

Practical technology. Local leadership. Continuing work.

Working with communities and partners in
Guatemala and beyond



ATC program participants and partners, from organizational records

2

Volunteer groups supported solar installations

1

School documented as receiving solar power

\$73,841

Contributions, gifts and grants reported

A year of practical work and transition

Dear Friends,

In 2024, The Appropriate Technology Collaborative continued its work while navigating a period of organizational transition. Available records show activity across solar installations, technology development, community education and local partnership building.

ATC hosted two volunteer groups that installed solar power at a school and at remote rural homes. The organization also began a program with midwives in Comalapa, Guatemala, focused on bringing dependable solar lighting to families preparing to welcome babies.

The year also included the redesign and testing of a solar food dehydrator, plastics-recycling design work for a partner in Malawi, solar education in Guatemala and Southeast Michigan, and support for Poder y Luz Maya as it became a Guatemalan-run nonprofit.

This retrospective report was prepared from the records still available to ATC. Where the record does not establish an exact count, date or completed outcome, we describe the work without estimating.

Thank you for supporting practical technologies and the people who put them to work.

The Appropriate Technology Collaborative

2

Volunteer groups

1

School installation

\$17,846

Program supplies reported

Solar power where it was needed



Solar lighting supports safer, more usable homes after dark. Archival program image.

Volunteer installations

ATC's 2024 federal filing records that two volunteer groups installed solar power at one school and at remote rural homes. The available record does not provide a reliable household count, so this report does not estimate one.

Solar education

ATC taught solar classes in Southeast Michigan and in Jocotenango and Quetzaltenango, Guatemala. Education remained part of the organization's approach: technology was paired with practical instruction and local use.

Carbon-focused installations

The organization also reported installing solar power to offset carbon emissions, connecting household-scale energy work with broader environmental goals.

Beginning work with Comalapa midwives

Solar lighting around childbirth

In 2024, ATC reported starting a new program with midwives in Comalapa, Guatemala. The purpose was direct: provide solar power to remote families preparing for a birth so babies would not need to be born by candlelight.

The 2024 record establishes the beginning of this work, but not a final installation count for the year. The initiative continued beyond 2024 and developed into the larger solar-and-clean-water effort described in later ATC reports.

Why the relationship mattered

Midwives brought local knowledge, trusted relationships and an understanding of which households faced the greatest need. ATC contributed practical solar experience and support for implementation.



Hands-on solar learning has long supported ATC's community-based approach. Archival program image.

Developing technologies communities can use



Solar food dehydration

ATC redesigned, built and tested a new solar food dehydrator intended for use by a rural farming cooperative. The work focused on preserving food with solar heat and supporting locally useful production.



Plastics recycling

ATC designed plastics-recycling technology intended to make roofing tiles for Moving Windmills, a partner nonprofit working in Malawi. The record establishes the design activity, not a completed field deployment.



Solar vaccine refrigeration

A September 2024 Board presentation documented a solar vaccine-refrigerator prototype. The presentation supports describing this as prototype work rather than a completed program result.

Strengthening local capability

Poder y Luz Maya

ATC reported supporting Poder y Luz Maya as it became a registered nonprofit in Guatemala. The 2024 filing described the organization as 100 percent Guatemalan-run and self-funding—a significant step toward locally led, locally sustained work.

Appropriate technology for entrepreneurship

ATC also taught young Guatemalans about appropriate technology for entrepreneurship. This connected technical learning with the possibility of local enterprise and problem-solving.

A consistent operating idea

The common thread was not technology alone. ATC's role was to collaborate, transfer practical knowledge and help strengthen the ability of local people and organizations to carry the work forward.



Partnership and shared learning remain central to ATC's work. Archival program image.

A year of organizational transition

Continuing programs under pressure

Board records show that ATC entered the latter part of 2024 with limited cash, unresolved tax and state compliance work, and questions about leadership continuity. These challenges were material and are part of the year's honest story.

The Board engaged accounting help, worked to complete overdue filings and addressed state-registration requirements. At the same time, it sought to preserve commitments in Guatemala and maintain local project coordination.

Stewardship and continuity

The organization ended 2024 with no reported liabilities on its Form 990-EZ and continued the compliance and leadership work that would carry into the next year. The transition did not erase the year's program activity; it shaped how ATC moved forward.

\$0

Liabilities reported at year end

\$27,873

Ending net assets

\$23,525

Annual operating deficit

2024 financial stewardship

Year ended December 31, 2024. U.S. dollars. Accrual basis. Figures below are taken from ATC's 2024 Form 990-EZ as prepared in 2026.

\$73,841

Total revenue

\$97,366

Total expenses

\$27,873

Year-end net assets

Financial category	2024 amount	Financial category	2024 amount
Contributions, gifts and grants	\$73,841	Salaries and employee benefits	\$39,420
Professional fees and contractors	\$5,124	Occupancy, rent and utilities	\$1,384
Program supplies	\$17,846	Travel	\$6,940
Consulting	\$7,794	Contractors reported in other expenses	\$11,432
Other reported expenses	\$7,410	Printing and postage	\$16
Total revenue	\$73,841	Total expenses	\$97,366
Prior-period adjustment	\$2,281	Deficit for the year	(\$23,525)
Beginning net assets	\$49,117	Ending net assets	\$27,873

The people and partnerships behind the work

Community partners and volunteers

The work documented in 2024 depended on volunteers, local educators, midwives, rural families, technical collaborators and community organizations. Their contribution cannot be reduced to a single count.

Local leadership in Guatemala

Poder y Luz Maya's transition to Guatemalan leadership represented a central principle of appropriate technology: solutions are strongest when local people direct, maintain and adapt them.

Partners named in available records

Available records identify midwives in Comalapa, Poder y Luz Maya, Moving Windmills, rural farming partners, schools, volunteers and donors as participants in or supporters of the year's work.



ATC's history has been built through long-term collaboration. Archival program image.

Looking forward from 2024

Work continuing beyond the year

Several efforts documented in 2024 were not confined to the calendar year. The Comalapa midwives initiative, household solar work, clean-water activities and solar food dehydration continued into later periods. This report therefore distinguishes between 2024 activity and outcomes confirmed only after year end.

About this retrospective report

This report was assembled after the fact from ATC's 2024 Form 990-EZ, Board presentations and notes, financial records, project materials and organizational archives. Exact counts and dates are included only when supported by those records. Photographs are identified as archival when their precise date could not be verified.

Thank you

ATC thanks the communities, volunteers, donors and partners whose work made these efforts possible and whose continued involvement helped carry them forward.

Visit ATC's website

apptechcollaborative.org

Support ATC's work

apptechcollaborative.org/donate

Learn about current projects

apptechcollaborative.org