



CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN AND AGING

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***A note from CFCA:** We are always trying to reduce costs and improve efficiencies. To help with this, some projects are now sending annual photos in a digital format to CFCA headquarters in Kansas City, Kan., for printing and mailing to sponsors. You are receiving this photo with a letter about your friend's project, written by the project coordinator. You will still receive a spring letter from your friend. If you have not received it already, it will come in the mail separately.*

Dear CFCA Family,

We send greetings, our hope for peace to reign in your hearts, and the blessings of our wonderful Protector to brighten all our lives.

My name is Sandra Yamileth Portillo, coordinator for the CFCA project in Suyapa, Honduras. I am thankful to God for giving me the opportunity to serve the sponsored families since February 2001. Without a doubt, my life has changed significantly. I believe that "CFCA is an unforgettable experience." It is the best gift that can be received from our Father.

Today we serve 2,665 sponsored people in 11 subprojects, and we serve about 120 communities, some in urban zones but mainly in rural zones. We have 11 members on the team, organized in such a way that we can offer personalized attention, filled with love and human quality, which is what these communities need.

The program offers many alternatives so that families can reach their desired potential including nutrition, education, health, housing, clothing and Christian formation. We all as human beings face tough realities – and especially our sponsored families. But amidst these issues there is light and it is called CFCA.

We have a scholarship program for 75 high school youth who want and need to move forward in their education. This year we expect 10 to graduate in different careers, like business administration and public accounting. These young holders of scholarships offer social service to their communities, collaborating with the sponsored families in education reinforcement or tutoring for younger children having problems in school.

We have goals to accomplish and many dreams to fulfill. One is to help the children who live in rural areas have access to the opportunity to receive the bread of knowledge. Many times rural areas lack schools and teachers. For example, we are working with a special home schooling program for those in subproject TC, along with the scholarship holders of the zone, to offer education to the sponsored members. This community is very motivated and has done much to get teachers assigned to the zone. The classes are taught in a multi-usage center built by the families with the support of CFCA.



CFCA has been a great blessing to the families, as in the case of 50 families in the community of Toriles, subproject TC, in which latrines and water storage tanks were built. Ten sponsored families in different areas received dignified homes since theirs were in awful condition.

In the project we face lots of challenges, like delinquency. There are serious difficulties, and in some zones we must be accompanied by a volunteer from the community because local gangsters identify these volunteers as a part of their community, making passage safer for us. Another difficulty we face is the distance, especially in the mountains, where there is no vehicle access and we can only get there by horse. Benefits and supplies also are transported by these means. All this sacrifice is rewarded with smiles from the sponsored members and their very tender looks that melt hearts. These experiences have no comparison in life.

We have agricultural programs to improve the food conditions of the families. CFCA supports them by providing fertilizer and pesticides so they can treat their crops of corn, beans, coffee, potatoes and other vegetables. They produce the basics they consume, and this helps with the food problems of our sponsored families.

We have nice celebrations throughout the year, like “Dia del Niño” (Children’s Day), which we celebrate with piñatas, candies and other things. The Christmas celebration is greatly awaited since sponsored members love to receive grapes and apples as well as a Christmas dinner that makes them very happy, especially the elderly.



May God bless the hearts of all of you, godparents, for making it possible for us to offer hope in each of our projects around the world. You are in the center of a family that is once again capable of smiling. You are the center of a beautiful letter, written with a sincere and profound thankfulness and love by the sponsored members. We thank all of you infinitely, sponsors, for saying “yes” to our mission and for making a difference in the world.

With love and wishing you the best of this world,

Sandra Portillo
Suyapa Project Coordinator