



Care for Kids La Paz



Care for Kids La Paz Newsletter

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From the President's Desk

Care for Kids La Paz has always encouraged people to visit their sponsored scholarship student to see first-hand the benefits they bring to the child's life and family.

Earlier this month, one of our students, Monserrat, (in photo above with her mother, Rufina) was blessed with a visit from her sponsors who have supported her for the past six years. She is now in her last semester of high school with a GPA of 10. In fact, she has received 10's throughout junior high and high school. Her brother was also one of our scholarship students who just recently graduated from university with a degree in engineering!

Three times a year, students write a letter to their sponsors thanking them and telling them a bit about their lives. In reading and translating them, I was struck by the

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beauty and gratitude of two letters that showed a remarkable maturity for the writers' ages. I would like to share an excerpt of each letter with you.

"I so enjoyed your visit. Thank you for coming and meeting my family and me. All of us were very happy and because of the good people you are, so kind and unassuming, that in the short time you were here in our home, we wished you could have stayed longer. We appreciate everything you have done for us and for me. My gratefulness, affection, appreciation and admiration have grown much more for you and I feel as if you are part of my family." - Monserrat

"This letter is to tell you how thankful I am for you giving me this huge opportunity to study. You don't know how grateful I am that someone would worry about others they don't even know and to put their confidence in someone in order to give them a better life. It's probably very difficult for you to imagine how a family can live in such poverty and to know there are few options available.

The option I have chosen is to study. I believe it's the best option for a better future for my family and me. I need more than a page to tell you what it means to me to have your confidence except to say I will dedicate more of myself to my schoolwork so that I can achieve more. Your confidence gives me the reason to fight for a better future." - Oscar

It has always been a privilege for our charity to offer scholarships to those students who want to work hard and get ahead in life. We have seen so many successes and are truly convinced that tackling poverty and improving education go hand in hand.

Education is perhaps the best long-term solution to poverty in the developing world. According to the 'Global Partnership for Education', if all students in developing countries completed school with basic reading skills, global poverty could be cut by 12%. This shows an undeniable link between education and poverty reduction.

Unfortunately, a lot of the children in our most impoverished communities and schools have lost all hope of ever being successful and leaving their impoverished lives. An education alone may not take someone out of poverty. It may not even end poverty. However, keeping a child in school and on a path toward self-fulfillment and self-discovery just might. Children cannot tap into their potential and discover their sense of purpose if they are not going to school and if they are not being given the opportunity of a great education.

We need to keep fighting for and supporting those children who have so little, to bring them out of darkness, and to ensure that the light at the end of the tunnel never goes out. With an education, students will be able to choose a career instead of a career choosing them.

God bless.
Barbara

The Face of Angels: Profile of Children of Vista Hermosa



Julio - 14 years

Translator: Peggy Rodriguez

CFKLP: Tell us a little about your family?

J: I live with my mom, dad and three younger siblings. My mom takes care of us and my dad's work is temporary. Right now he doesn't have any. When he is able to work, he works in construction or in the fields.

CFKLP: Is it a worry for you when your dad doesn't have work?

J: I feel sad. I feel sad for my dad and for us because sometimes when he doesn't work, we don't have enough food. There have been times we didn't have food for three days. It affects my schoolwork because I worry and get migraines.

CFKLP: What's the most important thing your parents have taught you?

J: To be responsible and to be a good example. They have supported me and they give me confidence. They always tell me, "You can do it. You can succeed."

CFKLP: I've always recognized your desire to work hard. I see in you a hard worker.

J: I really appreciate your support and sometimes I cry because I don't think I've met your expectations when my marks have fallen. I want to prove myself.

CFKLP: What do you think our expectations are?

J: I think you and my sponsors' expectations are for me to raise my economic level in life.

CFKLP: That would be wonderful. What does education mean to you?

J: It's a way to communicate with people and to express oneself better.

CFKLP: What are your dreams for your future?

