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Colorado-Based Nonprofit named one of The Best Places to Work™ for Women in Central America and the Caribbean in 2021

Lakewood, Colo. • November 12, 2021 — Great Place to Work® has named [Friendship Bridge](#) one of [The Best Places to Work™ for Women in Central America and the Caribbean in 2021](#). Headquartered in Colorado, the nonprofit provided more than \$14 million in new loans in 2020 and served 30,000 Guatemalan women living in poverty. They operate 14 offices throughout Guatemala and employ 177 people in total, 96 of them women. The award recognizes organizations whose female employees report that their workplace creates trust and supports their ability to reach their full human potential, no matter who they are or what they do, organizations that have practices that are fully committed to the development of the woman. Friendship Bridge ranked second among 25 other multinational organizations that participated, including [Belcorp Centroamérica](#) and [Novo Nordisk CLAT \(Caribbean & Central America\)](#).

“This is an exceptional honor for us,” said Karen Larson, Friendship Bridge President & CEO. “The employee surveys prove that our impact extends beyond the reach of our client base. The women on our team are also telling us they feel supported and empowered. Even during this pandemic, we’re creating a culture of trust by providing secure jobs, a good income, and important benefits to our female staff.”

Altogether, Friendship Bridge has received the following rankings this year:

- #2 [The Best Places to Work™ for Women in Central America and the Caribbean in 2021](#)
- #23 [Best Workplaces™ in Guatemala 2021](#)
- #30 [Best Workplaces™ in Central America 2021](#)

To determine these rankings, Great Place to Work® analyzed confidential survey feedback from its staff that took into consideration its female employees’ daily experiences of innovation, the company’s values, and the effectiveness of their leaders. The ranking is also based on how well-represented women are in the workforce and throughout management, taking into account industry trends. To be considered, at a minimum, companies need to employ at least 50 women, at least 20% of their non-executive managers need to be female, and at least one of their executives needs to be female.

About Friendship Bridge: Friendship Bridge is a nonprofit social enterprise based in Lakewood, Colorado creating opportunities that empower women in Guatemala to build a better life. We use an innovative and high-impact approach to poverty alleviation by combining the tools of microfinance, education, and preventive health services. We call this Microcredit Plus. As a result of participating in our programs, our clients experience a combination of increased resilience, improved empowerment, and accelerated business development. Learn more at www.friendshipbridge.org.

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