

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please provide the following information so we may:

- (1) Notify you when your student is available
- (2) Properly receipt future donations

Name

Address

Apt / Suite / #

City

State

Postal Code

Email (help us save postage, keeping costs low)

Phone

We respect your privacy.

Pura Vida does not sell or exchange mailing lists. Your contact information and email address will be kept completely confidential.

Please tear off and send to:

Pura Vida Ministries
9609 S. University Blvd #631370
Littleton, CO 80163-1370



Guatemala Scholarship Program

Providing opportunities
from Kindergarten
through University

*Give the gift of education
for about a dollar a day*



OUR PROGRAM

Pura Vida is arranging scholarships for children in rural Guatemala desiring to continue their education but who are unable to do so for financial reasons. School is simply not affordable for most rural village residents. There are some really bright kids who just won't have the chance to get beyond 2nd grade.

Pura Vida has been offering scholarships in Guatemala since 2003. We have been working closely with parents to help them understand the long-term benefits of keeping children in school longer. These benefits are already becoming apparent; children from the early years of the program have undergone huge changes in maturity and ability. There is much promise in this program!



We are currently sponsoring children in all grades of elementary, middle, and high school. We also have students studying at the University level.

WHY GUATEMALA?

Fundamental issues in Guatemala exist on a scale not seen in the developed countries. Rural Guatemalans, especially the indigenous, face some very serious challenges:

- **Health:** Infant mortality is among the worst in the hemisphere.
- **Poverty:** Guatemala is one of the poorest countries in the western hemisphere.
- **Literacy:** Guatemala has one of the lowest literacy rates in Latin America.
- **Human Rights:** Guatemala is one of the world's most violent countries.



WHY EDUCATION?

We believe that education is the most effective long-term resolution to many of the issues listed above. Providing access to education is a way to help people help themselves. Additional benefits from increased access to education include:

- Increases child health.
- Provides better job opportunities.
- Spurs economic growth.
- Helps disenfranchised indigenous populations participate fully in civil society.

Our Approach

We work with indigenous communities to provide children with the financial support and individual attention they need to complete a basic education.

- We give special attention to orphans, the disabled, and other disadvantaged children who would otherwise fall through the cracks.
- Whenever possible, we place our scholarship recipients in private schools. If the distance from home is great and the student is very young, we may instead choose placement in the closest public school.
- We regularly meet with the families of scholarship recipients to reinforce the importance of education and to ensure that the student is given time to study.
- Scholarships are also intended to help defray the opportunity cost incurred by sending a child to school who would otherwise be helping to generate income for the family.
- For students that excel, scholarships are available through the university level. We encourage our students think big in this regard.



Program Details

Our students live in the greater Santa Cruz / Chichicastenango region of Guatemala. The cost of sponsoring a student is \$42 per month. This covers tuition, supplies, uniforms, bus fare, and letter processing. If you would like to sponsor the education of one or more students, either by yourself or as part of a group, please fill out the attached form and return as directed.

Students in the program write at least two letters to their sponsor each year. Sponsors are encouraged to correspond with their students.

Pura Vida runs regular trips to Guatemala; we hope you can join us for a visit with your sponsored student some day.

We encourage sponsors to continue their support as long as their student is able to progress in school. At a minimum, we ask that you continue to sponsor them until a milestone year in the Guatemalan educational system. Students celebrate promotions at the completion of the following levels: 6th, 9th, and 12th grades. Every additional year of school is a blessing for these students.



About Pura Vida

The primary focus of Pura Vida is to provide educational opportunities for children in rural Guatemalan villages through scholarships and support of local schools.

Pura Vida is committed to long-term involvement in the education of children from the poorest rural Guatemalan communities. We believe this is the most effective way of helping them to help themselves. We have been working with children in Guatemala since 2002, and have developed a strong local network of village leaders.

Pura Vida Ministries is a non-profit corporation organized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States. Donations are tax -deductible as allowed by law.

YES, I want to sponsor a student !

Please sign me up to support the education of a student from Guatemala.

Option 1: We can select a student for you according to the following criteria:

Gender preference:

- ☐ Any, or
- ☐ Girl
- ☐ Boy

Age preference:

- ☐ Any, or
- ☐ Elementary school
- ☐ Middle School
- ☐ High School
- ☐ University (extra cost)

- Please provide contact information on the other side of this form
- Return form as directed

Option 2: You can select a student from a list of those available on the Pura Vida website:

www.puravida.org

Contact us with the name and ID of the student you select:

- **By email:** info@puravida.org
- **By phone:** (303) 215-0994
- **By mail:** See address on reverse

