

Chinaboquil Life Center - 2025 Program Report

Church of the Nazarene – Chinaboquil Village
Chisec, Alta Verapaz, Guatemala



Children served through the Chinaboquil Life Center during the 2025 program year.

Dear Friends and Partners in Christ,

It is with great joy and thanksgiving that we share this report of what God has accomplished through the Chinaboquil Life Center during the 2025 year. Together, we have witnessed His faithfulness in the lives of children, families, and the wider community. From classrooms filled with eager learners to families strengthened by God’s provision, your partnership has made a tangible and lasting difference.

As you read this report, we pray you will be encouraged by the many ways God is at work in Chinaboquil Village. The transformation taking place—academically, spiritually, and relationally—reflects His grace and the faithfulness of those who walk alongside this ministry. With continued prayer and support, we look ahead to 2026 with expectation, trusting that God will continue to accomplish great things through this Life Center.

In order to serve our sponsors well and maintain strong connection, we plan to provide program updates four to six times each year. These updates will share progress, milestones, and everyday moments from the lives of the children you help support.

Thank you for believing in the potential God has placed within each child and for partnering with us in this mission!

1. Life Center Program Impact

Life Center Background

The Chinaboquil Life Center began operations in March 2023, in response to God’s call to serve the children and families of Chinaboquil Village, under the direction of the El Puente ministry and sponsorship by Springdale Nazarene. As we look ahead to 2026, we joyfully enter our fourth year of ministry. What began as a step of faith has grown into a trusted Life Center nurturing children academically, spiritually, and relationally.

During 2025, the program faithfully served **45 children**. Looking ahead to 2026, the Life Center plans to expand to **60 children**, increasing both reach and impact. This growth will require sponsorship for **15 additional students**, a need we commit to prayer and trust in God’s continued provision.

Program Basics

The Life Center program operates **two days per week for eleven months** each year. Each session includes:

- Bible teaching and worship
- Academic tutoring and reinforcement
- A nutritious meal



Meal and worship time at the Life Center

Monthly sponsorship funds provide:

- Nutritious meals for each child
 - Classroom and learning materials
 - Modest compensation for teachers and staff
 - Ongoing program operations
 - A yearly program shirt and educational gift
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Program Leadership and Oversight



Life Center leaders from across Chisec gather at El Puente for training, prayer, and spiritual formation under the leadership of Fili and Nidia Castro.

The Chinaboquil Life Center operates under the faithful leadership of **Fili and Nidia Castro**, who serve as directors for **all four Centro de Vida Life Centers in the Chisec region**, including Chinaboquil. Their leadership is essential to the sustainability, accountability, and spiritual direction of each program.

Fili and Nidia visit Chinaboquil regularly to provide hands-on oversight, support local leaders, and ensure that program operations, finances, and spiritual formation are carried out with integrity and excellence. Their consistent presence strengthens accountability and encourages both staff and families.

Several times each year, Fili and Nidia also lead **training and spiritual formation gatherings** for Life Center leaders. These trainings take place at *El Puente* and bring together leaders from all four Life Centers for teaching, prayer, encouragement, and shared growth in Christ. These times of learning and fellowship play a vital role in equipping leaders and maintaining unity of vision across the ministry.

The Chinaboquil program is led locally by **six teachers and four cooks**, with ongoing support from the local pastor and church leadership who faithfully serve the children each week.



Teachers and cooks who faithfully serve the children of the Chinaboquil Life Center each week.

Academic Achievement

Children are grouped into three instructional levels, allowing teaching to be tailored to age and grade level:

- **Level 1 – Pre-primary and 1st Grade:** Focus on reading, writing, and basic arithmetic
- **Level 2 – 2nd and 3rd Grade:** Reinforcement of core academic subjects and study habits
- **Level 3 – 4th–6th Grade:** Academic enrichment, leadership development, and personal responsibility



Many children entered the program unable to read or write. By the end of the year, most students were reading, writing, and confidently solving math problems. Older students demonstrated increasing maturity and independence, with one student successfully completing sixth grade and receiving her primary school diploma.

Spiritual and Character Development

Spiritual formation and character development are central to the Life Center's mission. Biblical values are intentionally taught at every level:

- **Level 1:** Courtesy, respect, and healthy social interaction
- **Level 2:** Punctuality, responsibility, and valuing effort
- **Level 3:** Leadership, maturity, and serving others

Instruction is provided bilingually in **Q'eqchi'** and **Spanish**, strengthening comprehension while honoring cultural identity. Parents consistently express gratitude for the spiritual growth they see in their children, as well as noticeable improvement in behavior and confidence.

