

VAMOS ADELANTE FOUNDATION



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Dear Leaderschool Friends !

This time I would like to introduce you to the students you are helping with a scholarship and tell you about a few changes in the school „Informatica Amigos“ where you are helping.

Here is Amarilis Oliva Rivera. Not only is she the director of „Informatica Amigos „, but also an incredible example for students who would like to move forward in life.

Work was increasing in the school and Amarilis decided to hire Alex, who had been helping her before as a volunteer. Last year Amarilis had found him a job in a bank but as he is losing his vision fast (suffers of tunnel vision) he could not continue. Nevertheless he studies at the university and with the help of his classmates who do their best to give him a hand. He can not see the blackboard any longer. Within the last two years his vision has gone down from 80% to 30%. He will eventually go blind.

Alex is now Amarilis assistant a few times a week. The students at this point have no idea about his problems.



This is English class. We finally have a wonderful young teacher (you can see Maria in the very back to the right) who is fluent in both English and Spanish. Maria grew up in the USA but has now returned to the roots of her parents who originally came from Guatemala. She plans to stay at least a year.

You are presently helping nine students to go to Junior High School– Vicente is missing on the picture as he had to go back to work but you can read about him in the below profile.



Vicente, 31 years old, developed severe problems with his leg as he suffered a truck accident several years ago. It is now 10cm shorter than the other and is not flexible, nevertheless his is working part-time as a driver, mostly driving our students from their homes to the school and to the school where they are studying. He is now in 3rd grade Junior High School and would like to continue his studies in university, most likely trying to get a degree as a computer technician.

Yohana, 32 years old, came to Informatica Amigos two years ago and was terrible afraid of everything. She suffered much discrimination and had lost most of her self-confidence. Under Amarilis' guidance and decided to go on to university.

Yohana's left leg is much shorter after a car accident and in addition has problems with her thyroid.

She is single and does not want to start a family yet. We have seen big positive changes in Yohana as she is so much outgoing and finally is starting to make friends.



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Maribel is now 39 years old. When she was 21 Multiple Sclerosis was diagnosed and changed her life radically. She now lives with her children who support her but cannot take care of their mother. Maribel heard about Informatica Amigos she decided to go to class and when the possibilities for a scholarship were mentioned she immediately said yes. She is a very humble sweet woman who really does something with her life in spite of her disabilities.



Maribel was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis when she was 21. She is supported by her children but they cannot care for her. She decided to go to class after hearing about Informatica Amigos. She immediately accepted a scholarship opportunity. She is a humble and sweet woman who is determined to do something with her life despite her disabilities.



Maria Lopez, 47 years old and her deaf father who always accompanies her pushing the wheelchair through the heavy traffic. Maria had polio when she was a child. She has a son who is 13 years old and she lives with him and her father. Her goal is to work and to study to be able to sustain the family better.

Claudia is 27 years old and has Spina Bifida. She studied with Informatica Amigos last year and decided to continue, seeing Amarilis as an example in university. Claudia wants to become a secretary. She is now in 1 grade Junior High School which she attends on weekends. She still lives with her family and is single.



Henry, 24 years old, is a „go-getter“. He is extremely active on the basketball team for the disabled. He was shot at and became paraplegic as the bullet had hit his spine. Henry wants to continue his education and eventually specialize on something that has to do with computers. He lives with his mother and siblings.



and is in a paraplegic condition and enters. He lives



Henry is our second driver and as you can see has no problems stowing the wheelchairs. Gladys, Vamos Adelante's education supervisor watches with big eyes how Henry manages stuffing the chairs into a space that appears too small.

Maria Antonieta Noj is 39 years old and already a widow. She had polio as a child. Presently she lives with her parents. Her future goal is to become a teacher and having talked to her she appears very decisive. Maria is a happy woman and is always willing to help others.



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Wendy is 21 years old and suffers of Hydrocefalia and Espina She lives with her parents and came to Amarilis this year. Here learning that she is one student in a group and is treated like else.

This was new to her but Wendy rapidly is getting used to it. saw that so many others went to college she decided to do the was a big surprise for her parents.



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Oscar, 21 years old had his leg amputated after a bad car accident. He comes from a very poor family and they have not been able to find financial help to purchase a prosthetic leg.

Through your help we are now in the process of getting him one ! It takes several months and one needs much patience but I can tell you that Oscar is a very happy young man who, in spite of being very shy decided to return to school once he heard that he could get a scholarship through Informatica Amigos. He is in 7th grade= 1 Básico.

If there is any chance he surely wants to go on to university.

How grateful these nine students are I can not describe with words—at least the words hope, honest happiness, new positive quality of life, a worthwhile future, are part of what they feel.

Thank you!



In the rural area where the project Vamos Adelante mostly works the rainy season is slowly but certainly destroying the dirt-roads and every day has become a challenge. While taking this picture my pick-up (not in the picture) was stuck deep into the mud and it took almost three hours to get it out.

In the background behind where the men are standing the mud is hipdeep!



The rainfalls do not keep us from doing our work visiting the families affiliated with the project Vamos Adelante.

A few of “ our “ children.

If you have any further questions please write to me and I will gladly answer them.

A warm thank you from the Vamos Adelante Team.

Nina

