Shoulder to Shoulder

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

December 2018

As we look back on 2018, the Shoulder to Shoulder Scholarship program had another very successful year. Thanks to your generous donations, we were able to offer 133 scholarships to students in the 7th-12th grades. We now serve students in five different communities in the region, which is one of the poorest in Honduras. 26 students graduated from their “colegios” (equivalent of high school) this past November, which is a huge accomplishment. Most of these students have been sponsored by the scholarship program for the past six years.

The holiday season is a festive time here in the U.S., as we spend quality time with family and friends and reflect on 2018 and the New Year to come. In Honduras, it’s also an exciting season, especially for students since the school year ends in November. For those fortunate enough to attend school and continue their education, there’s a feeling of achievement and gratefulness.

Feliz Navidad

Fidelina Gehner, Scholarship Program Coordinator, Volunteer
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E-mail: fideg@shouldertoshoulder.org

Wayne E. Waite, CEO and Chair
Richard Buten, Ph.D., Board President
www.shouldertoshoulder.org

There are many ways to give:

- Automatic monthly giving through your checking account is the most sustainable and easy way to provide ongoing monthly gifts to support the students in Honduras. For $20 a month, or $250 annually, your donation provides a child with an entire years’ worth of education, including books, supplies, transportation, uniforms, housing, and after-school support. Gifts of less than $250 are combined to provide as many full scholarships as possible.

- Online at http://shouldertoshoulder.org/?page_id=922

- Workplace Match or Stocks

- Check – a check can be sent to our accountants at: Shoulder to Shoulder, Inc.
c/o: Pohlman & Talmage CPAs, Inc.
3445 South Dixie Dr., Suite 200
Dayton, OH 45429
Write “Scholarship Program” on the memo line

$20/mo

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We also were able to find long term sponsors to offer scholarships for 8 students to attend the university. Three of these students just graduated in November. Marleny and Jose, who obtained university degrees in nursing (RN), are great examples of the program’s success.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Number of Students Graduated</th>
<th>Field of Study</th>
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<tr>
<td>Concepción</td>
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<td>Electricity, Information Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camasca</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Community Development, Information Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Antonio</td>
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<td>Accounting and Finance, Science, Information Technology</td>
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<td>Santa Lucia</td>
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<td>Science, Information Technology</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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Sponsorship Opportunities for the 2019 School Year

We are now able to support students for just $250/year. We have no shortage of capable, motivated students who just need some financial support to further their education. In most of our communities, we are limited to around 20 students per year given our financial constraints. We want to increase the number for each community to 30 or more. In addition, our vision is to add 3 very remote communities to the 5 communities we are currently working with in the region.

With your help, we can achieve these goals of helping more poor Honduran students. Every year of education provides them the opportunity to learn and develop skills, giving them a better chance to advance in society. Without financial support, these students have little hope in the future and usually wind up working in the fields or as maids by the age of 12.

As you reflect on this season of giving, we would greatly appreciate your continued support of Shoulder to Shoulder’s scholarship program. $250 will fund an annual scholarship for one student, and smaller donations will be combined to support as many full scholarships as possible. Our overhead expenses are extremely minimal — your dollars will go directly to support these students.

Thank you so much for impacting the lives of so many students in Honduras through your generous donations. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With great appreciation,

Fide Gehner
Scholarship Program Coordinator, Volunteer
fdeg@shouldertoshoulder.org
513.307.5048

133

Thanks to your generous donations, we were able to offer 133 scholarships to students in the 7th – 12th grades. 26 students graduated from their “colegios” (equivalent of high school).

Marleny

The scholarship program has had a huge impact in my life. It has given me as much support as my family. Thanks to the long term commitment from my sponsor, who is like a mother to me, my life has had a 180 degree change. Without her support, I would’ve never had a chance to go to school beyond 6th grade.

My family is super excited, as I am the first person in the family to obtain a university degree. I just received a job offer as a regional nursing supervisor. I am very grateful for this job because I now can help my two sisters continue with their education. In the future, I would like to obtain a masters degree in intensive care. I feel very prepared for the future thanks to the opportunity you game me to attend the university.

It’s been an amazing and very rewarding journey. You put so much trust in me, which motivated me to always give my very best and obtain excellent grades because I didn’t want to let you down. I graduated Cum Laude. Thank you!"

– Marleny Cedillo Lemuz

José

I want to thank you so much for your unconditional support during my studies. It is humbling to know that generous people like you have put trust in me. I also thank you for helping many other students who have so much passion for education, but financial limitations have made it difficult for them to achieve success.

I am extremely happy because I will be graduating cum laude very soon. I am also learning English. This will help me be prepared for the demands of the medical field. Again, thank you from the bottom of my heart. I promise, I will always remember the trust you put in me, and will always do my best in everything I do.” – José Lemus