



# Maya Educational Foundation

P.O. Box 1483, Wellfleet, MA 02667, USA

mayaedufound@aol.com • www.mayaedufound.org

Tel: (508) 349-1330 • Fax: (508) 349-0252

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Dear Friends,

This short letter will catch you up on some of the developments taking place in our organization and with our partners in Guatemala, Mexico and Belize.

Our university scholarship programs continue to be successful and to grow. Although we support several groups of students at elementary, middle and high school levels, at its core the Maya Educational Foundation is strongly committed to assisting Maya students to and through the university. This is not an easy accomplishment for those Maya students from extremely poor or remote areas, so the support you give through those scholarship programs is essential, and we are most grateful.

We also wish to express our gratitude to several anonymous donors who have made generous gifts to our university program, and give special thanks to the Chiapas Highland Maya Fund for two fellowships for Maya women from Chiapas to study for post-secondary degrees in a community health-related field. The recipients are expected to return to Chiapas to work in community health upon completion of their studies.

But, as ever, the need for college funds outpaces the supply. Our partners have more worthy, ready and able applicants than ever. And our present students have urgently petitioned us to see if we can find the funds to increase their monthly scholarship stipends so that they can keep pace with the ever increasing costs of education and living. We want to be able to do this, and we can with your help.

FEP Maya, our original scholarship partner in Guatemala, has undertaken some remarkable and hopeful changes recently. They have recruited a new Board of Directors, made up entirely of people who have graduated from our program there. They

are enthusiastic, and they are looking for ways to increase their visibility and their contacts among other funding sources within and beyond Guatemala. As we look forward to working with this new group of young Maya scholars, we also want to extend our thanks to the previous Board, and especially to Lucia Sebaquijay and Irma Otzoy who were among the originators of the group and who did all the hard work of getting FEP Maya off the ground.

In Belize, we have established contact between the Julian Cho Society and its students and the Pestalozzi International Village Trust in East Sussex, UK, with the hope that in future years some of these students can qualify and be invited to go to England to study in a two year program which will give them a start at college.

Big changes are also taking place at CIRMA, with a new board and a new director coming soon. We'll update you on those changes in the end of the year newsletter.

Our thanks also go to the Daniele Agostino Derossi Foundation for their unwavering support for several MEF scholarship programs and their special grants to weavers groups and the women's empowerment group Oxlajuj B'atz' in Panajachel, Guatemala.

And, as always, we are grateful to you, our friends and contributors, who make all of this possible. We are in awe of your generosity and your goodness. We hope that you are as fulfilled and as humbled by the progress made by MEF's scholars as we are, and that you will continue to keep this program growing.

Marilyn Moors, MEF Board President



FEP Maya and MEF Board members,  
La Antigua, Guatemala, February 2012



Student graduating from  
high school in  
Livingston, Guatemala



MEF university scholarship students in Chiapas, Mexico, 2012

Belize  
high-school  
students,  
2012



For information on  
these and all other  
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and Belize, please visit  
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[mayaedufound.org](http://mayaedufound.org)



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