



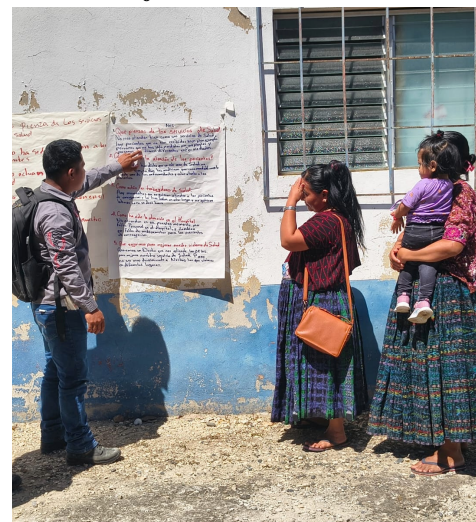
Dear Friend,

At the heart of Concern is a bold, hopeful mission: transforming global need into self-sufficiency. By partnering with communities, we support lasting change by equipping individuals with the skills and leadership to sustain and grow their own programs for generations.

Our recognized health promoter practitioner model trains people to be health care providers for their own communities where no other care exists. Local teams lead water testing, filter distribution, and workshops on sanitation and public health. Artisan cooperatives collectively create and sell their beautiful items with a business model that benefits the entire community.

Self-sufficiency requires local leadership. In Colombia, our program was once managed by several field volunteers, yet is now accompanied by a single volunteer working alongside a strong local team. Similarly, in Guatemala, 15 local leaders are now shaping the program. Only two field volunteers accompany the team, a steady transition toward truly locally-led health care.

To deepen their impact, these leaders also organize beyond their programs. They bring together churches, grassroots groups, and local governments to ensure people's voices are heard and reflected in health policies. In Guatemala, Guayo and Eva Leonilda are two advanced practitioners who have championed these efforts. Ongoing regional assemblies and dialogue with the Ministry of Health have led to meaningful achievements including increasing indigenous-language interpreters in hospitals and gaining recognition for community health workers and midwives within the health care system, able to advocate for their patients every step of the way.



Your partnership makes this locally-led care possible. Please consider a gift to empower local leaders like Guayo and Eva Leonilda as they create a world where everyone has health care, clean water, education, and the opportunity to thrive.

Thank you for your generous spirit and for making this vital work a reality year after year.

In peace,



John Straw
Chief Executive



Donate Here!
concernamerica.org



P.S. Steady support creates lasting change. We invite you to become a monthly donor, ensuring local leadership and community health care today, tomorrow, and into the future!

VOICES OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY: GUATEMALA

Our model succeeds when community members become the teachers and leaders of their own programs. Witnessing that transformation firsthand, Silvestre, an advanced health promoter practitioner, reflects on the growth of this local leadership:

"I am so impressed by my fellow practitioners. I've seen how they've grown to take on more skills and leadership and the deep commitment they bring to every task. I have so much respect for the expertise within this group. Everyone is truly stepping up to their responsibilities, and it is beautiful to see how our program is growing together."



Welcome to the Concern Community!



We are excited to introduce Megan Heiman, Concern's new Craft Program and Events Coordinator! Megan brings years of event and fundraising experience, and, as an artist, a passion for the work created by artisans for our Fair Trade Marketplace. We are looking forward to Megan meeting our community through crafts, our events, and at the Concern office. Megan says:

"I have known of Concern for many years through the crafts and friends. I have been moved by its focus on creating generational knowledge, empowering the next generation, and building community from within. I am so excited to be part of this meaningful work."



For Dr. Rubelci Lopez Cartas, this is a welcome back! Rubelci was a field volunteer in Colombia from 2016 - 2021, and he has come back periodically to lead advanced health promoter courses. For the next year and a half, Rubelci will be based in our program in Guatemala, however he will accompany the health promoter practitioners and midwives in our other programs, traveling between Colombia, Mexico, and Guatemala. He will provide medical case support, continuing education workshops, and teach new health promoter students.

SAVE THE DATE:

19th Annual Grow a Global Heart Auction

Saturday, October 17, 2026
3:00-6:00 pm

30th Annual Walk Out of Poverty

Saturday, March 20, 2027
7:00-9:30 am