



San Lucas Tolimán Scholars  
ANNUAL REPORT

# San Lucas Tolimán Scholars

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

# 2025

## From the Executive Director

As I reflect on our 24-year history, I am deeply proud of the impact our program has had on young people, their families, and the broader community of San Lucas Tolimán. What began with support for 97 students has grown to 901. Yet the true story is not in the numbers.

What stays with me most when I meet students and their families is the hope your scholarships give to them. That hope is powerful. It represents possibility for their children—the future of Guatemala. Our scholars express profound gratitude for the opportunity you provide, and they honor that opportunity by working hard, excelling academically, and striving toward a better life.

In 2025, 901 students were able to remain in school. Our primary mission is to ensure young people can study for 3 years and complete junior high school. We are especially encouraged to see so many of these graduates continue to high school, gaining the skills they need for future careers. And we are particularly proud of the 30 scholars currently enrolled in university-level programs.

In 2025, we celebrated 312 graduates made possible by your support.

- 169 from junior high school
- 142 from high school
- 1 from university

Without your support, many of these bright, capable young people would face overwhelming barriers to continuing their education and breaking the cycle of poverty that affects so many families in Guatemala. Your generosity opens doors that would otherwise remain closed, and it changes lives in ways that ripple far beyond the classroom.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

### Board of Directors

**Fred Baxter**  
Director and Chair

**Cindy Swinnerton**  
Director and Treasurer

**Jan Tetzlaff**  
Director and Secretary

**Julie Marcotte**  
Director and Executive Director

**Bob Turner**  
Director

### Guatemala Operations

**Rita Chajil**  
Program Director

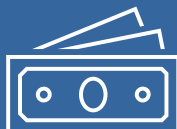
**Alberta Menchú**  
Program Administrator



901 students



311 jr. high & high school graduates & 1 university graduate



\$296K raised for scholarships

# San Lucas Tolimán Scholars

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

# 2025



## Fernando Arturo

Fernando Arturo received scholarships to attend junior high school and high school, graduating in 2022 with a credential in bookkeeping. He is the oldest of two boys and lives with his parents in the town of San Lucas Tolimán.

After high school, Fernando studied English to better prepare himself for future employment opportunities. His initiative quickly opened doors. He was hired by the San Lucas Mission as a Visitor Mission Coordinator, a demanding full-time position with benefits. In this role, he plans for visiting groups and supports their time in the community. He excels in the work and takes immense pride in sharing his culture with the many visitors who come to San Lucas. Having met Fernando during a recent visit, I witnessed firsthand how confidently and skillfully he fulfills his responsibilities.

Reflecting on his experience, Fernando writes:

Brother\* Dennis' scholarship program helped me in various aspects of my life. One of them was the academic field, but it also had an especially important impact on the social aspect. During those years, I had a 'friend'—my sponsor—who cared about me and with whom I could share, through letters, the different activities of my daily life. I remember those years with great affection.

Words are not enough to express my deep gratitude to Brother Dennis, as he was affectionately known, for the extraordinary work he did in San Lucas Tolimán. My most sincere gratitude to Brother Dennis, may he rest in peace, for having dedicated his time and energy to the service of my people, of the various communities of San Lucas, and especially of service to youth.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for supporting and blessing the life of a young man with a desire to excel. Your support is not just an individual sponsorship, but the opportunity to build a dream and achieve a goal.

Thanks to Brother Dennis' help, many young Guatemalans have been able to face the difficulties of their environment and advance in their personal and academic training. I am a testimony to that. The support received through the SLT Scholars scholarship program was a critical step in my journey, and today I gratefully acknowledge that people like you made it possible for me to get to where I am now.

\*Brother is an honorific used by the people of San Lucas and not a religious title.

SLT Scholars is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

More than 99% of monies donated for student sponsorship are allocated to student tuition and educational needs.

Designated donations help to pay administrative expenses.

---

## 2024 Fiscal Year

(supports the 2025 school year)

Revenue: \$342,861\*

Expenses: \$280,486

\* includes donations of \$20,573 for the Dennis Evans Legacy Society

# San Lucas Tolimán Scholars

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

# 2025



## San Lucas Tolimán Scholars

[sltscholars.org](http://sltscholars.org)

34 Hilltop Lane  
Saint Paul, MN 55116-2720  
651-699-7834

[Rita@SlitScholars@gmail.com](mailto:Rita@SlitScholars@gmail.com) – Guatemala Office

[sltscholars@mail.com](mailto:sltscholars@mail.com) – Minnesota Office