



Fall 2012—Colombia  
Education Brings Hope



## Sandra Mosquera's Story

What a blessing this school has been for Sandra! Her two younger boys entered the program in 2008. Both came with bad disciplinary and academic references. Her frustration was immense, as she wasn't able to read or write herself and therefore was unable to help them.

Within the first few months of being at school amazing behavioural changes started to take hold. The boys had an excellent response to the values teaching. The relationships that developed with the teachers had them loving school. Their enrichment program along with individual accompaniment brought their knowledge to the next level.

Sandra was motivated to help her sons learn. Right now she herself is studying third grade. She has also been given a job in General Services. It was always a dream to provide some good things for her sons – a walk in the park, a cake or even an outing for ice cream. Economics just didn't allow. Blessings come when one least expects them. Her words to you are these, "My sincere thanks. I just don't know how to repay."

How are students from the neighbourhood chosen?

- most vulnerable due to economics and displacement
- unable to go to different school
- priority to malnourished or abandoned

## News

Cazucá (approx. 300,000 people) is located in the municipality of Soacha. The vast majority of these people arrive as displaced people. Most of the settlements in Cazucá are illegal and lack even the most basic services. In terms of education levels, the area has one of the highest illiteracy rates in the country: 26.4%. Most people have only occasional employment.

## Update

Illiteracy, school drop-out, loss of healthy values and lack of vision for life are serious obstacles. This program has worked to address these issues both for children and their mothers. Participation levels in programming remain strong. History has demonstrated that children going to other schools from here have a higher academic level and motivation to continue their studies.



Saying her prayers.



Children line up at school.

**Thank you for your support**

Call toll-free: 877-684-1181 (Canada); 888-563-4676 (U.S.)

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