

Executive Financial Report – Office & Infrastructure Improvements (July 2025)

Background

In March 2025, the Fotokids team identified two urgent needs at our Santiago Atitlán site:

1. Our teachers didn't have proper desks for planning and administrative work.
2. The pergola roof — over 10 years old — had become worn out and unsafe.

After receiving some high-cost quotes, we decided to take a more hands-on, cost-effective approach. The result? A successful, team-driven upgrade — completed over a weekend without interrupting Fotokids' day-to-day activities.

Timing and Planning

All work was done **over the weekend**, from **8:00 AM to 6:00 PM**, to ensure that we **didn't interfere with any regular Fotokids classes or programming**. The team gave their time and energy outside of the usual work week, demonstrating a deep commitment to the mission and to keeping operations running smoothly for our students.

1. Pergola Roofing Replacement



The challenge:

We received a quote of **Q21,000 (≈ \$2,692 USD)** to fully replace the old metal roofing. It was long overdue, but that price was well out of budget.

What we did instead:

We bought all the materials ourselves, had them delivered to Santiago, and tackled the job as a team over the weekend. Berlin brought the tools, and he and Andrés worked tirelessly to remove the old roof and install the new one.

Actual cost:

•Q7,800 (≈ \$1,000 USD)

- **Estimated savings: Q13,200 (≈ \$1,692 USD)**





2. Teacher Office Desks

The challenge:

We needed 5 desks for our teaching staff. The lowest quote we found was **Q850 per desk (≈ \$109 USD)**, totaling **Q4,250–Q5,000 (≈ \$545–\$641 USD)**.

What we did instead:

Berlin designed an efficient, functional desk model. He bought wood cut to size from a local shop, packed it (tightly!) into our car, and brought it to Santiago. That same weekend, Gerardo, Juan Ixbalán, and I followed the blueprints and assembled all five desks.

Actual cost:

- **Q2,000 total (≈ \$256 USD)**
- **Estimated savings: Q2,250–Q3,000 (≈ \$288–\$385 USD)**





Financial Summary

Project	Quoted Cost	Actual Cost	Estimated Savings
Pergola Roof Replacement	Q21,000 (≈ \$2,692 USD)	Q7,800 (≈ \$1,000 USD)	Q13,200 (≈ \$1,692 USD)
5 Office Desks for Teachers	Q4,250–Q5,000 (≈ \$545–\$641 USD)	Q2,000 (≈ \$256 USD)	Q2,250–Q3,000 (≈ \$288–\$385 USD)
Total Estimated Savings	—	—	Q15,450–Q16,200 (≈ \$1,980–\$2,077 USD)

Takeaway

By planning smartly and working over the weekend from 8 to 6, we made sure not to disrupt any Fotokids programs — and still got everything done on time. This project brought big improvements to both our facilities and staff workspaces, while saving the organization close to **\$2,000 USD**.