

SOCIAL WORK STUDENT SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Regular fulltime employment is still a luxury for many in Peru, and the informal work sector is large. But incomes are low and many do not have an adequate social security back-up. This makes it difficult for bright young people to go on to further studies after leaving school. Some may begin a higher education course and later are forced to abandon it for lack of means, often because of a sudden health crisis in the family or because a parent has lost his/her job. As a church we have made a commitment to do all we can to help some young people who come to our attention, to complete their courses. Over the years we have supported nurses, a mechanic, teachers, physiotherapists, lawyers and computer programmers; sometimes only 6 months have been necessary.

Here is a brief description of some of the young people we have supported in the past:

1.- **Harold Ganoza** - with our sponsorship for 2 ½ years he completed a degree in law. His father had only casual work, his mother was ill and he had a younger brother at school. He is working in Villa Maria del Triunfo with family-related legal problems, near where he lives.

2.- **Janet Lujano** – we sponsored her 3 year course as a nursing technician in the Ricardo Palma clinic, where her excellent results led them to offer her a post . She lives in San Juan de Miraflores.

3.- **Sheyla Manyari**- we sponsored the last 18 months of her course in bakery at the SENATI institute. She then started her own business preparing cakes and nibbles for buffets. For the last year she has been making bread and cakes. She lives in Callao.

4.- **Felicita Muñoz** – From the age of 15 she worked as a maid. She was studying nursing, funding her studies by finding whatever work might be available. She was making sandwiches and selling them to her friends at lunchtime to make a small income, but with only 5 months to go could no longer cope. With our help she completed her course successfully, and now cares for old people in their homes.

Current students:

We are currently working with 3 students: Alfredo aged 24 studying accountancy, whose mother died in late 2019 after a serious illness; Helen aged 27 studying education and working in the mornings; Isabel aged 19 studying information technology. We plan to take on Roxana aged 26, who had to suspend her psychology degree, which she was funding herself, after completing half the 5-year course, for lack of funding.

The students are monitored and receive guidance on a monthly basis.

Our Appeal:

Please consider contributing to their future through one-time donations or a quarterly or yearly sponsorship. The average cost per month per student is S/.400, but all donations are welcome, however small, and will contribute to the funds.

LETTERS OF THANKS

Lima, April 19, 2021

Dear Social Work Committee of The Good Shepherd,

I am writing to confirm that I have received the financial assistance you have provided. However, I would also like to thank you for the immense help you have given me; not only for the financial support, which of course has been of great help, but also for having helped me to continue with my studies.

Thank you very much for your consideration and for putting your trust in me. This gives me more encouragement to carry on with my studies and to try to achieve my goals. Again, thank you very much for your support.

Sincerely,
Alfredo Infante

A letter from student Isabel Cruz

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Isabel Cruz <isabelcruz1403@gmail.com>

To: "samaniegopritchard@yahoo.co.uk" <samaniegopritchard@yahoo.co.uk>

Sent: Monday, 19 April 2021, 22:41:02 GMT-5

Subject: LETTER OF THANKS

Good evening, dear Social Work Committee, I am Isabel Cruz, a beneficiary of your kind financial support for my higher education. I apologize for writing at such a late hour, I have just finished my schoolwork. I write this email to thank you for the help you have been giving me all the time I have been attending university, so far. I am currently studying the fourth semester of communication sciences at the San Martin de Porres University. This has been a very busy week because of my mid-term papers and starting on the 26th I will begin doing my presentations. This semester has been different from the others since the subjects have become more difficult, but I continue doing my best every day to meet my goals set at the beginning of the year. As you may know, I am very strict and persistent with my grades and final average and my grades are always above 17. Every day I stay up late studying and participating in several group meetings to complete the assignments given to us in class. In spite of all the fatigue that homework can bring to me, I am passionate about my career, because I like it and I want to practice it when I grow older. This would not be possible without you and I want to thank you again for your unconditional support.

Thank you very much and may you have a blessed night.

Sincerely,
Isabel Cruz Llontop.