

A Special Bond

“Every team member replied back individually that they felt sponsoring the class in Vida Nueva was the right decision! To me it felt like God was orchestrating it the whole way!”

Rock Prairie Church decided to support a class after their first Impact Trip. In Guatemala, Brittany McCorkle had seen the impact of worshipping alongside the Vida children and visiting their homes. “My desire was to see the kids at our church grow in their awareness of God’s heart for people all around the world,” she says. “In that moment, I felt that God was telling me that we need to sponsor a class.”

Back home, Brittany broached the idea with her church – and learned that Rock Prairie’s children’s ministry director, too, wanted to help their children pray for people in another country. The team responsible for global missionary partners sought God’s direction, and reached out to Impact Ministries to see if there were still classes without any sponsors. The unanimous vote for a specific class from those they received confirmed their choice. “We have been extremely blessed by that decision ever since,” says Brittany.

Now, the children at Rock Prairie pray often for these children in Guatemala whom they have never met. “The conversations of our kids and seeing God’s work through missions is huge!” says Liz Quinn, the children’s ministry director. In each classroom, Liz has posted the photos of a few of the Vida students, so the children can put faces to the names they are praying for. The church sends



A huge banner welcomes the Rock Prairie team as they meet their sponsor class

messages and pictures of the church kids to Guatemala too. “It’s a great way for our kids to serve at a young level,” says Liz, “and they’re always excited to hear updates!”

When the next Rock Prairie team visited Guatemala, they came with homemade postcards from the Rock Prairie kids. They were met with a huge thank you banner, flowers, balloons and lots of confetti! “Visiting our class in Guatemala was a huge highlight of our trip!” says Brittany. “Especially listening to them sing *Jesus Loves Me* not only in Spanish, but in English.” The team recorded the song to share with the Rock Prairie kids. And that banner? It now hangs in the children’s wing, another reminder for the kids to pray for their friends in Guatemala.



Homemade postcards foster connection between kids at home and kids in Guatemala

“Sponsoring a class is such a special bond,” says Brittany. “Not only seeing their faces, but praying for these kids to grow in their faith with Jesus. Being part of that journey in their lives can bless your life too!”



Through sponsorship, Rock Prairie kids are growing in awareness of God’s heart for the world

You can support a class in Guatemala individually or as a group. We’ve seen lots of families, churches, and Christian schools use the opportunity to soften their kids’ hearts to how God is working around the world. Of course, it’s not just for kids! Learn more about sponsoring a class at impactminusa.org/supportaclass

Creating Beautiful Memories

Every year, thousands of heartfelt words are delivered between sponsors and their sponsor children and classes. Here's just a few excerpts that our sponsors have had land in their inboxes:

I feel very happy to receive the letter you sent me, I had never received a letter from someone from another country, I feel very excited that you are now very special people for me.

Selvin, 9

Your words always come at the right time and fill our hearts with joy. Thank you once again for being an important part of our lives and our education.

Vida Mochán Grade 7

I am excited to receive your letter. I am happy, since I am learning the syllables and vowels. I want to learn to read and write to read the Word of God and to be able to read your letters.

Aylen, 6

We are very happy that you liked our drawing. It was made with a lot of love. Thank you for praying for us. We have also prayed for you.

We send you big hugs. May God bless the work of your hands. We love you so much.

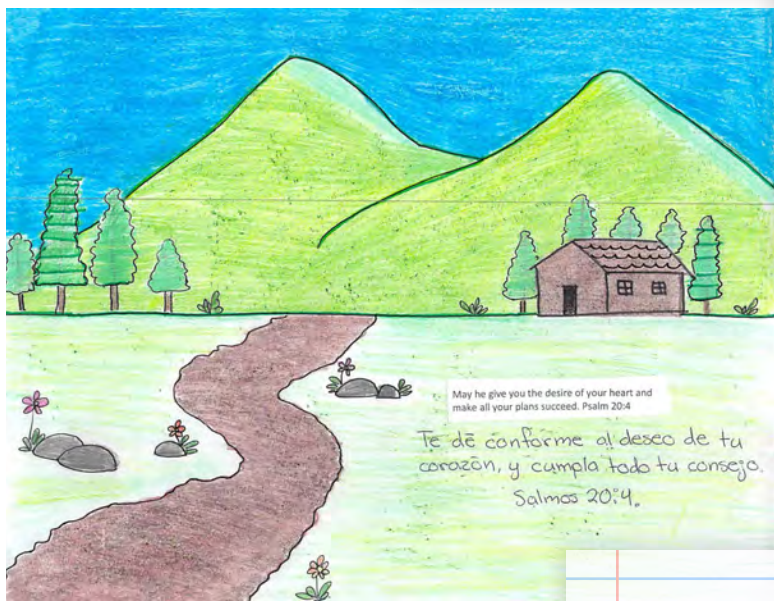
Vida Chijacorral Grade 3

Thank you for your good wishes for my birthday. It made me feel very special to know that someone took the time to think of me. I hope God blesses you for being so kind and generous to me. You are a very special person and I am grateful to have you in my life.

