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Spokane, WA 99208

FAMILY-TO-FAMILY

NEWSLETTER

FISH FARMING IN XE'UL | HURRICANE ETA

Fish Tanks Installed at Xe'ul

The Xe'ul agricultural center now includes seven fish tanks and offers a beautiful, healthy gathering space for the community.

Regional Manager of Family-to-Family in the Highlands of Guatemala, Adela Tambriz, reports that the tank construction, which began in 2019, is now complete. After initially trying tilapia and realizing that the climate was not conducive to them, 13,000 trout were purchased from San Marcos, Guatemala, for the tanks. The success of the harvest is evident as all 120 families in the program are receiving trout and the fish is sold locally.

The fishery project was funded through the sale of coffee and textiles and it employs five workers who rotate every three days. Additionally, approximately 50 program families help to maintain the site.

While becoming a working fishery, other agricultural endeavors continue in Xe'ul. The center provides trainings for program participants in vegetable gardening, corn sowing, organic fertilizer preparation, propagation of plants in the nursery and more.

In 2020, chicken farming in Xe'ul not only provided meat for families and income through sales, but 15 families received chickens to begin their own farms. Another addition to the center, with construction beginning in 2019, was a pig farm that yielded ten pigs in 2020.



Hurricane ETA

It is with very heavy hearts that we share with you news that one of the families in the program lost their daughter during Hurricane ETA. Ana, at three and one-half years old, was playing with her sister behind their home when, due to the storm, a landslide occurred. Adela Tambriz visited the family shortly thereafter, providing both material and emotional support.

Adela reported that the hurricane damaged the corn crop and uprooted some cypress trees in Xe'ul. Even so, she has communicated that families have food stores thanks to the pandemic response deliveries by Family-to-Family. She will reassess food security as we move through these unpredictable months.

Natalia De Leon, Family-to-Family Coordinator for Guatemala, asked that we express to you, the donors, the deep gratitude of the families and individuals receiving additional food assistance due to your generosity.



Thanks to a generous donor, Xe'ul now offers play equipment for children as well as exercise equipment for adults. Green spaces, terraces and walkways invite folks to enjoy the setting. The space serves as a community gathering place where meetings, be they for work, religion, culture or sport, transpire. Forthcoming improvements include the construction of a restroom.



About Family-to-Family

Family-to-Family was founded in 1985 as an economic development program in the Guatemalan Highlands. Its primary mission is to provide income-producing skills training and resources so that families and communities can rise from poverty and become self-sufficient. For further information about the Family-to-Family program, please visit the website <https://www.familytofamilyguatemala.com> or contact Julianne Connell Sachs at ffguatemala@gmail.com or (509) 593-8204.