

An Open Door to Continue to Dream

When asked, Álvaro will tell you that his favourite subject is math and that he likes singing during the daily devotionals. His eyes light up as he confides that one day he wants to be a teacher.

His face falls, though, when he's asked about what difficulties he faces.

"It's when my father doesn't have work," he says, "and we have nothing to eat. We ask God for help, for our health."

Álvaro's father is often sick, the principal explains. And when Álvaro's father is sick and can't go to work, it falls on the shoulders of the oldest children to provide for the family. Even when his father is able to work, the family still struggles.

Álvaro's older brothers have already dropped out of school to help support the family. And after his classes, Álvaro isn't able to stay and play. He leaves to go work – sometimes in the fields, sometimes doing heavy, manual labour such as loading boulders onto a dump truck. At 13, Álvaro carries the weight of his responsibilities alongside the weight of those boulders.

School is Álvaro's refuge. There, alongside his younger siblings, he gets nutritious meals and vitamins to keep him healthy. There, he has teachers who care for him, pray for him and encourage him. And there, he has a dream of becoming a teacher.



Álvaro carries the weight of responsibility



Sponsorship allows Álvaro to stay in school

Thanks to his sponsors, the door is open for him to continue his studies.

"We're very grateful, especially to the sponsors, for their support," says Álvaro's principal. "It's a great help in each of the students' lives."

The teachers encourage Álvaro to stay in school; they remind him that his sponsor is behind him and celebrating his milestones, and they remind him that God is with him.

"How wonderful it would be for Álvaro to graduate," muses his teacher, "to get a good job with a stable salary to assist his family." And to be able to one day tell his own students:

I achieved my dream, and you can too!

Part of God's Story

When you sponsor a child or class, you are impacting lives right now AND you're changing futures.

In May, we celebrate sponsorship at Impact Ministries!

Celebrate with us that Álvaro is still in school. At Grade 7, he's already had more schooling than his older brothers.

And join us in changing the future for children like Álvaro:

New to Sponsorship?

- Find children and classes still waiting for a sponsor like you at impact.sponsorsoft.ca

You can sponsor a child for \$49, \$69 or \$89/month or sponsor a class for \$50/month.

Already a Sponsor?

- Take a moment to pray for your child or class. Maybe even send them an encouraging note.
- Share sponsorship with friends or family members! Encourage them to sponsor a child or to join your class sponsorship cluster.
- Consider increasing your sponsorship level or adding additional class units. You'll be bridging the gap to the full cost of education and comprehensive care for your class or child.

Thank you for your faithful sponsorship!

Thanks for being part of God's story for kids in Guatemala.



Watch Alvaro's story come to life:

www.impactministries.ca/alvarovideo



The first time I went to Guatemala, only one member of our team was a sponsor and we went to visit his sponsor child. Her teacher mentioned that she had been so excited, talking of nothing else since she'd heard her sponsor was coming. We walked along a steep and rocky path and ducked under the clothes drying on a line, then gathered around as the family pulled out chairs and stools for us to sit on. **The sponsor gave her a gift, and she gave him a hug. And then the tears came. This little girl, only five or six years old, started weeping. They just held each other and cried.** Not a word was spoken, and there wasn't a dry eye in the room. That very night in the guest house, my parents and I signed up to sponsor a child and a class.

When I returned to Guatemala to serve as an English teacher, I learned just how much impact sponsorship has. For the people of Guatemala, **the fact that someone from another country, who has never met them, would send money every month to provide for their education is absolutely mind-boggling.**

I think of the students that I taught and I wish I could thank their sponsors for investing into the lives of kids who mean so much to me. I know the teachers in Guatemala so appreciate the sacrifice people make in order to support their students, and they love those who love "their" kids.

I love that child sponsorship allows you to invest in the life of one specific child, and I love how class sponsorship allows you to reach a whole room full of kids, as well as their teacher. If you decide to sponsor, know that it's so worth it!

~ Cassidy, Sponsorship Coordinator and Child & Class Sponsor



We believe that Impact uses our financial support with wisdom and good stewardship. They truly make an impact on the children and their families.



~ Child & Class Sponsor

Why do you Sponsor a Child or Class?

We asked our Sponsors

See more at www.impactministries.ca/sponsor

I want to have all children to know they are wanted, loved, and known by God.

~ Child & Class Sponsor

I want children to go to school and learn about Jesus' love for them.

~ Class Sponsor

I sponsor through Impact Ministries because I have seen first-hand how much of a difference sponsorship makes. **I have hugged and prayed over a child in Guatemala and know that my small monetary gift can make an eternal difference.** I love that when my sponsor child goes to school, he learns not only academics but more importantly, he learns about Jesus. What a gift!

