



2022

# Big things are happening

## Annual Report

Abundant Life Foundation  
3001 Ranch Road 620 S  
Austin, TX 78738



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## From the Executive Director

Dear ALF Community and Supporters,

ALF has had an amazing year in so many ways. **Our focus in 2022** was not only on **getting people in homes** and **opening the library**, but on **strengthening existing programs** to increase impact.

Honduras faces massive educational inequity, with only 30% of their population graduating from high school. On the island of Roatán, most native islanders pay over 25% of their income to rent, and owning a home is nearly impossible. Our staff and volunteers live and work in communities facing these challenges, embodying our mission through our transformative programs. This mission comes to life in the following ways:

- **Scholarship students** find a home with ALF, accessing not only funds for a **quality education**, but **opportunities to become leaders** in their communities.
- The **Bilingual Literacy Program** gives hundreds of children a place to feel loved, respected and nurtured while gaining **mastery over the English language**.
- Our **affordable housing community** gives people a community to call home and a sense of belonging.
- Most importantly, our programs give **every participant** the chance to build their own future, equipping them with the **tools necessary for growth and success**.

**Thank you** to our wonderful staff and the many volunteers, donors, sponsors and community partners who have made this possible. With your support in 2022 we were able to:

- Open our **new library** in Flowers Bay.
- Welcome our **first 4 residents** into their new homes.
- Added **5 new staff positions**.
- Support **7 scholarship students** in their pursuit of a high-quality education.
- Provide resources to **4 local public schools**.
- Train **141 children in English** through our Bilingual Literacy Program.

Marian Wright Edelman said, *“Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world a better place than you found it.”*

The **youth of Honduras** have so much **hope** and **potential**, and a willingness to dig deep and work hard to improve their world. We see that on a daily basis. We’re just thankful that, through your support, we get to be a part of **helping the next generation change this world**.

Thank you for caring!





## Mission

We create **positive environments** where the underserved of Honduras have opportunities to **transform their lives** through dignified **housing communities** and **educational programming**.

## Vision

We envision **thriving communities** where everyone has opportunities to live **healthy, productive lives**.

## Our Approach



### Empowerment

We prioritize people, providing training, resources, and opportunities that will allow them to thrive.



### Partnership

We value the thought leadership, capacity, and experience of our community and corporate partners.



### Accountability

We are committed to achieving excellence and inspiring it in others through honesty and integrity.

# Your Impact

Because of **your support**, the Abundant Life Foundation was able to **do more this year** than any previous year before. None of this would be possible without YOU!

6k



## People Served

Your support gave over 6000 people access to books and computers at our library.



4



## Families in Homes

We successfully welcomed our first 4 families into their new homes.



141



## Students Educated

Through our Bilingual Literacy Training and Scholarship Programs.



210



## Training Recipients

Our Library provided 10 different professional capacitations ranging from computation to animal welfare.

# Future Leaders Scholarship



In 2020, ALF launched our **Future Leaders Scholarship program**, inviting kids and young adults **aged 10 to 21** to participate. In 2022, seven outstanding students were chosen for the program, comprised of three high school students and four university students. As part of their scholarship, **each student dedicated 40 hours to make a positive impact** by engaging in activities like beach cleaning, donating food to the elderly, and teaching in educational programs. This incredible program received **invaluable support from the Kimpton Grand Roatán Resort & Spa**, enabling contributions to be made for the students. Notably, Steven McBride, one of the university students and a program beneficiary, began working for ALF in 2022 as an assistant in our library, gaining **invaluable professional experience and skills**, and providing unique educational opportunities for other young people by teaching a computer class.

## Results

In total, **scholarships** amounting to a total of **\$12,600** were awarded to **seven students**. These scholarships were distributed among three high school students and four university students from various locations.

The scholarship recipients included:

- Kevon Forbes - Flowers Bay
- Steve McBride - Constellation Bigh
- Tamika Matute - Santa Helena
- Yulecsi Webster - Flowers Bay
- Andrea López - Gravel Bay
- Ana Cordova - Santa María
- Sherika Connor - Sandy Bay



Beyond financial support, this program has provided an incredible opportunity for **personal and professional growth**, exemplified by Steven McBride's successful transition into the work team.

# Bilingual Literacy Program

In 2022, our **Bilingual Literacy program** in Roatán made significant strides in **empowering children** through **bilingual literacy** and **environmental conservation**. With dedicated facilitators and strategic partnerships with organizations like Roatán Marine Park and BICA, we created a nurturing environment for children in Sandy Bay, Brick Bay, and Flowers Bay. Our program focused on **fostering language skills** and **raising awareness about environmental preservation**. Through the support of the Grand Roatán Resort, we made a **lasting impact** on the lives of the children. The collective efforts of our team and valuable alliances contributed to the successful outcomes achieved in 2022, equipping children with essential tools and knowledge for their future endeavors.

