

# SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Welcome and thank you for your participation in the Hearts In Motion's (HIM) School Sponsorship Program.

The primary purpose of this Program is to assist children in their education and provide parents support for the development of their children.

If you are sponsoring more than one child, and making recurring monthly payments, it is best to combine your payments into one sum each month. The lower the amount of the payment, the higher percentage is taken by PayPal for processing fees. Thus, by making one larger monthly payment, more of your money goes to the Program and less to PayPal.

All communication must go through the Indiana office of HIM. Any and all communication to the Guatemalan staff via any medium i.e. social media, telephone, e-mail ... will be redirected to the US office for a response.

Sponsors usually receive mid-year and final grade reports. If there are circumstances that delay the receipt of the grade reports, the sponsors will receive letters in lieu of them from the child.

If the child is in daycare, the sponsor will receive a mid-year update and a final assessment.

Hand-made greeting cards and/or crafts are normally sent to sponsors at the end of the year.

You may correspond with your child 3 to 4 times throughout of the year. The letters must be sent to the Indiana office of HIM via e-mail or regular mail where they will be translated and forwarded on to the child.

Gifts can also be sent to the US HIM office for the child. The gifts are sent to Guatemala when a representative travels there. All gifts must be able to fit in a small shoe size box.

No food may be sent to the child in Guatemala with the exception of hard candy. Although, that is not necessarily recommended. Nevertheless, all hard candy must still be in the original store packaging and unopened.



Monetary Christmas donations for gifts must be received no later than December 5<sup>th</sup> in order for the children to receive their gifts on or before Christmas day. The monetary amount shall not exceed \$200 per child. Such funds must only be for necessities not accessories such as mobile telephones, iPads, Apple Watch, etc.

Whenever a sponsor travels to Guatemala, arrangements are made for him/her to visit with the sponsored child. **The allotment of time for each visitation is between 1 and 2 hours.**

Under no circumstances are sponsors to give any monetary gifts directly or indirectly to the sponsored families or the Guatemalan staff. All funds must go through the Indiana office of HIM.

The Guatemalan Assistant Director of the Sponsorship Programs meets with parents of all the sponsored children from all of the locations monthly.

Because of your generosity, the children are able to participate in various celebrations throughout the year. For example, Children's Day is celebrated on October 1<sup>st</sup> or during that week.

Unlike the United States, in Guatemala Mother's Day is celebrated every year on **May 10<sup>th</sup>**. The children have a party during that week with cakes, piñatas, etc.

Christmas parties are celebrated with party favors and desserts at each location.

Academic excellence is also celebrated. Children with the highest grades in the school program at the end of the year get to have a pool party and additional gifts.

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