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Spring 2016–Colombia Education Brings Hope



## **Program update**

There was been evidence of malnutrition among some of the children and we have changed the ration ingredients to include dried beef, with the goal of delivering more nutritious meals and keeping the children healthy.

## Other news

In the Cazuca slum where this project is located, there is no city water supply. Water arrives at the homes about once a week and is brought in from Bogota with informal hoses. The current president of the community action board recently developed a plan to replace the hoses with better tubes. The community has been involved in the actual work of the installation of the new tubes and the work was supervised by one of the Water Service technicians, even though it was for an informal system.

## Thank you for your support

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

## Leydi's story

My name is Leydi. My life has been continuous suffering. I was displaced by violence when I was a girl. When we came to live in EI Progreso, my mother separated from her husband. This situation brought scarcity to our home and many emotions. My mother lived in a state of constant regret and took it out on us.

Living in the middle of this neighborhood that is full of violence was very difficult because I wanted to be able to leave my house. I became pregnant at a young age and the father of my daughter mistreated me. I was desperate and I didn't know where to go for help. At my mother's house things had calmed down but she made it clear that it was my decision to leave home and I wouldn't be able to come back.

I started to work, but I didn't have anywhere to leave my daughter. That was when I found out about God's wonderful work with the children through Education Brings Hope. My daughter began studying there in preschool until she was able to go to the public school that is also in the neighborhood. My daughter was given an excellent education, food, vitamins, and recreation.

My life changed noticeably. I now had gained stability in every sense and I was happy with my daughter. She began to attend church, and eventually so did I. The relationships here make me realize that this is my place, where I can find peace, refuge, and support.



Kindergarten students show off the crafts they have made.



Teacher Sandra Granados and her student Justin Sierra.

Story by Sandra Granados Photos by Sandra Luna Tarazona