Parent and Community Engagement

Strong partnership with families is essential to student success. Throughout the year:

- Monthly meetings were held with parents and tutors
- Families received guidance on supporting learning at home
- Prayer, biblical encouragement, and Christian mentorship strengthened family relationships

Parents view the Life Center as a trusted partner in raising their children academically and spiritually.

2. Projects and Ministry Highlights

Village Visits and Ministry

Ministry teams from Springdale Nazarene have visited Chinaboquil Village three times, each visit combining construction, discipleship, and relational ministry:

- **July 2023:** Sanctuary roof, columns, and wall foundations rebuilt; the local church completed walls, flooring, and finishing work
- **June 2024:** Construction of two classrooms for the Life Center program, now fully operational
- **July 2025:** Installation of drainage systems in preparation for two additional classrooms

During each visit, teams:

- Visited families, delivering food bags and prayer
- Conducted children's ministry activities focused on biblical teaching and joy
- Led women's ministry gatherings, including focused ministry to widows

These visits strengthened relationships and reinforced unity in Christ between partners and the local church.

3. Looking Ahead to 2026

Future Vision and Purpose

As we look toward 2026 and beyond, our vision for the Chinaboquil Life Center remains rooted in holistic ministry—caring not only for the academic and spiritual growth of children, but also for the overall health, dignity, and well-being of families throughout the village. The initiatives planned for the coming year are designed to strengthen the foundation of the Life Center while addressing critical needs that directly impact child development and family stability.

By investing in infrastructure, health, and community development, we seek to create an environment where children are able to learn, grow, and thrive without preventable barriers caused by illness, unsafe living conditions, or extreme poverty. Each project reflects a commitment to long-term transformation rather than short-term relief.

Upcoming Projects

- Construction of **two additional classrooms** (January 2026)
- Replacement of the Life Center kitchen roof, **which is in much need of repair due to leaks and rust**
- Construction of a **basketball court** for youth recreation and outreach
- **Clean water initiative:** A village well scheduled for January 2026
 - Site and equipment secured
 - Will provide safe drinking water for the entire community
 - Access to clean water will help reduce waterborne bacteria and illness, improving overall health for children and families

Long-Term Vision

- **Beginning in 2027 and beyond**, annual visits to install **concrete floors in family homes**, with the goal of providing a finished floor for **every home in the village (100+ houses)**
 - Concrete floors reduce exposure to parasites and bacteria commonly associated with dirt floors
 - These improvements contribute to better physical health and help reduce factors linked to illness and cognitive delays in child development
- Continued academic and spiritual growth for children through the Life Center

- Exploration of **sustainable economic development opportunities** to help families move toward long-term stability
 - Families face rising costs and limited employment options
 - Efforts are focused on identifying income-generating strategies that empower parents, strengthen households, and reduce dependency over time

Through these efforts, our goal is to see children flourish in body, mind, and spirit, and to see families gradually lifted toward greater health, opportunity, and hope in Jesus Christ!



Children celebrating the completion of the 2025 program year at the Chinaboquil Life Center.

Final Reflection and Thanksgiving

We give thanks to **God** for His faithfulness through every project, every visit, and every child's growth. We are also deeply grateful for **Don and Lana Roe**, along with **Fili and Nidia Castro**, who faithfully lead the *El Puente* ministry. Through their leadership, guidance, and vision, El Puente supports and coordinates this program and projects, provides spiritual covering, and graciously hosts ministry teams with exceptional hospitality and care whenever they come to serve. The Chinaboquil Life Center is more than a program—it is a living ministry where children are known, families are strengthened, and Christ is shared in word and action.

Every accomplishment reflected in this report is a testimony to God's provision and to the faithful partnership of sponsors who believe in His work. With hope and confidence, we look toward 2026 and beyond, trusting that God will continue to accomplish amazing things in Chinaboquil Village through prayer, generosity, and obedience.

“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

Proverbs 22:6

How You Can Continue to Help

We know this work can only continue through **God's help and provision**, and through the **faithful prayers of those who walk alongside us**. We are deeply dependent on prayer and humbly ask you to join us in lifting this ministry before the Lord in the following ways:

- **Prayer, letters, and ongoing support** for your currently sponsored children, along with their families and teachers—praying for their **spiritual, emotional, and overall health**
- **Prayer for the village and the local church**, that hearts would be drawn to the Lord and that the church would continue to grow spiritually
- **Prayer for ministry teams** traveling to the village—that their service, love, and fellowship in Christ would have a lasting impact
- **Prayer for future sponsorship opportunities**, as **15 additional children** will need sponsors beginning this year
- **Prayer for a future teen ministry**, which will care for and disciple children as they age out of the current program