



open
windows
foundation



September, October & November

Open Windows Learning Center



12 years supporting the education of children and youth!

Open Windows rose from the need we saw in the community of San Miguel Dueñas, first giving food and clothing to the underprivileged. Then we decided to do something more that would allow people to have access to a better quality of life, and we thought of education. It was in this way that we started a library with 300 books attended by 20 children.

Today, after 12 years, more than 2,800 children have registered, we have implemented new programs, we have a computer lab an daily attendance of more than 150 children attend our institution searching for a book to read in the more than 10,000 we have in our library.

Every day, other programs are developed out of the necessity that we observe in the families here, and it's in this way that we have improved the homes of many families, introduced eco-stoves, and contributed to the improvement of the health of children and adults.

Thanks to the support of many people who have donated, and to the volunteers who have shared their work, abilities, and knowledge with the children, we have been able to continue with these programs.



Reading and educational games



Scholarship program



Computer Lab



Multiplication competition



Reading time activity



Writing, reading & Math Reinforcement

OUR ACTIVITIES

In October, we started the end of the year tutoring and educational reinforcement program. Of the children in the middle level (basic and diversified), 27 worked on math and 20 were in reading, writing, editing, and math.

For 150 elementary school children, we provided reading, writing, and math tutoring. All of these children and others who weren't in tutoring attended computer classes at different times of the morning and afternoon. The classes were prepared and given by the teachers and the scholarship students helped.



In tutoring and homework help classes!



ZOO AND RELIEF MAP

This year, we once again took a group of 104 children to visit the zoo. Then, they went to see the relief map of the country, where they learned about the history and geography and distinguished places they knew and admired places they hadn't even imagined. During the visit to the zoo, they learned about penguins and learned about aquariums, as well as learning about other animals. Afterwards, they enjoyed a tasty lunch.



Recognizing different fish!



In the relief map!



Learning about birds!

During the visit to the zoo, they learned about penguins and learned about aquariums, as well as learning about other animals. Afterwards, they enjoyed a tasty lunch.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

"In today's world, if you aren't educated, you're history, economically. The only way the break the cycle of poverty is change the culture, give education."

Thomas S.

Since 2003, when we began the scholarship program, 152 students have benefitted, of which 33 youth have graduated, 70 received a 1 year scholarship, 32 received 2 years, 9 received 3 years, 4 received 4 years, and 4 received scholarships of 5 years. This year, Hugo Gómez graduated from electrical studies, Marta Isabel Chacón and Jackeline Chacón graduated from accounting studies, Hugo Pérez Bachiller graduated from computer technical design studies, and Luisa Chan graduated from nutrition studies. Aside from economic support, we provided reinforcement and motivational talks to the students and their parents so they could learn how to take advantage of opportunities and prepare themselves to become professionals.



Part of the 2013 scholarship



Workshop for scholarship students

CHILDREN'S DAY

On Children's Day, thanks to the help of John, our English teacher, we held a magic show where the children were happy and amazed about the tricks of Mr. H, The Magnificent. Afterwards, they played games. Later, the children enjoyed a delicious snack.



The tricks of Mr. H, the Magnificent



RECYCLING ACTIVITY

In October, Lucy, a chemistry and biology student, conducted an activity with the children about recycling. She did a presentation about the issue, and invited the children to gather all of the discarded items they had in their house or found in the streets; in exchange she gave prizes to each of the children for what they had brought. The children became conscious that if we use the 4 Rs of retrieving, reducing, recycling, and reusing, we can obtain economic or material benefits.



Gathering and recycling!

DONATIONS

Thanks to the donation of Softchoice, we were able to update our computer lab equipment. Some of the old computers were donated to the IGER Education Center of the Brothers of Bethlehem in Antigua, Guatemala and others to the NGO Life of San Miguel Dueñas. These donations allow us to have updated technology for better learning and allow us to help other educational centers who need support.

Thanks also go to Joan F. for the donation of the Rachel program that she installed in the computer lab. Rachel was a program obtained thanks to the initiative of Shannon and Patrick.



Computers donated to the IGER Educational Center in Antigua G.

Donation to NGO Life

New computers in the Computer Lab

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

Thanks to the support of Hopewell, we have been able to give more than 60 eco-stoves and have constructed sheet metal houses for families that lived in tenements. In addition, the group helped people with health problems who didn't have the funds to cover medical exams or the treatments to recuperate.



Home & eco-stove Larios' family

Home & stove Pelen family

Home & stove Otzín family

Room for the recycling workshop

Stove for Tortillas

EDUCATIONAL GAMES

Upon finishing activities and homework, the children have time to play. The children had fun putting together youth puzzles, playing chess, Legos and other games that provide mental skill development and foster teamwork.



VOLUNTEERS



Since November, Patrick has worked on math with several children who have learning problems. He's adapting programs for the computer lab and helping to publicize the work of the learning center to raise funds for the various programs.



During school vacations, we have had the help of students like Morelia, Ariana, Fabio and other scholarship recipients who have collaborated making lesson plans, helping in activities, and teaching classes to the children. It's important that members of the community get involved in volunteer work with children.



For a week, volunteers Vikki and David worked with the children teaching them sign language.



In October, we bid farewell to John, who for two years was a volunteer in this community, giving English classes to the teachers, youth, and adults. He helped in all that he could. Thanks for all the work he completed with the children and the support he brought to this institution. Most of all, thanks for the friendship.



For two weeks, volunteer Kate worked with the children on different activities and taught English.

All of these activities and programs could not be developed without the help of those that support this institution. Open Windows makes the dreams of many children come true thanks to these donations and the work of volunteers. We hope to be able to continue to count on their help.

Please send donation to USA
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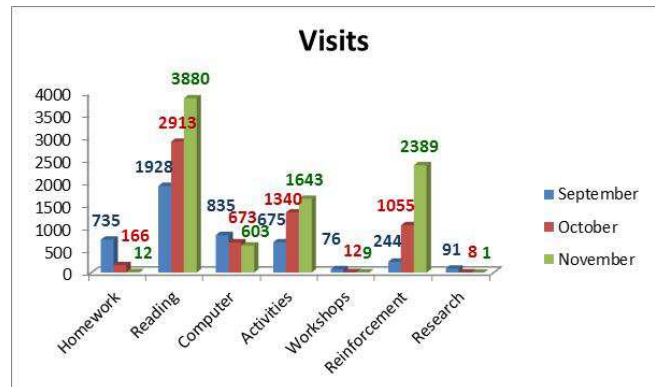
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STATISTICS



Monthly Visits

September	Boys	1,054	Girls	1,270
October	Boys	1,374	Girls	1,618
November	Boys	1,820	Girls	1,922

