



## CULTIVATING HOPE

In developing countries it is often the families of small scale farmers that lack variety in their diets due to their very low income, an over reliance on one traditional staple food crop and a lack of knowledge about nutrition. Children may not develop to their potential due to undernourishment and adults lack energy for their work. These rural families often experience hunger before the next crop is harvested or when adverse weather damages crops. Families cut back on food and spend most of their meagre income on food purchases or go hungry in the “hungry months”.

SHARE provides a hand up to those

willing to help themselves in small food production projects. This hand up brings hope and promise to families who have very little other support.

In SHARE’s projects, families are assisted to diversify their diets by growing fruits and vegetables in small orchards and in “kitchen gardens”. The SHARE project provides seeds, small fruit trees, tools, training and assistance. In cases where irrigation is added in the project, families can grow crops in periods of drought or in the dry season. With this water, where there is heat and sunshine year round, vegetable production can be doubled and tripled.

How does your garden grow? SHARE’s gardens are growing very well! There are many small gardens in several countries in SHARE’s projects. Gardens provide nutrition and diversity in families’ diets and in some cases, gardens provide a little income from local sales.

Key to the success of any SHARE project is the help of the agriculture technician who will provide the initial training and advice and who will arrive with the appropriate inputs for each project. The local promoter, a trained community volunteer, will be the local contact and will be there to assist and give practical advice.

In these gardening projects SHARE’s assistance is cultivating more than fruits and vegetables. In each project SHARE is cultivating hope!

**Your generous donations and the incredible support from the Barrett Family Foundation and Willowool Foundation have made a world of difference to hundreds of families. Your support has resulted in remarkable improvements in the lives of impoverished families providing education, literacy, clean water, food production, skills training and small enterprise.**

**THANK YOU!!**



## THE FRUITS OF OUR LABOUR

A few years ago SHARE funded a variety of fruit trees that were planted in 13 communities in eastern Guatemala to



diversify the limited diet of the families who relied on their staple corn crop. These small orchards and backyard plantings were diligently cared for in the Mayan communities. A promoter was trained to prune the fruit trees and to carefully watch for disease and



infestations of insects that might damage the young trees. At last, orange, mandarin, rambutan, mango, limes, lemons, cacao, bananas and pineapple are being harvested and eaten in all 13 communities providing families with rich nutrients for better health.



## KITCHEN GARDENS IN BOLIVIA

Small kitchen gardens in Bolivia are providing lettuce, beets, carrots, parsley



and onions for 91 families who also received a water collection system on their roofs and a large water storage tank that provides household water in times of drought. The small backyard gardens are watered by drip irrigation systems which



were also provided in the project. Besides enjoying these vegetables for improved nutrition, the families were able to give small amounts of produce to neighbours and sold some produce at the local market to increase meagre household income.

Youth in El Salvador who are participating in a leadership training program are learning ways to diversify farm production.



They have toured market gardens, worked as apprentices on small farms and are creating their own cooperative garden enterprises. The purpose of the program is to train youth to contribute in their rural communities, to avoid the gangs prevalent in their communities and have a reason to stay and not attempt migration.



## PLANTING A BETTER FUTURE FOR YOUTH

SHARE's current project in El Salvador, Brazil, Honduras and Guatemala intentionally includes youth in the agriculture component. Youth in the agriculture classes at Ak'tenamit school



have cared for many fruit trees funded by SHARE and are now harvesting citrus, cacao, plantain and bananas. The students share their new knowledge and skills in agriculture with their rural communities.



Families in El Salvador work together in cooperative groups to tend market gardens.

# COOPERATIVE MARKET GARDENS

SHARE has supplied inputs and training to families in El Salvador working in cooperative groups managing successful market gardens. The groups have only a small amount of rented land available for their enterprises, but with a stream nearby and a simple irrigation system (provided in the Pumps for Food project) the groups are able to maximize productivity and sell produce all year

round. The families were taught how to make a homemade fertilizer from low cost local ingredients, a key step in enriching the soil and minimizing expenses. Shade houses are used to control insects and protect the plants during the seasonal torrential rains. The extension specialist in the SHARE project assists the cooperatives to find markets for their production.



In Guatemala, farmers have devoted a section of their small fields to plantings of pineapple, peppers and tomatoes. Families have this new produce to eat and are thrilled to have the small income from sales at the local market.

## IN MEMORIAM

Everyone at S.H.A.R.E Agriculture Foundation is deeply saddened at the passing of our dear friend, supporter and volunteer extraordinaire, Les Frayne, on February 1, 2019. Les was the dedicated project manager for the Central American region for many years and was well loved and respected by all of our partners and the communities they support. Les' work helped people achieve great things. He truly believed that SHARE's projects brought hope to many rural families who had very little. SHARE wishes to express our deepest gratitude to Les for all he contributed to S.H.A.R.E in time, effort and dedication over the years.  
*(By Trish Murphy, former board member)*



# CAN YOU HELP EXPAND SHARE'S IMPORTANT WORK?

BY USING VOLUNTEER EFFORTS, "PASS ON", EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS AND WITH GENEROUS MATCHED FUNDING, SHARE WORKS TO MAXIMIZE YOUR GIFT.

