

SLT Scholars
June 2025 Newsletter

Hello everyone!

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family well. Summer has arrived in Minnesota with a sticky vengeance.

Julie

And now, enjoy Rita's update!

Dear Sponsors and Friends –

It is a pleasure to greet you again so that I can share with you our program activities since our March newsletter.

Holy Week in Guatemala is a very solemn series of activities, especially for the Catholic Church. All who visit enjoy every detail of this important time. For this reason, most of our scholars will write to you about how their families celebrated and the activities they enjoyed during those days.

During the months of May, June, July, and August, most schools celebrate their founding anniversaries with social, cultural, and sports activities.

- Among the activities is the election of their representatives, such as the school princess and “godmother” of sports.
- During these events, students demonstrate their different talents, such as playing musical instruments, and performing dances and dramas, among others.
- Sports activities are another event where youth participate with great energy, cheering on their classmates.
- Some schools end their anniversary party with a dance.

When the school organizes its celebrations with these many kinds of activities, you can imagine the excitement of the students. Because there are no major places to visit and unwind in the town of San Lucas, most students dedicate themselves to studying and working in the fields and at home. Most families aren't used to going out on weekends or spending time with their children recreationally; their time is spent going to the fields or market to work.

In rural communities, the emotions are even stronger, because parents and neighbors of the community are involved in the celebration, so the celebration of the school's anniversary becomes a community celebration.

In Guatemala, we are approaching the middle of the school year. We have received the grades from each school, and our greatest satisfaction is seeing that our students are excelling in their studies – a very positive response to the education they are receiving. There is a small percentage who encounter difficulties in their schooling. There will always be a reason or cause behind this. These students are the ones who, for the most part, receive the least support from

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their families, both morally and emotionally. We have several families with problems within the family, so this affects our students. We are in the process of directly supporting this group with the help of principals and teachers, finding ways for them to make up for the missing grades and, above all, provide them with moral support.

For those of our scholars who are at the top of their classes, I am planning to recognize them with a reward. This program is the work that God has entrusted to us, and we always want to do it with much love and work to improve each day.

Thank you for your continued support, which is why many young people have been able to continue their schooling. We have changed many lives, and with them, we have changed the lives of their families. Our scholars, their families, school principals, schoolteachers, and school boards say to all of you "THANK YOU VERY MUCH!"

SLT Scholars provides them with assurance of a better future because we are a stable presence in the community. Our support benefits the entire educational community, and our program – directly and indirectly – helps the entire school and the population of San Lucas in general.

Please visit this Google Drive link to see photos of the different activities mentioned in this newsletter - [SLT Scholars Photos - June 2025](#)

Rita Chajil