



2018
ANNUAL
REPORT





President's Message 2018

Dear Friends of Casa Colibrí,

This has been a year of transformation, collaboration and culmination, thanks to your tremendous support!

Casa Colibrí has successfully transformed from an organization providing periodic health care missions, literacy and clean water projects, to one providing ongoing, well-established programs that enable us to more fully achieve our mission. The Casa Colibrí medical clinic is now open full-time, and the Clinic on Wheels travels to remote villages each week providing routine prenatal care. Ongoing literacy programs are in place that put books in the hands of preschool and school-aged children. We are supplementing this base of programs with annual medical, dental and eye-care missions, teacher workshops, and clean water projects.

Collaborations with Guatemalan, U.S. and international organizations took on added significance in 2018 as we looked to expand our reach and capabilities.

We are particularly proud that 2018 saw the culmination of nearly ten years of effort to orchestrate complicated neurosurgery and follow-up care to children with debilitating, encephalocele birth defects. Generous donations of time, facilities, and expertise, from a myriad of Guatemalan and U.S. organizations, have resulted in triumph. Several children have had their initial surgeries and are on their way to enjoying a normal childhood.

In 2019, we aspire to further expand our impact and are finalizing plans for several exciting new programs. A major goal is to add another indigenous health care provider to meet the increasing demand for health care services.

As always, my eyes fall on individual patients—in this case, two—twins who were brought to us four years ago just days after they were born. Their mother had died in childbirth, and their grief-stricken father, not knowing where else to turn, came to us seeking help. Fast forward to the present day. The little boys are twin clouds of dust, playing with reckless abandon outside the clinic. With your continued support, our vision is that when the time comes for *their* wives and daughters to have children, obstacles to safe childbirth will be a thing of the past.

With sincere appreciation for your interest and support,

Jay Eastman

Over the last year, we were able to build on past successes and accomplish new objectives, thanks to your support.

The Clinic on Wheels program has quickly become a cornerstone of our efforts to reduce infant and maternal mortality. We make rounds to 15 villages providing monthly visits for prenatal care. While other villages have asked to be added to the route, we have been unable to accommodate them due to a lack of staff. We hope to add another health care professional and be able to say “Yes!” to these villages in 2019.

In October, our first-ever encephalocele surgical mission took place, providing life-changing surgery for some of our long-time patients. While coordinating the medical aspects of the neurosurgeries was extremely complex, managing the logistical and emotional aspects for these patients was also challenging. The surgeries needed to be done in Guatemala City, hundreds of miles and light years away from anything these patients had ever experienced. It took a great deal of encouragement to coax families to make the arduous trip and hand their children over to the care of others. It was a privilege for me to share the experience and comfort them in the unfamiliar environment. The stress of the surgeries was felt by all of us! Fortunately, all have had successful outcomes.

For years we have been concerned about the health impact of poor nutrition in the Maya we serve. Stunting malnutrition is very common with many children looking far smaller than appropriate for their age. Childhood tooth decay and infections are rampant. I met with the village leaders to discuss the problem and share ideas for addressing it. By working together, we were able to finalize plans for our Niños Sanos (Healthy Kids) program that will launch in 2019. The program focuses on helping young children, aged 6-59 months, get off to a healthy start. Our sights are set on reaching 1,000 children twice a year with this program.

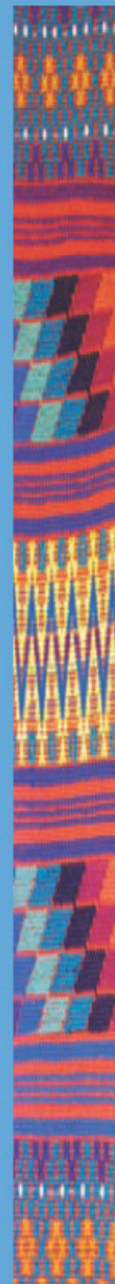
Your support has made these and many other programs possible. Through them you have touched lives, built knowledge, developed skills, empowered families and instilled a belief that their future is bright.

