

GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM

for students at the FRAY CASIMIRO CYPHER INSTITUTE



INTRODUCTION

The government provides free education to children 6 to 15 years old. The lack of public schools and high enrollment fees, school uniforms and transportation costs prevent many students from completing even their elementary education so many students in Honduras are struggling to finish high school and to learn what they need to get better opportunities in life.

The poverty ratio is 60% of the population, many children need to quit school to work when they are very young to help support the family. Private education is a privilege for few families.

Besides, the education curriculum in Honduras' public schools provides poor academic skills to the students. The few who graduate from high school do not have the necessary civic, technical, or business knowledge needed to survive or get ahead in the poor economy of Honduras, leaving them with low self-confidence. Substantial changes are needed to be made to face this situation, even when nobody else is interested in helping this population to get out of this cycle.

Our goal at Fray Casimiro Cypher Institute is to give hope and greater opportunities to our students by offering a complete education which includes better academic programs, technical abilities, advanced business skills and Christian values, while reinforcing a positive attitude and personal development. Ideally, the students will be prepared to get a job or to start their own business after graduation. The students attend school 10 months per year, February to November.

GOALS

The purpose of this program is to improve the quality of life of our students and their families by offering the opportunity to gain a qualified education. We will accomplish this by providing a full or partial scholarship to selected students.

The program will also strive to increase parent involvement in the education of their children. The scholarship is not offered as "charity", parents must contribute in some form. This approach ensures parents and students' commitment to their education, their understanding of the importance of attending classes on a regular basis, studying at home, following the behavior criteria, and making the necessary effort to get good grades to be promoted to the next school grade.

As a sponsor, you will have the opportunity to cultivate a special relationship with your student by corresponding several times per school year, encouraging them in their studies. When you sponsor one of our students, you will **live out the Gospel call to walk in solidarity with those in need, partnering with an individual across geographic and economic divides and offering financial support and the opportunity for a better life.**

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SELECTION CRITERIA

The staff at the Institute, teachers and local authorities will select students for a full or half scholarship. Scholarships will be awarded **ONLY** to students enrolled at the Fray Casimiro Institute based on:

- **Financial needs** – for families surviving with the minimum salary or lower or for large families whose parents are committed to support their kids.
- **Academic achievement** – for a student with average grades of A or B and good discipline.
- **Leadership skills** -for a student committed to community development

STUDENTS RESPONSIBILITIES

1. All selected students are required to take advantage of this opportunity by attending their classes, completing all their work assignments, giving their best performance at school and completing the school year (a few exceptions will be discussed)
2. Students are required to **sign an agreement committing to give back** by completing 6 to 12 hours per week of community service at the Institute; by participating on a work-study program on any of the existing small business at the Institute or by any other way agreed upon students, parents and staff.
3. Students will write several letters to sponsors during the year to share information of their progress and to promote a closer relationship.

FAMILY ACCOUNTABILITY

Wilson and staff will hold parents and students' meetings several times a year to provide general information, to plan community service activities, for team group building, to monitor the program's progress and to provide feedback to sponsors. They will have a final evaluation and celebration at the end of the school year in December.

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM COSTS

Be assured that 100% of your donation benefits the students. The scholarships will cover **monthly tuition payments, textbooks, uniforms, and it will provide transportation subsidies** for each selected student.

There are two types of scholarships:

- ❖ **a half scholarship for a student at the Bilingual school and**
- ❖ **a full scholarship for a student at the Technical Institute**

To learn about the annual scholarship costs please visit our website at gsc.net/honduras-scholarships

GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC COMMUNITY ADMINISTRATOR

Tere Martin. Mission Ministry Coordinator. Contact: 817-421-1387 or tmartin@gsc.net

FRAY CASIMIRO CYPHER "INSTITUTE" in HONDURAS ADMINISTRATORS

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Scholarship program coordinator - Karlita Acosta centrodeformacionfrayccypher91@gmail.com