



Shoulder to Shoulder SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

January 2021

The concepts of “remote learning” and “work from home” changed everyone’s lives last year, and it was no different in Honduras from an education standpoint. When the world seemingly shut down last March, all schools and universities in Honduras went to a version of virtual learning wherever possible. As you can imagine, it was more difficult to achieve in the rural, poorer areas of the country. However, teachers and students adapted to the best of their abilities and resources available.

OUR IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

Since 2010, we have
sponsored over

1,600

students in five of the
most remote communities
of Honduras.

Despite all the challenges of the pandemic and major hurricanes in 2020, the STS scholarship program still had another very successful year. Thanks to your generous donations, **138 scholarship students were able to stay on track and finish the school year**, which ended in November. Nineteen students graduated from their “colegios” (equivalent of high school), which is a huge accomplishment.

So how did STS do this? Fortunately, we were able to provide computer tablets to most of our scholarship students. These tablets were uploaded with a digital version of textbooks and educational content. Students were then able to continue their studies at home even without access to the internet. The tablets were also uploaded with books, which are incredibly expensive in Honduras. Since there are no public libraries, having books at their fingertips is a dream come true for these students.

For students without tablets, we quickly created a “pilot project” to purchase a limited internet package for students. Using cheap phones, students in remote areas could now access the internet for their studies. Teachers had to get creative as well. School supplies, supplied by STS, were personally delivered to students by teachers, sometimes via motorcycle rides over mountain trails.

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Community	Number of Graduating Students in 2020	Field of Study
Santa Lucía	1	Science, Information Technology
Magdalena	2	Science, Information Technology (1) Science and General Education (1)
San Antonio	5	Accounting and Finance (4) Information Technology (1)
Camasca	6	Science and General Education (1) Community Development (5)
Concepción	5	Information Technology (2) Electricity (3)
Total	19	

How can you help?

Now more than ever, there is a critical need to help and encourage students to continue their education. There are plenty of smart students, lacking only in opportunity. While families don't have to pay tuition, there are many other costs — uniforms, supplies, transportation, and school lunch. The sad reality is that most of the children whose education ends at 6th grade wind up working in the fields or as maids by age 12. Your sponsorship covers these additional costs.

Together we can give 150 students from 5 remote communities an opportunity to stay in school beyond 6th grade. As a former scholarship student myself, this program is very personal to me. Many years ago, I was given an opportunity to stay in school that changed the course of my future. I want other students to have that opportunity as well.

Your donation of \$300 will fund an annual scholarship for one student, and smaller donations will be combined to support as many full scholarships as possible.

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

Sincerely,

Fidelina Gehner

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Scholarship Program Coordinator, Volunteer

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513.307.5048

OUR IMPACT FOR THE YEAR

138 scholarship students were able to stay on track and finish the school year.

2020



OUR IMPACT AT WORK

Former scholarship students now have careers in nursing, law, healthcare, teaching and computer engineering.



STS scholarship students placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd in a regional reading competition in 2020.



Together, we can make a difference.

There are many ways to give:

- **Visit us online at** shouldertoshoulder.org. Click on Education and then Local Scholarships.
- **Automatic monthly giving through your checking account** is the most sustainable and easy way to provide ongoing support. For \$25 a month, or \$300 annually, your donation provides a child with an entire year’s worth of education, including books, supplies, transportation, uniforms, housing, and after-school support. Gifts less than \$300 are combined to provide as many full scholarships as possible.
- **Global Giving:** Shoulder to Shoulder is partnering with **Global Giving (GG)**, an online charitable platform, to build awareness and accept donations. You will receive regular email reminders and updates about this project from GG. Visit their website, **Education Beyond 6th Grade: Dreams Come True**, at <https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/education-beyond-6th-grade/>
- **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 45439
Write “Scholarship Program” on the memo line.



\$25/mo

For \$25 a month, or \$300 annually, your donation provides a child with an entire year’s worth of education, including books, supplies, transportation, uniforms, housing, and after-school support.

Please provide us with your current information and include with your donation. ¡Gracias!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

- Check enclosed. **Please make checks payable to Shoulder to Shoulder.**
- Please charge my American Express, Discover, Mastercard or Visa. *(circle one)*

Account # _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

¡Gracias!