J: To be educated, to be a teacher in primary grades. I think teaching is a good job with good pay and I'll always have food. It makes me feel good to help people. When I look at my parents and see their life, I realize how important a steady job with steady pay will be. And I won't be hungry.

CFKLP: You'll make a great teacher, Julio, because you have a beautiful heart. What do you see as your greatest strength?

J: I'm a good person, I'm happy even though I may have moments of sadness. It's sad to see my dad who wants to do such good for our family, but has no means to do it. When he gets depressed, I tell him that he may not be able to give us the things money can buy, but he gives us love, good counsel, and support. We talk about these things as a family. Other families may have laptops and nice phones but they don't have the love of a father.

CFKLP: Tell me about a personal achievement that makes you proud.

J: I feel proud when I write an exam and the teacher tells me, "Well done" because I got a 10. I feel proud to have gotten to that level even though it was difficult.

CFKLP: How has the scholarship helped you and your family?

J: It's motivated me to study harder. Without the scholarship, I would still go to school but it would be difficult. I wouldn't be able to buy school supplies, for instance, and I wouldn't be able to do my homework. My parents can't give me the things I need for school because there's no money.

CFKLP: I know your sponsors are happy to be able to help you. What do you do in your free time?

J: I like to read about the history of Mexico. I also like to write. I write about what I've learned from what I've read.

CFKLP: If you had all the time and money in the world, what would you like to do?

J: Support my family. I'd give them everything especially a house that doesn't leak when it rains, I'd help people who have less, who have nothing and who are suffering.

CFKLP: Where are you doing your community service and what are you doing?

J: I give classes in the library. I love to read stories to the children so that they can learn something good; not something bad. I just read them a book about a good chicken and some bad chickens who wanted the good chicken to do something bad but she wouldn't do what they wanted. It's a good way to teach the children to stand up for what's right and what's important. The children love to be read to. Then we talk about the story and after, they draw something about the story they found interesting.

CFKLP: You'll definitely make a great teacher. But if you were the President of Mexico, what would you change to make Mexico a better country?

J: I'd put the bad people in jail. I'd help the poor, I'd raise them up by giving food, and scholarships to students who want to study and get a better education.

CFKLP: Is there anything else you'd like to say to our readers?

J: The breakfast and scholarships are good programs. It provides a way for kids to go to school because otherwise, many of them wouldn't be able to go to school. A thousand thanks for the support the readers are providing.

How Can You Help?

Please remember to use the search engine GoodSearch.com and GoodShop.com so that our charity can earn money every time you search the internet or shop on-line. Go to their website and select Care for Kids La Paz (Dilworth, MN) as your designated charity. It doesn't cost users a thing and those pennies can really add up!
[GoodSearch](http://GoodSearch.com) [GoodShop](http://GoodShop.com)



We are now on Facebook! If you already have a Facebook account, go to the Care for Kids La Paz Facebook page. If you'd like to receive updates on your newsfeed such as photos or events, please 'Like' us and 'Share' us. Liking and sharing us helps us get around. [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/CareforKidsLaPaz)

Help spread the word about Care for Kids La Paz. Do you belong to a group or a school who would like to hear more about us? We'd love to come and talk about our work. Better yet. Visit us in beautiful La Paz and you can give your own presentation.

If you have any children's books in Spanish you'd like to donate, please contact me at: careforkidslapaz@yahoo.com

There are a number of students with good grades who would like to have a scholarship. If you would like to share in a special relationship with a student and their family, please drop me a line for more details at careforkidslapaz@yahoo.com

If you're travelling to La Paz, please keep a little space in your luggage for books, toothpaste, toothbrushes, pencils and children's vitamins.

Please keep our charity in your prayers!

May your hearts be continually filled with the love and peace of God.

Mission Statement

Care for Kids La Paz is a non-profit charity dedicated to improving the lives of impoverished children and families in La Paz, BCS, Mexico. We provide long-term support by guaranteeing access to food, health care and education to children.

Through our commitment, Care for Kids La Paz strives to achieve lasting improvements in the quality of life of underprivileged children giving them the opportunity to become healthy, self-reliant individuals.