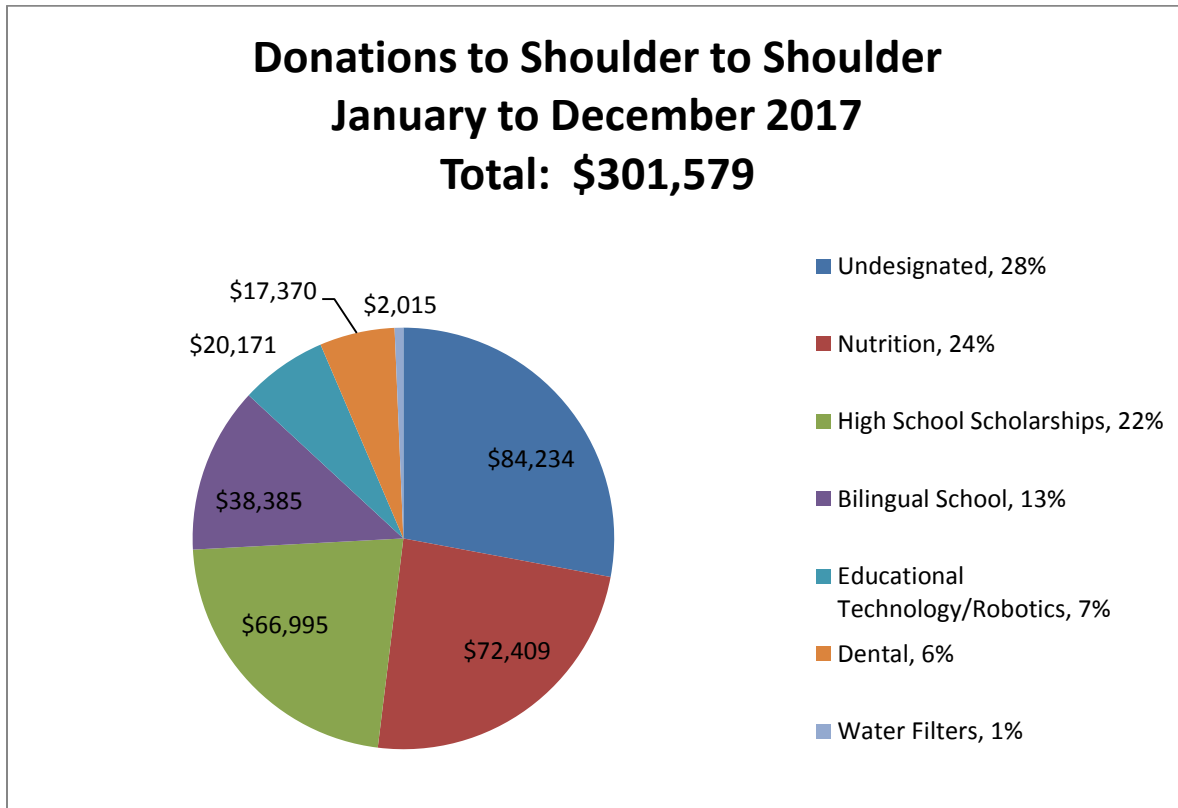


2017: A Year In Review



Donations to Shoulder to Shoulder -- Jan-Dec 2017

Undesignated	\$	84,234	28%
Nutrition	\$	72,409	24%
High School Scholarships	\$	66,995	22%
Bilingual School	\$	38,385	13%
Educational Technology/Robotics	\$	20,171	7%
Dental	\$	17,370	6%
Water Filters	\$	2,015	1%
	\$	301,579	

This is incredible! Your generosity is humbling, and we do our best to act with integrity in using the money you gift to us to fulfill the mission that you are committed to. Shoulder to Shoulder does not receive any large grants for their projects, with the exception of our ongoing health services (health care is not reflected in this report). We are now, as we always have been, almost 100% dependent on

individual contributions. This is astounding, especially considering a twenty-eight year history of service. Some of you have been donating to us since the very beginning, and we are grateful for your loyalty. Others have more recently joined us, and we are grateful for the trust you place in us. As it has been from the beginning, we are bound by your generosity.

Our expansions in service, particularly our present commitment to education, depend on increasing our funding. To do this, we need to be able to do two things successfully. We need to maintain you as our present donors. I know it sometimes feels as if all we do is ask for money. But we greatly respect and honor your commitment, and we ask because we are also committed to continuing the work that we see as vital. The second thing we need to do successfully is to extend and grow the individuals and organizations committed to our mission. This is the tricky part. We need new partners. Perhaps you can help us find them. We need people who can become enthused about the innovative and promising things we are doing in education. Perhaps you know some people. Please talk with them about us. Share with them the incredible things you have witnessed over such a long history. Tell them that they can be a part of our continuing mission. Show them our website. Share with them your stories. And please, have them contact us directly. We are always thrilled to give explanation about our work.

In terms of our funding for the future, these are the present challenges we face:

- **Nutrition Program.** In the Spring and Summer of 2017, we were facing the real possibility of having to discontinue our nutrition program. We could no longer depend on a 100% grant, but had to raise at least half of the expenses in order for it to be matched. We did not want to discontinue this incredibly valuable service for about 3000 children on the Frontera. It would mean greater mortality and morbidity rates among children. It would mean families would endure greater suffering. It would mean poverty would become more deeply rooted. We asked you and others to help us by raising at least \$50,000 to continue the nutritional supplement program for this upcoming year. WE DID IT! YOU DID IT! We are so pleased to continue. But the money we raised will run out again this year without a substantial injection of funds into this program. Please help us find people who will commit to the sustainability of our nutrition program and keep our children healthy. The children are the present and future of what we do.
- **Robotics.** We supported the robotics program in 2017. It was a great success. A particularly valuable outcome of that success was that it created enthusiasm and commitment for Shoulder to Shoulder's mission in education. We see how important it will be to continue our robotics program to ignite and generate a zeal for education among children, families, teachers, and administrators. However, we do not have a great deal of funding. Please help us to find those who can commit to the sustainability of our education mission. Engineering, technology, and programming is the present day means of development. We want to give the people of Intibucá the opportunity to be at the head of the line in this revolution in education and sustainable growth.
- **Technology and STEM Education.** We have an ambitious education mission. It was one thing to maintain one school. It is quite another to equip all seven municipal High Schools with the technology, pedagogy, and knowledge to make them institutions of excellence. This requires the forming of partnerships. We already have some, but are looking for so many more. Does your local school, or your university or graduate alma-mater, have an interest in being part of this

ambitious mission? Could it not become a valuable laboratory for them; a means of giving something of importance to the international community? Would you talk to them for us?



Support Education



Support Nutrition

These are the ways that you can continue to help us. We are so deeply grateful for your generosity, but we hope that you can help us to grow our donor base. It has always been about a community of generous hearts. It has always been about you. It will always be a *shoulder to shoulder* endeavor.