



# GUATEMALA

- We serve in Guatemala City, the capital, which is home to more than two million people.
- It is estimated that **2,000 people** work as “recyclers” at the city dumpsite, the largest in Central America.
- Underground fires with acrid smoke sporadically break out at the dump. Pungent smells, insects, and animals fill the residential communities surrounding the dump, and chemicals from the dumpsite drain into the nearby river.
- Through a donor-sponsored holistic scholarship program, we’re empowering children to change their futures.

**Instead of picking through trash, our Samaritan Scholars are in school, picking future careers.**

It was after a trip to Guatemala that a priest and high school students founded International Samaritan. *Learn more: [intsam.org/after-30-years](https://intsam.org/after-30-years).*

## Yolanda Chacaj, Program Director

Yoli graduated with a Bachelor’s Degree in Computing with a Business concentration and then obtained a Master’s of Social Work.

She’s familiar with all aspects of our programs as she worked as a coordinator before becoming the director.



**Program Started:**

**1994**

**Samaritan Scholars:**

**88**

**Community Projects:**

Built homes, medical trips, built a nursery, currently renovating a warehouse for a family life center.

*All donations, 100%, go straight to our programs around the world. Thanks to the planning of our founders and board members, all overhead and outreach costs are covered by our endowment.*