~ Child Sponsor



This is a beautiful way for our church to be connected to Impact Ministries and for our children's classrooms to be connected to a classroom in another part of the world.

~ Class Sponsor



Want to become a sponsor?

You can see children and classes still waiting for a sponsor like you at impact.sponsorsoft.ca

celebrating
SPONSORSHIP

I believe that education is a strong way to break the cycle of poverty and hopelessness.

~ Child Sponsor

God is changing lives, and each sponsored child and class is receiving so many blessings and benefits from the sponsorship. Through the support received, the **future generations in Guatemala are being transformed by Jesus.**

~ Child & Class Sponsor

The sooner you begin the sooner you can make a difference!

~ Child Sponsor

It's the easiest and most rewarding choice a person can make to love another human that they may never meet.

~ Child Sponsor

You can make such an impact on a child's life - why wait!?

~ Child Sponsor



I'm the One being Changed

I started sponsoring a child because I wanted to help. But somewhere along the way, I realized: I'm the one being changed. There's a child in Guatemala learning Scripture I've half-forgotten. There's a classroom singing worship songs with more joy than I usually bring to a Sunday morning. Sponsoring didn't just give me an outlet for generosity. It gave me a mirror. My little brother in Christ in another country encourages me in that way. Praise the Lord!

The distance between Guatemala and your kitchen table shrinks faster than you'd expect when you treat the sponsor relationship like a real one. There's a child who's growing, learning, worshipping - just 5,000 km away. Ask them what they're learning. Tell them something true about your own life. Pray for them by name, out loud, so it stops being abstract. Something small that helped me: put their photo somewhere you'll actually see it. On the fridge, by your desk, in your Bible. You remember to pray for what you see.

Don't wait until it feels like the "right time" financially. It rarely does. What I'd say is this: *you're not being asked to rescue anyone.* God is already at work in the child's life - Impact Ministries is already there, teachers are already loving these kids. You're simply being invited to participate in something that's already happening. That's a low-pressure, high-privilege invitation. **Most of us are looking for our life to mean something. This is a quiet, faithful way to let it.**

~ KaTsun, sponsor since 2019

You can sponsor a child with flexible sponsorship levels starting at \$49/month, or join a class sponsorship cluster for \$50

✓ Yes, I want to impact a child's life!

- I want to: Sponsor a Class \$50/month x _____ unit(s) of class sponsorship
 Sponsor a Child \$49 \$69 \$89 \$ ____/month
 Increase my current sponsorship to \$____/month

Please make cheques payable to Impact Ministries Canada

Name:

Company (if applicable):

Address:

City:

Province:

Postal Code:

Phone:

Email:



Donate Online

impactministries.ca/donate



Spending of funds is confined to programs and projects approved by Impact Ministries. Should a donor designate a contribution, we will honour that designation, with the understanding that when the need for such a program or project has been met or cannot be completed for any reason as determined by Impact Ministries, the remaining designated gifts will be used where most needed. All gifts are tax deductible. Impact Ministries is committed to protecting your private information. The information you provide will be used to manage your sponsorship and communicate with you about our work. Thank you for your generosity.

News and Updates

We're pleased to welcome Cassidy Jean as our Sponsorship Coordinator! Cassidy spent three months teaching English at Vida Chijacorral School and saw first hand what sponsorship means to students and classes.

Cassidy is based in our Canada office, and works directly with Miriam Fernandez, who coordinates the Guatemalan side of sponsorship. Sponsorship questions? Email Cassidy at sponsor@impactministries.ca



We're thrilled to announce that Hugo Quej is the new Director of Hospitality! Hugo and the hospitality team are welcoming about 40 short-term mission teams and fieldworker groups to Guatemala this year. We're so thankful for these dedicated individuals on the ground in Guatemala who provide translation, transportation, and hospitality to our mission teams while they're in-country.

Vida Chamché School now has a soccer field - and it's upstairs! Lots of creativity went into providing this play area for students at a school that has limited courtyard space. Thank you to those who supported this new three-story building on the school grounds which houses the kitchen and dining room, three classrooms, and now a third-floor soccer field.



The Impact Coffee Plantation now has a solar drying greenhouse. This is where our coffee cherries are laid out to dry as part of the process from field to cup. Thank you to the individuals who supported this project, and to our carpentry volunteers who constructed wooden drying racks for use inside the greenhouse.

Know a medical professional who would like to come to Guatemala? We're currently recruiting doctors, dentists and others in the healthcare field for medical missions teams scheduled to serve in Guatemala in August and September. See www.impactministries.ca/medicalmissions for dates and information.



celebrating SPONSORSHIP

Impacting Guatemala through:

- schools
- churches
- medical & dental clinics
- orphan care
- sponsorship
- short-term missions

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"An Open Door"