I am honored to partner with you, in this endeavor,



Juan Francisco Fernández
Executive Director

Letter from the Executive Director

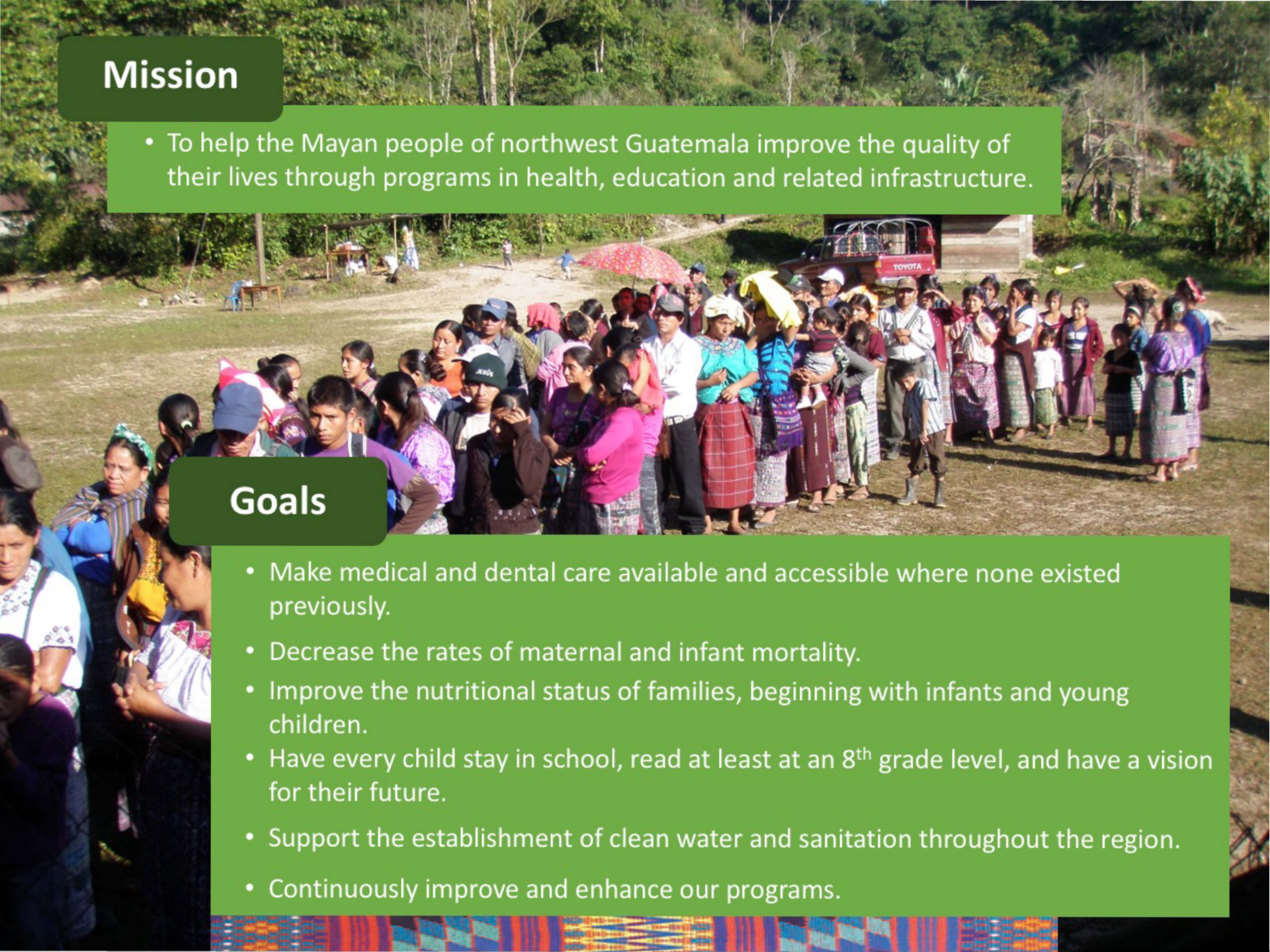


Mission

- To help the Mayan people of northwest Guatemala improve the quality of their lives through programs in health, education and related infrastructure.

