



PROJECT PROPOSAL

GUATEMALA LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The objective for the Guatemala Leadership Academy (GLA) is to equip emerging young leaders with vocational training and leadership skills, in order to become agents of change for their communities and, at the same time, inspire others to thrive and succeed in life.

Who will participate?

The GLA will be designed for youth between 18 to 22 years of age who have finished high school, and who have been part of HopeChest Guatemala's programs at a CarePoint. The participants must have an entrepreneurial spirit, the desire to learn a trade, and provide two references from local leaders, who attest to how the candidate has exhibited leadership traits in their community.

Regionally, our initial focus will be to work with young leaders from two areas of the country where HopeChest is launching its Pueblo Modelo (Model Village) strategy: The Northeast (Zacapa and Izabal) and Southwest areas (Suchitepéquez, Retalhuleu, Escuintla).

Our goal will be to work in the Southwest area first because HopeChest Guatemala already has facilities in that area that can serve to host the trainings. Because training leaders requires a lot of mentoring and one-on-one discipleship, for Phase 1, the GLA will include 20 students from within one area of the country. For Phase 2, we will shortlist and work with eight of these students within the program who qualify to apply for a micro-loan.

How will it work?

Phase 1

The duration of Phase 1 of the program will be one year. During this year, each student will attend a vocational school Monday through Friday. They can study a trade of their choice, including: carpentry, cosmetology, electricity, welding,



cooking, etc. The GLA will help to support this by covering the costs of tuition and materials, while the students will cover their own transportation costs.

During that time, the students will attend leadership classes that are provided by HopeChest Guatemala twice a month, on Saturdays.

At the end of the school year, the GLA will host a one-week retreat in Guatemala City where each student will have the opportunity to visit various organizations, meet with professionals and receive training on areas specifically related to entrepreneurship/leadership/business.

After the retreat, each student will need to volunteer for three months of service at the CarePoints located in their communities, at which time they will begin to employ their newly learned skills.

Phase 2

The GLA will consider students' grades and behavior to choose the top eight students, who have also shown entrepreneurial skills and leadership potential, during their training.

In this phase, these eight students will present their business plans and convince a panel of overseers to be granted a micro-business loan to launch their small business in their community. HopeChest will create a timeline for each student to pay their micro-business loan forward.

The panel of overseers will work with the students to mentor them and monitor their progress. The Cash Flow aspects will be monitored weekly and adjusted as needed, to secure the cash fluidity of the business. This shall be done in such a way as to provide safe guidelines, mitigate risk of failure, and maximize impact into the community. Projects and micro-businesses that create jobs and "win-win-win" situations in the community will be given highest priority. Collaboration amongst participant students and co-op approaches will be encouraged. The desired impact is that communities will be changed, and community members will have models to follow, which will enhance the abilities and empower the members to experience Community Transformation that is holistic, integrated within the community and brings increasing self-sustainability.



How can a partner get involved?

- A partner can support the mentoring process throughout the year. This can be done through visits to the GLA or via Skype calls with the leadership team.
- We would like the partner to help with the leadership retreat bringing people that can speak with and teach the students.
- They can create monthly prayer times with the partner and the students.
- Business people can be involved in funding a small business loans for any of the eight students.

What is the projected outcome?

Through the GLA, HopeChest Guatemala will seek to invest in young leaders who will become an inspiration for other generations. They will help their families learn how to support themselves and, eventually, help create jobs for others in their own communities.



Project Name: Guatemala Leadership Academy	
The Guatemala Leadership Academy (GLA) is designed to equip emerging young leaders with vocational training and leadership skills.	
	USD \$
Total Cost of Project:	\$ 44,192.12
Base Project Cost (80%)	\$ 35,353.69
HopeChest Admin (20%)	\$ 8,838.42
<i>Sub-Totals of Base Program Cost Detail</i>	
Tuition	\$ 7,333.33
Leadership Training (Two times per month)	\$ 2,933.33
Leadership Retreat	\$ 4,666.67
Loans	\$ 16,000.00
Contract Bid Management	\$ -
Other Categories of Project Costs	\$ -
Project Contingency Fund (when needed)	\$ -
Project Management	\$ 4,420.37
* All costs are calculated by the local staff, in the country's local currency and converted to U.S. Dollars. To verify currency exchange rates, these prices will be revisited every 12 months, once funds have begun to be raised for the project, by the U.S. partner.	
** Contributions designated for a given project or purpose that are in excess of those needed to complete the specified project or fulfill the specified purpose as well as contributions designated for a project or purpose that becomes impossible or impracticable in the sole discretion of Children's HopeChest will be redirected to otherwise fulfill the organizational mission of Children's HopeChest.	