## Key Accomplishments in 2022:

- Final Enrollment: 134
- Financial Investment: \$23,344
- Hours of Classes Taught: 972 hours
- Groups Served: 5 cohorts
- Communities Benefited:
  - Sandy Bay: 40 students
  - Brick Bay: 23 students
  - Flowers Bay: 71 students



"My daughter's public school teacher asked **how she learned to read** so well... I told her it was the **ALF program!**"

- Parent of BLP Student

# Los Sueños: The Dreams



**This year was pivotal** in our **Los Sueños: The Dreams affordable housing community**. After 5+ years of designing and developing the community, setting up the legal structure, and multiple rounds of marketing and applications, we've finally **welcomed our first 4 families** into their new homes! This was an extremely challenging but rewarding accomplishment, signifying the beginning of a new adventure for ALF and our future residents. We're so grateful to see these families flourishing in their new homes and community!

With **23 homes currently built** and a waitlist of future homeowners already well beyond that number, we have our work cut out for us. Building upon the achievements of last year, **our focus** now turns towards two critical aspects: **filling the remaining 23 homes** with deserving residents and **advancing the construction plans** to reach our ultimate **goal of 70 homes**. We understand the significance of these efforts, as each completed home represents a life transformed and a step towards addressing the critical issue of affordable housing in Roatán.



“Since moving to Los Sueños: The Dreams, **my life has changed.**

This was such a blessing from God and ALF. I am extremely happy and grateful to ALF for making this **dream come true.**”

- *Carminda Diaz*



## Carmina's Story



**Carmina's journey** from a small village in central Honduras to Los Sueños: The Dreams is a testament to her unwavering determination. Leaving her children in the care of family members, she pursued a dream of **escaping limited opportunities and poverty** by moving to Roatán. However, for almost two decades, they faced the hardships of **unstable living conditions** and **limited financial resources**.

Everything changed when Carmina discovered **Los Sueños: The Dreams**, an **affordable housing community** in Roatán. Our affordable home purchase process and lending support provided **stability, safety**, and increased financial possibilities. Carmina could finally give her children a solid foundation and the chance to pursue their dreams, including attending university. Los Sueños: The Dreams became their **stepping stone** towards a **brighter future**.

Carmina's story highlights the **transformative power of affordable housing initiatives**. Access to safe and affordable homes **breaks the cycle of instability**, offering families like Carmina's a sense of **security** and the **freedom** to focus on personal growth. Los Sueños: The Dreams represents **hope** for families seeking a **better life**, empowering them to take action for themselves and their community.

# Community Engagement

Outside of our own programs, ALF's **community footprint** is wide, providing a diverse set of nonprofits, groups and individuals with financial support, space, and trainings. Collaboration is essential for success, so we aim to **use our resources and property to help the islanders**, regardless of ownership of a program. Working together, we will accomplish so much more than what we can on our own!

## Results

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- **6193 visitors** enjoyed the benefits of our library
- **841 pounds of vegetables** provided to the community
- **Supported** a local basketball program with **travel funds**
- **100+ man-hours volunteered** cleaning beaches
- Hosted a **sports camp** in collaboration with a US organization
- **10 trainings** were held at the library, with **210 attendees**
- **323 students** from local schools received classes at the library



# Thank you!

Our work is only possible because of YOUR generosity. We want to thank all the incredible members of our community who went above and beyond to support our mission in 2022.



## Corporate and Foundation Partners

- Salvador Foundation
- Geers Foundation
- Kimpton Grand Roatán Resort
- Banco Atlántida
- La Zona Vodka
- Tiendas Relax
- Puddles to Oceans
- Elite Construction

## Giving Community Members

- Tony DiCello
- Mike Conroy
- Barbara Gruger Bradt
- Kevin McNeill
- Jane Mahmoud
- Aleon

## Individuals

### \$10,000+

- Eric and Maria Groten
- Paul Twitchell
- Matt Esfahani

### \$3,000 - \$9,999

- Anthony DiCello
- Mark Norman
- Wells Fargo Advisors

### \$1,000 - \$2,999

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeanie Murphy</li> <li>• Kent and Pamela Hafemann</li> <li>• Aaron Evans</li> <li>• Barbara Gruger Bradt</li> <li>• Kevin McNeill</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Armando Kokoszka</li> <li>• Charles Conner</li> <li>• Jane C. Mahmoud</li> <li>• Karen Richards</li> <li>• Larry Williams</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MaryBeth Kenis</li> <li>• Roger W. Hoch</li> <li>• Shawn Mack</li> <li>• Taylor McDowell</li> </ul> |
|---|---|--|



# Get Involved!

This work is only possible with the **help** and **support** of individuals like YOU!  
To **learn more** about how you can help contribute to our mission and vision,  
**please reach out to us**, we'd love to talk to you more!

## To Volunteer in Roatán

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**Valerie Connor**

Outreach Coordinator

[programs@abundantlifefoundation.org](mailto:programs@abundantlifefoundation.org)

011-504-3144-4948

## To Give or Join our Community

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**Daniel Siefken**

Executive Director

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512-450-8668

## Follow our impact



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