

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

Thanks to your sponsorship, children and families are making positive changes in Santa Barbara. Learn more about the valuable ways your support has benefitted them.

This past year, families who lost their homes during the 2020 hurricanes Eta and Iota were able to move into newly built houses and establish home gardens.

Also, this year 15 girls from different parts of Santa Barbara participated in the virtual platform Girls Out Loud. These young leaders are attending their first regional meeting, where they will discuss organisation and feminism. In addition, over 500 high school students participated in two health and education fairs, where they received information on sexual and reproductive rights and menstrual health management.

Your sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Santa Barbara.



520

Students learned about sexual and reproductive health & rights



5961

Children supported with school kits



1128

Youth have more hygienic facilities in school



COVID-19'S IMPACT IN HONDURAS

Hear from Daniela about how COVID-19 has impacted her community.

“Last year I finished my studies virtually. It has not been easy to study this way. This year I am attending school in person. Every year I receive school supplies from my sponsor. I do not lose hope of achieving everything I set out to do.”

CASE STORY: DARLIN SPEAKS HER MIND



NAME: DARLIN

AGE: 18

**HOBBY: READING,
STUDYING SPANISH**

"We became participative young women; with a different perspective towards a distant but not difficult future. We have learned many things about our rights, how to help others if they suffer some kind of violence, identify types of violence, talk about our self-esteem, among other topics."

Meet Darlin

Like your sponsored child, Darlin has been empowered by Plan International to change her life. Darlin is the oldest girl in her family, and lives with her mother and three siblings. Darlin's father died when she was just nine years old. In school, she was a quiet girl, often bullied because she did not have a father.

But Darlin is no longer a shy young girl. Now, she is able to stand at a podium and advocate for girls' rights. She plays an active role empowering youth in her community, helping other girls achieve their goals.

Lack of Opportunity

Darlin suffered bullying at school due to the loss of her father and because of her religious beliefs. As a result, she was very shy and afraid to speak up for her rights. After finishing high school, Darlin wasn't financially able to continue her studies. Life as a young woman is a challenge for girls in Darlin's community because of the lack of job and academic opportunities. In fact, 24% of young women marry or take on manual labour after high school. Darlin was not able to continue her studies because she supports her family economically by working in the fields.

Quiet Leadership

Darlin was invited to a Plan International training session. Shy at first, she gained confidence with each meeting. Eventually, Darlin and the other girls developed the ability to express and contribute their ideas.

Darlin's role in the community is no longer the same. She and her peers are leaders. In fact, they've led two "We Believe in Girls" forums in which they've represented the youth of the entire municipality.

Darlin now sees a different future: One where there is space for a quiet girl to speak her mind—and be heard.



Darlin speaking at a celebration

WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 5,961 CHILDREN IN SANTA BARBARA

OUR PROJECTS IN SANTA BARBARA ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION



Santa Barbara is strongly affected by climate changes and was especially impacted by the 2020 hurricanes Eta and Iota. These storms caused a devastating infrastructure problem, destroying roads, crops, and homes.

It was vital to assist families who had lost their homes as a result of the floods caused by the storms. Humanitarian outreach provided housing with hygienic services, including bathrooms and water storage tanks. The installation of home gardens empowered families with access to healthy, nutritious food.

The whole community was involved: Families participated in the construction of septic tanks, while children gave their opinions on the house colours.

More than 200 children from the affected communities are guaranteed to attend school, as many lost all their educational materials during the storms. In addition, 510 children learned about risk management through community talks developed especially for youth. Adults learned about risk reduction, violence prevention and communication, with a special emphasis on gender roles.

INVESTING IN EDUCATION



The project A Better Future for Honduras II prioritises improving student access to quality education. The focus is on improving infrastructure and providing teacher training to create a safe, healthy learning environment.

As a result, 1,128 students benefitted from new or improved educational facilities. These improvements give children access to healthy and hygienic facilities, helping them feel safe when using the restroom. The project constructed separate restrooms for girls, with sanitary pads in the restroom to prevent girls from missing school during their menstrual periods.



Students also participated in training sessions on topics, such as self-esteem and communication, and 70 parents and teachers learned about violence prevention.

“Thanks to this project, I have learned many things. I am convinced it will help me in all the dreams I want to fulfil. I am motivated to share what I learned with my friends and my family. Thank you for committing to the development of adolescents.”

- Karla (15) from Santa Barbara

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



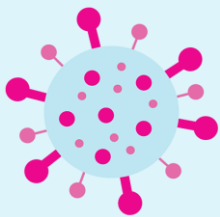
73%

Of Hondurans live in poverty



96%

Of child sexual abuse cases are committed in the family environment



39%

Of Hondurans are fully vaccinated against COVID-19



Your support helps girls and boys to stand up for their futures.

- 100% of Educational Centres were closed due to COVID-19, then subsequently damaged by tropical storms. We will work with the Secretary of Education to improve learning spaces.
- We will continue to strengthen girls' rights in two municipalities, and expand the protection system to other areas.
- Most municipal investment does not include projects for young people. Next year, we'll support the community as they petition local government for budgets which benefit youth.
- 5,956 children learned about COVID-19 prevention and received hygiene kits to prevent contagion. This year, we will promote the vaccine, especially for children.

We know the best is yet to come, and together we will continue to work for a brighter, happier future for the children in Santa Barbara.



"Today, many of our communities promote dialogue on practices that particularly affect girls. Families also have decent housing after losing their property and belongings during natural disasters. The children of Santa Barbara thank you."

Yasmin Roseli Medina Rivera
Programme Area Manager, Santa Barbara

YOUR GENEROSITY WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT CHILDREN IN STANDING UP FOR THEIR FUTURE AND RIGHTS