Delia, 17

We are overjoyed when you show us your love by taking the time to write to us, since your words encourage us to move forward and motivate us to fulfill our dreams. We send you big hugs.

Vida Chijacorral Grade 12



To write your child or class today, log onto your Sponsorsoft account at impactminusa.org/sponsorsoft and click on **messages > compose**



“You See God’s Love Through Sponsors”

In the Grade 8 classroom, each student excitedly shouts out ideas. They have just received a letter from their class sponsor, and now it’s time to write back. There is a buzz as they compose the letter that will be transcribed into the Sponsorsoft system, translated, and then sent to their sponsor. And they will eagerly await a response.

Sponsor letters are treasured in the classroom. Sometimes Teacher Gustavo sends each student home with their own copy, so that they can reread their sponsor’s words for themselves.

Sponsorship provides practically for a teacher and their class. Facilities, resources, school supplies, even teacher’s salaries. Things that are desperately needed to provide a great education to disadvantaged kids. But it’s easy to underestimate the value of that connection, of feeling loved, of feeling seen. “You see God’s love through the sponsors,” says Gustavo. “Even though they are people we don’t know, they bring God’s love to us, and that is a reminder of God’s faithfulness in our lives.”

Gustavo recalls his own childhood sponsors, and the huge impact they had on his life. They supported his studies and



Sponsors come alongside Teacher Gustavo and his class



Gustavo saw God’s love through his own sponsors

helped him know Jesus. “Now, having a class sponsor is most wonderful,” he says, “because we have more support.” Gustavo sees how happy the students are, knowing that they are being sponsored. Together, they pray for the sponsors, asking God to multiply every little thing that they do for the students.

As a teacher, Gustavo feels supported too. “It helps me to be more attentive to my students,” he says, “not just watching their academic progress, but also their spiritual and emotional lives.” The Support a Class program is the best way to come alongside our Vida teachers.

What would Gustavo tell someone considering sponsoring a class? “It’s wonderful for us to find the kind of people who want to help,” he says. He shares how you’ll contribute to the growth of the students, both academically and spiritually, and how you’ll reflect God’s love to them. And then he adds with a chuckle, “There’s still time!”

Yes, I want to reflect God's love through sponsorship!

Support a class \$50/month x ___ class(es) Sponsor a child \$40/month x ___ child(ren)

Please make cheques payable to **Impact Ministries USA**.

First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Last Name: _____

Company (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

In the event gifts exceed program requirements or a program is discontinued, funds are used where they are most needed to fulfill ministry purposes. Impact Ministries USA is recognized as a non-profit organization by the IRS under IRS Code: Section 501(c)(3); Tax ID #80-0678702. A copy of the latest financial report, state registration information and description of programs and activities may be found at impactminusa.org/state-documents



Donate Online

Recurring donations by Credit Card or E-check (ACH) can be made at:

impactminusa.org/donate

News and Updates

► **Ten years after Vida Nueva School opened its doors, the last classroom has been built**, the wall has been completed, and the school has celebrated a special dedication service. Thank you to all who have been involved over the years – and a special thank you to Regina Christian School who has adopted Vida Nueva as a partner school.



◀ **Vida Teachers gathered at Mestela for a day of prayer for the community.** We are excited to be at the site again after municipal road repairs caused delays and restricted access. We look forward to building relationships and trust within the community in the coming months.

► **Two local health professionals are providing regular health care to our Vida students and families.** Dr. Molina, a primary care physician, has taken on the supervision of the Impact Clinic and sees patients one week per month. Dr. Francisco has been providing dental care two weeks per month, and worked alongside our visiting dental team earlier this year.



◀ **This spring, as we train and encourage Rio de Vida pastors, we are also reaching out to local pastors in the area.** A special team from Village Church has provided local pastors with training on sermon preparation and gospel presentation, and the Billy Graham association is coming back this month to provide more Hope in Crisis training.

► **Vida Schools have started receiving donations of repurposed playground equipment.** Thank you to Kids Alive International for the first playground, which has been installed at Vida Nueva School. The kids are having so much fun!



Impacting Guatemala through:

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

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