Goals

- Make medical and dental care available and accessible where none existed previously.
- Decrease the rates of maternal and infant mortality.
- Improve the nutritional status of families, beginning with infants and young children.
- Have every child stay in school, read at least at an 8th grade level, and have a vision for their future.
- Support the establishment of clean water and sanitation throughout the region.
- Continuously improve and enhance our programs.



The Community We Serve

- Casa Colibrí serves approximately 15,000 indigenous Maya living in the remote highlands of northwest Guatemala.
- The people live in extreme poverty with no electricity, running water or toilets.
- Their nutrition is poor, and maternal and infant mortality are high.
- They are marginalized and lack public services.
- Despite the challenges they face, they are a generous, joyful and resourceful people.



79%

Indigenous people living below the poverty line

70%

Rate of stunting malnutrition in children under the age of 5

13 YEARS

Gap in life expectancy between indigenous and non-indigenous Guatemalans

Key Milestones



January 2007 - Launch village school library program



August 2007 - Initiate traditional birth attendant training



November 2007 - Establish annual medical mission trips



November 2008 - Open Casa Colibrí Clinic



May 2010 - Incorporate dental care into mission trips



July 2010 - Introduce water filter program for village families



September 2013 - Inaugurate vision care as part of mission trips



July 2015 - Commence village teacher workshops



December 2015 - Expand clinic services with full-time staff



June 2016 - Roll out Clinic on Wheels to provide prenatal care



January 2017 - Facilitate clean water and sanitation program



October 2018 - Coordinate surgeries for children with encephaloceles

Our Services



Health Care

- Medical Clinic
- Dental Mission
- Eye Mission
- Clinic on Wheels
- Midwife Training
- Encephalocele Surgeries



Literacy

- Reach Out and Read
- School Libraries
- Little Free Library
- Teacher Workshops



Infrastructure

- Community Water and Sanitation Programs
- Family Water Filters





DENTAL CARE

435

dental patients seen



MEDICAL CARE

6186

medical patients
seen

EYE CLINIC

519

eye patients seen

342

pairs prescription
glasses delivered



Health Care 2018

Health Care 2018



6

Women transported to distant hospital for maternal emergencies

1326

Prenatal visits via **Clinic on Wheels**

2x Maternal mortality rate for indigenous versus non-indigenous women

Health Care 2018

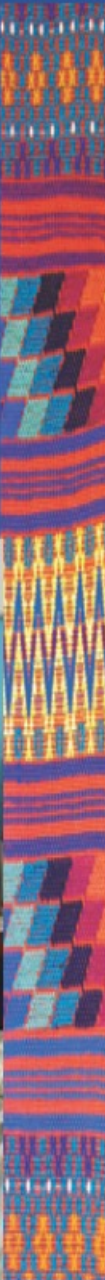
Eulalia's story

Two traditional birth attendants assisted Eulalia as she labored with great difficulty to deliver her third child.

As the hours passed and darkness fell, they called Mateo, the Casa Colibrí professional nurse, to assist them. It became apparent this baby would die, and quite likely its mother too, if emergency measures were delayed.

Mateo prepared to brave the perilous roads in the dark and make his way to the nearest hospital, 3 hours away. Eulalia was carefully placed in the back of the Clinic on Wheels, her husband holding the bag of IV fluids, her father-in-law holding a light, and the traditional birth attendant holding her hand.

