Who is Ancelma?

Ancelma Ortiz overcame the unmistakeable obstacles of being born an indigenous girl in rural Guatemala by recognizing at a young age that education would be the key to breaking the cycle of poverty for her and her family. Thanks to Cooperative for Education’s (CoEd) Textbook, Computer, and Scholarship programs, Ancelma was the first in her family to graduate high school. At 22, Ancelma is now fluent in English, holds a sought-after position in a telecom company, and is helping her siblings complete their education.

How Can I meet her?

Join us for a panel event where Ancelma will share her story, followed by a lively discussion regarding the benefits of empowering people in the developing world. The discussion will be led by the nonprofits Cooperative for Education, Mayan Families, and Mission Partners Guatemala.

Open to the public, no RSVP necessary. Questions about the event? Email Jennifer@coeduc.org or call 513-661-7000.

Panelist Organizations

Cooperative for Education (CoEd) creates sustainable textbook, computer center, reading, and scholarship programs to address the root causes of poverty in Guatemala rather than merely treating its symptoms. Holly End will share how these programs benefit students like Ancelma.

Mayan Families assists indigenous peoples in the region surrounding Lake Atitlán through education and community development programs. David Withrow will speak about how these programs impact communities and tell of his firsthand experiences working with the impoverished populations.

Mission Partners Guatemala provides poverty relief through health care and education projects. Jim Weber will tell of his travels with Mission Partners Guatemala to minister to Guatemala’s poorest.

Hosted By

A Tale of Two Futures
How Empowerment Helped One Mayan Girl Beat the Odds

Monday, October 14th, 7:00-8:30pm
Xavier University, Schiff Family Banquet Center

Ancelma would have spent her life working in the fields, but thanks to her education, she is able to financially support her family. Learn more about Ancelma’s incredible journey on CoEd’s blog.

“I remember when I was 7 years old crying and crying to my mama saying, “Mama, I really want to go to school!” because it didn’t look like I would go at all. Now that I’ve graduated high school and am working, I’m so grateful to help my younger siblings have the same chance at an education.”

Ancelma Ortiz
CoEd Programs Graduate