



Featured program for August 2015

**CCFC**

**WALC: Women in Agro-ecology  
Leadership for Conservation**



*Dining for Women*



Changing the world one dinner at a time

# Introducing CCFC and WALC



Community Cloud Forest Conservation (CCFC) alleviates poverty and protects forests through education, community development, leadership scholarships and ecological improvements to agriculture. CCFC believes that holistic human/community development through education and capacity building is the key to peace building in Guatemala's central highlands. WALC will teach young women to use sustainable farming methods and to make marketable products.

# Where in the world?

WALC communities are in remote Central Highlands, the cloud forest region of Guatemala (Alta Verapaz) along the Sierras: Yalijux, Cacquipec, Xucaneb and Sacranix.



# What are we supporting?

**CCFC's long-term goal is for WALC to be economically self-sustaining. WALC participants process products from their home villages, adding value and directly marketing their products.**

**WORKSHOPS:** WALK will recruit and enroll 153 qualifying young women ages 13 - 24 from 67 mountain villages annually. Workshops will take place at CCFC's Agro-ecology Center. A 25 consecutive day workshop is offered in the fall and two 25-day intermittent workshops are offered for young women who study on weekends only.

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** During the following school year, those students that have successfully completed their workshop and demonstrate school attendance will receive a scholarship of \$133 in three payments throughout the school year.

**WALC IN THE VILLAGE:** During the subsequent year, top performing WALC participants will take what they have learned into 43 villages and facilitate workshops for an average of 50 women and 136 girls in each village, for an average of 8,000 women and girls participating annually.

**PRODUCTION KITCHEN:** The DFW grant provides funds to equip the WALC production kitchen. This production facility will allow WALC students to add value to products which come from their family farms, villages and region.

# Life Challenges of Quech'a Mayan Women



Virtually 100 percent of the population of the 67 remote mountain villages of the WALC work area are living in either poverty or extreme poverty.

The illiteracy rate for Q'eqchi' Maya women over 35 years is 95 percent in these villages.

Chronic malnutrition and anemia are common among women, infants and especially in mothers younger than 17 years old.

# The Budget

## How Dining for Women's grant of \$38,606 will be used:

CCFC's WALC Program: Summary of costs	2015	2016	Total
Participation in CALT workshop, sponsorship (\$150 [\$17 workshop, \$133 scholarship] for each of 85 girls per year)	\$12,750	\$12,750	
Other core program expenses (outreach and recruiting, speakers, transportation for students, village work to include empowerment workshops by alumnae in 43 villages)	\$5,312	\$1,260	
Capital expenses (kitchen processing equipment and tools, solar lights, solar unit for laptops)	\$4,074	\$2,460	
			\$38,606.00

# About the Organization



COMMUNITY CLOUD  
FOREST CONSERVATION  
alleviates poverty and  
protects forests through  
education, community  
development, leadership  
scholarships and  
ecological improvements  
to agriculture. CCFC  
believes that holistic  
human/ community  
development through  
education and capacity  
building is the key to  
building peace in  
Guatemala's central  
highlands.

# Share Your Thoughts



- What is the importance of teaching sustainable agriculture to girls in Guatemala?
- Why will keeping girls in school reduce the likelihood that they will have children sooner and have more of them, contributing to higher birth rates?
- How will changing agricultural methods in Guatemala help farmers around the world?