Upon arrival the exhausted, laboring mother was swept into the operating room for an emergency C-section. Both lives were saved, and today Eulalia's husband can look forward to raising their beautiful three children with her, instead of mourning a tragedy.



Health Care 2018

Maria's story

Maria, from the tiny village of Montenegro, was born with facial deformities from an encephalocele. She grew into a shy and introverted child without the same opportunities as other children. Her desperate parents dreamed of giving her a chance for a normal life and approached Casa Colibrí for help.

When Maria was 17, that opportunity finally arrived. In October 2018 she was a patient of the very first U.S. craniofacial/neurosurgical team, partnering with Guatemalan physicians and Hospitalia, to conduct the complex surgery needed by children with encephaloceles.

As Maria awoke in the recovery room, she beamed with a non-stop smile, knowing her life had been changed forever. Her grateful parents still radiate the joy and relief of knowing their child can embrace life with confidence and live up to her full potential. Their trust in Casa Colibrí, the commitment of volunteer health care providers, and the generosity of our donors had opened the doors for a bright future.



Literacy 2018

2
Teacher
workshops

60%
Indigenous
literacy
rate

1466
Books
delivered



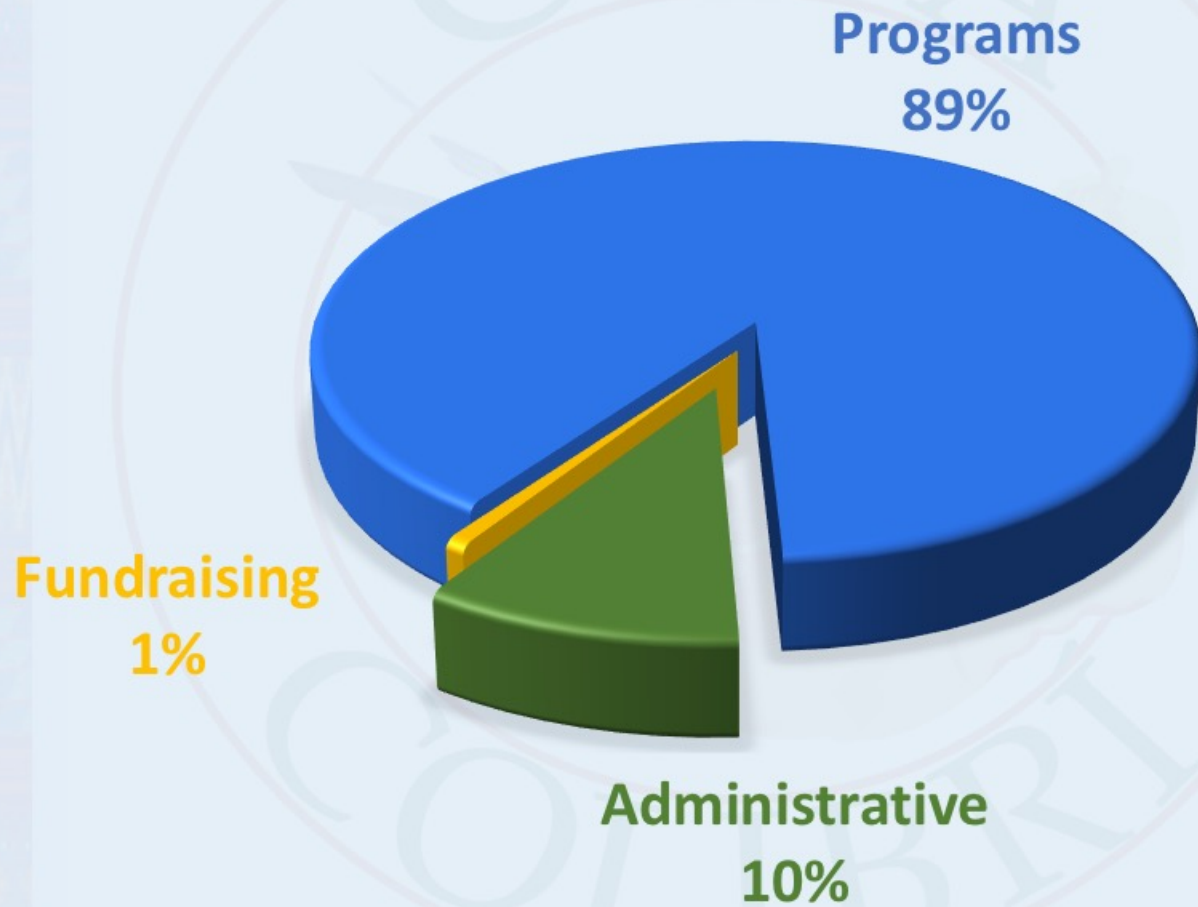
Infrastructure

Clean water
and
Sanitation
projects

51%
of indigenous
people with
access to clean
water

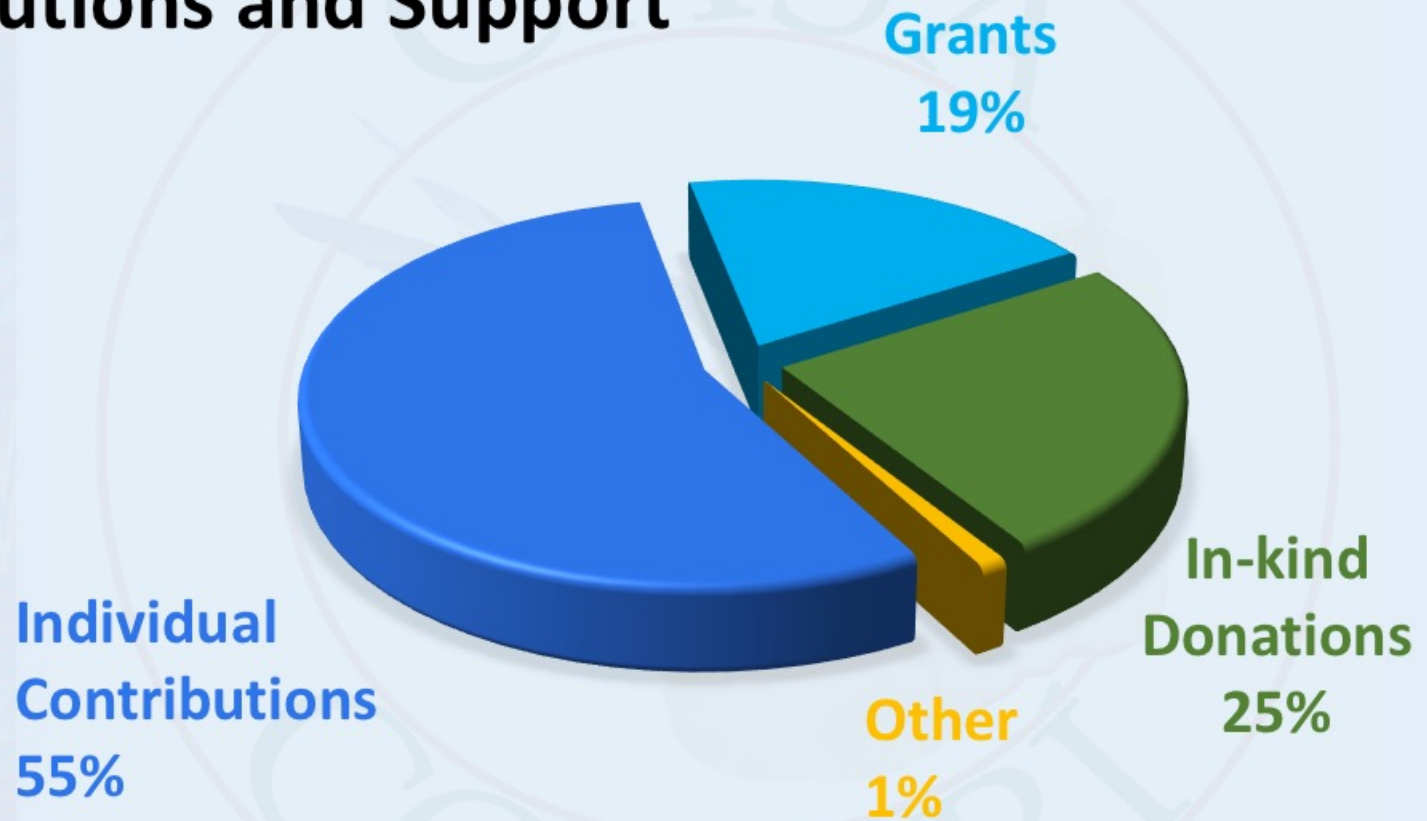


Expenditures



Total \$271,922

Contributions and Support



Total \$297,279

Our Partners



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Miles of Smiles Team



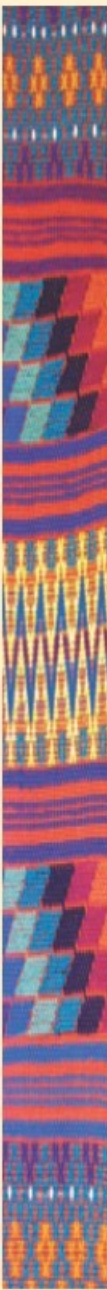
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Pediatrician

Linda Eastman
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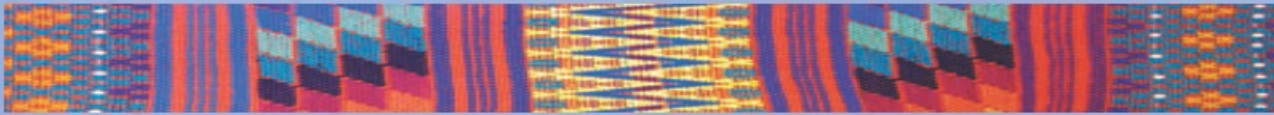
Program Coordinator
Reach Out and Read
Early Literacy Intervention

Jeannine Moreland,
BSN, MBA
Secretary



Business Director, Retired

Juan Francisco Fernández
Executive Director



Esther Duncan, RN



Labor and Delivery Nurse, Retired

Jessica Riedl, BScN, MN



Registered Nurse

