

CHANGING THE CYCLE OF CHILD HUNGER IN TACTIC, GUATEMALA

HOUWELING'S  
TOMATOES™

# Seeds

of tomorrow project



**TACTIC, GUATEMALA / 2013**  
[www.houwelings.com/blog/guatemala](http://www.houwelings.com/blog/guatemala)



### MESSAGE FROM CASEY:

*My daughter Rebecca spent two and a half months volunteering at a medical clinic in Tactic, Guatemala and the experience changed her life. When she returned, she immediately started to convince me that I needed to travel there to understand it for myself.*

*Guatemala was not very high on my priority list, but as a father, I couldn't say no to my daughter. That meant on June 22nd, 2012 we landed in Guatemala City and were picked up by Les Peters and his wife Rita. Les and Rita, originally from Canada, have spent 12 years in Guatemala establishing schools in Tactic and today they provide education and nutrition to over 1300 students.*

*What really struck me was the malnutrition. A large part of the population eats only beans, rice and corn tortillas, fruit and vegetables are rarely eaten. We must teach them the nutrition and eating habits to adapt and grow strong as a complement to their education.*

***“From there, my vision for the Seeds of Tomorrow greenhouse project was born.”***

*Upon meeting the bright eyed students, and teachers who themselves began their road to education with Les and the Impact team, I realized we could make a difference. From there, my vision for the Seeds of Tomorrow greenhouse project was born. The climate is ideal for growing, however, one major challenge is daily rainfall that washes away seeds before they can take root. A greenhouse for starting seedlings will solve this issue and set the children of Tactic onto a path of nutrition and success.*

*Once back in North America I started to call on my friends within the industry and was overwhelmed by the support. This enthusiasm brought Kubo Sustainable Greenhouse Projects of Holland and numerous other supply partners forward. The greenhouse has been donated, and now the task is to raise the funds to put in the infrastructure for the installation to become a reality.*

***Our required fundraising goal is \$60,000 and Houweling's is committed to matching every dollar up to \$30,000 to get there. Please do what you can to support this noble project.***

*Casey Houweling*

# Changing the cycle of child hunger

## CHALLENGES

- Restricted diet of corn tortillas and beans offer sub-standard nutrition
- 4th most malnourished country in the world with 50% of children and up to 85% of indigenous Mayan population within Guatemala (source: [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org))
- Seed corn that is highly unproductive
- Limited nutrition stunts growth and learning
- Daily heavy rains damage fragile seedlings

## OPPORTUNITIES

- The greenhouse will allow seedlings to mature to a size that can withstand the heavy rains before being transplanted into the fields
- Provide the Impact school network with access to fresh, nutritious fruits and vegetables
- Provide agriculture education to the students of Impact's schools
- Provide employment in the region
- Fresh produce sales to market

## BENEFITS

- Increase crop yield and crop variety
- Better nutrition and improved health
- 1,300 kids fed daily at Impact schools
- Children perform better in school and learn more
- Improved self-sustainability of community and provide revenue for ministry operations





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