- Support a project that touches your heart
- Give regularly to provide ongoing support
- Give a legacy gift or stocks
- Ask about matched funding or give to the general fund

## ONGOING PROGRAM AND PROJECT NEEDS

Water filter – \$50	Teen scholarship – to \$400
Seeds, tools – \$30	Tool kits for youth enterprise – \$250
Fruit trees/orchard – \$35 to \$400	Dairy animal – up to \$1,200
Irrigation for a group – to \$1,200	Agriculture technician services – to \$5,000
Goat for Haiti – \$75	Funds for start-up rural enterprise – \$300
Chickens for women's group – \$25	

## SHARE EVENTS FOR 2019

**March 3 – Wacky Card Tournament**, 1:30pm, Mayfield United Church, 12496 Dixie Road, Caledon, \$20

**April 25 – Trivia Night**, 7:00 pm, Tracks Brew Pub, 60 Queen Street East, Brampton. \$15.00

**MAY 25 & 26 – Annual Plant and Compost Sale**, 9:00am - 12:00pm, Behind the Cheltenham General Store, 14386 Credit view Road, Cheltenham

**July 15 - Annual Golf Tournament**, Guelph Lakes Golf Club, \$150 with \$50 tax receipt. Late registration after July 8th is \$165. Includes green fees, cart, lunch and dinner. Competitive and fun divisions. Call to register: 905-838-0897 or 1-888-337-4273. Or email funds to: share.treasurer19@gmail.com

**Sept. 8 - Fall Corn Roast for youth education**, Raefield Farm, 3:30 - 7pm. 5231 County Road #27 (between Brucedale and Rockwood). Music, farm walks, swimming, hayride. Bring a lawn chair. Call Ellen Thomson 519-856-9953. By donation.

**Nov. 2 – Annual Dinner**, silent and live auction, Embassy Grand Convention Centre, 8800 The Gore Road, Brampton, 5:30pm. Contact Joe @ 1-905-838-0897 or 1-888-337- 4273 for tickets, to sponsor a table or to donate to the Silent and Live Auctions, \$100 with \$40 tax receipt

*Do you have ideas for fundraising? Do you have contacts with funding organizations, foundations, churches or clubs who might assist SHARE? Please contact SHARE.*

**DONATE**

**ONLINE:** [www.shareagfoundation.org](http://www.shareagfoundation.org)

**MAIL:** S.H.A.R.E. Agriculture Foundation, 14110 Kennedy Road, Caledon ON, L7C 2G3

**E-TRANSFER:** [share.treasurer19@gmail.com](mailto:share.treasurer19@gmail.com)

## New Project Management Team

SHARE has assembled an impressive volunteer team to manage SHARE's projects going forward. **Craig Frayne, Hamsha Pathmanathan**, and **Carl Fletcher** bring a diverse set of skills and a passion for SHARE's work. Craig has been involved in various roles with SHARE for 9 years and visited project sites in Haiti and Central America acting as a translator. Craig has project management, farming and business experience. Hamsha has overseas experience with small scale agriculture, food security and soils and has volunteered in international development organizations. Carl was raised on a dairy farm and retired from a career with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs helping farmers find solutions to production, business and marketing problems. Carl has worked on SHARE's project committee and traveled to SHARE's projects. This team and South America project manager, Casey Willems, will be supported by administrative assistants, Marg Frayne and Judy Dunstan and by the SHARE's dedicated board of directors, SHARE's finance team (Joe Gray and Ben Tasson, CPA) and all the committed members of SHARE's committees.

## SHARE'S HEARTFELT GRATITUDE TO:

- **WILLOWOOL FOUNDATION AND THE BARRETT FAMILY FOUNDATION** for matched funding supporting SHARE's work in three countries.
- Many incredibly **GENEROUS DONORS**
- **ANONYMOUS DONOR** for a very generous gift that is funding a third year of adult literacy for over 60 illiterate adults in 3 rural communities in El Salvador
- **BEATY FAMILY FOUNDATION** (funds held within Oakville Community Foundation) for ongoing support
- **TO ALL ORGANIZATIONS FOR GRANTS.** OTF (Ontario Teachers Federation), OECTA (Ontario English Teachers' Association) and OSSTF (Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation) for school stoves and Roncalli International Foundation for a grant for irrigation.
- **EACH VOLUNTEER** who organized or attended fundraisers
- **Platinum Sponsor:** Green Tractors Inc. Barb and Karl Davis
- **Gold Sponsor:** RBC Dominion Securities (Steve Robinson & Assoc.)

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