Joseph Naughton, DO



Family Practice Physician

Board of Directors

David Snyder



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Business, Retired

Dianne McKinnon



Office Manager
Eastman & Vempati, MD, PC

Rhonda Panczyk

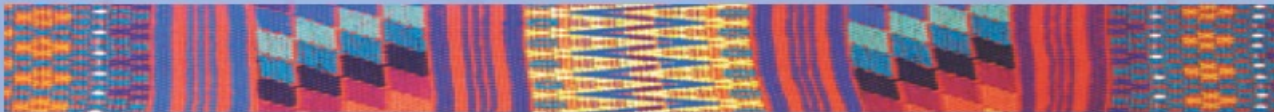


Insurance Agent, Retired

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Dentist



Gerald Jackson



Professional Engineer

Gabrielle D'Angelo, MSW



Social Worker

Lilianna Hibbeln



Regulatory Specialist,
Medline Industry

Judith Venuti, PhD



Professor
OUWB School of Medicine



Casa Colibrí ***Place of Refuge***

Casa Colibrí literally means Hummingbird House. According to the Guatemalan legend, “The Hummingbird King,” a boy prince, was heir to his father’s throne. Throughout his young life, a hummingbird looks out for his welfare, protects him, and warns him of impending danger. To the Maya we serve, the name Casa Colibrí suggests protection and refuge, a place where they can go for help and know they will be met with kindness and open arms.



Sincere thanks to all our Donors,
volunteers, staff and Friends!