better future.