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## Colorado Nonprofit Ranks High in World's First Microfinance Social Performance Index

*Friendship Bridge improves the lives of Guatemalan women experiencing poverty.*

**LAKESWOOD, COLORADO:** [Friendship Bridge](#), a Denver metro nonprofit that creates opportunities to empower impoverished women in Guatemala, received high rankings in the world's first microfinance impact performance index. The [newly released report](#), conducted by [60 Decibels](#), was developed to determine what good, better, and best performance looks like within microfinance institutions—those that provide credit options to low-income individuals who don't qualify for traditional banking services.

“Although we have long been committed to evaluating our impact, what is so exciting about the benchmark is being able to see how our services perform against other microfinance organizations,” said Caitlin Scott, Chief Strategy Officer for Friendship Bridge.

The microfinance industry is growing, and is projected to reach [\\$304.3 billion by 2026](#). [Jennifer Lopez recently announced she'll partner with microfinance organization Grameen America](#) to empower U.S. Latina entrepreneurs. Vice President Kamala Harris just [announced a \\$2 billion investment in three Central American countries](#) as part of the Biden administration's strategy to get to the root cause of migration.

The 60 Decibels performance index shows which microfinance organizations are actually improving the lives of impoverished individuals. Here's how [Friendship Bridge performed](#) against 72 other Microfinance Institutions in 41 countries:

- #3 in Latin America and the Caribbean
- #16 in the world
- In the top 20% in 'Business Impact' and 'Household Impact' dimensions

[Key findings from the report](#) revealed that 85% of Friendship Bridge clients say they do not have access to a good alternative that provides similar services; 94% improved their ability to manage their finances and 94% saw improved income because of Friendship Bridge.

“We are proud that our clients overwhelmingly report that we are helping them to improve their lives,” said Scott. “When people's lives are at stake, it is important to know how our services are affecting them.”

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