

SPRING 2020 | ISSUE 34

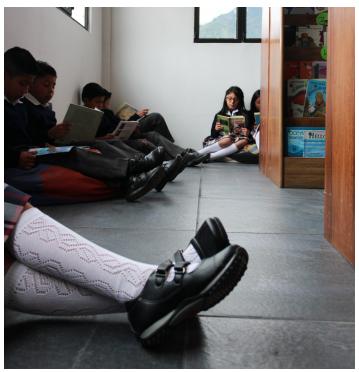
## **A SINCERE THANK-YOU**

We're thrilled to share that our library construction project is complete! Thanks to your generous support, our year-end campaign raised a total of \$75,291, exceeding our goal of \$75,000!

This amount helped us start the 2020 school year on good financial footing and finished funding our construction project! Aside from a new library, this also allowed us to find a permanent (and much more accessible) home for our stationary store and create a staff room for our elementary school staff. We believe that these changes set us up well for the future, and are excited to use these new spaces.

Thank you for all your prayers and financial contributions during the end of the year. We're amazed by God's provision and feel very blessed by the generosity of our community.







## **GRAD 2019**

On November 1st, 2019, twenty students walked the stage and graduated from our high school programs. It was a special time for all the students, families, staff and sponsors gathered. Paola Alvarez was named as valedictorian, and we wanted to share part of her speech with you here.

14 years of my life I've been here. I started studying here when I was 5 years old. I want to thank CCAF for all they've given me. They've taught me to be a professional. They've taught me to be a disciplined person, an obedient person. But more than anything, they've taught me to be a person who pleases God's heart. I feel very grateful because without this place I wouldn't have that spiritual education.

"The school isn't just a blessing for the lives of the students but also for the lives of the families. Now, not only my family is following God, but my aunt and uncle's family. And all of that's because of the seed that was planted in my life. It's given fruit.

I thank all the teachers at the school because they don't just work as teachers but as spiritual parents. They're people of God, loving people with love

that could only come from God. I also want to thank the sponsors. Thank you for believing in us and not giving up on us. We know that you've sacrificed to support us, and for this we thank you.









## CHANGES FOR THE 2020 SCHOOL YEAR

As the 2020 school year starts, we're grateful for the finished construction which gives us a larger library space with more possibilities for activities and study spaces. Our elementary school staff now have a staff room where they can meet, plan and connect. Our stationary store now has a permanent location in the elementary school, and easier access for parents and students.

We've also hired three new staff members: Fernando (top) who will be assisting with maintenance, Dayane (middle) who is working as our new high school secretary, and Luis Fernando (bottom) who is teaching Grade 3.







A Year of Restitution

ROM JULIANNA KONRAD DE PELAEZ, OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN GUATEMALA

Why does the Lord restore us? The purpose of restoration is to get back to the original vision, the purpose we were called to. Last year we started a season of restoration, and this year we're focusing on our vision so we can run in what God is calling us to.

We want our students to know Christ and be led by the Spirit. We want them to know what it looks like to live in the Kingdom. We want to create a Kingdom culture where students understand their identity and how to live it out. Our staff are living out what it looks like to walk that path.

In the end, we want our students to go out confident in their identity in Christ. We want them to be able to say: "I've seen this walked out. I've watched people do it, and now it's my turn to live in the Kingdom." Only then can they step out and transform Guatemala.

This season of restoration is giving us new eyes to see things clearly and set aside distractions. This year is about focus and coming into alignment with what God wants us to do each and every day.

The start of the year has been kind of rushed because we've finished our construction project, and our staff has just jumped into cleaning up, painting, whatever needs to be done.



We're called to focus this year, running in the vision he's given us. If we're faithful to what he's calling us to, it'll be a powerful year.

We've also been really focusing on our staff commitments. There's a number of commitments that our staff make when they come to work here, and we're going through them together so that everyone will be on the same page.

We've been talking about commitment to the vision, and a commitment to love: not just loving our students, but loving each other. Jesus instructs us to love each other the way that he loved us (John 13:34-35). And the Bible says that when we do this, everyone will know that we are his disciples. This new season is about relationships so powerful that they point others to Christ, about unity—perfect unity, even—because that's where he says he shows up.

In our church, we've been given the word "restitution" for the year 2020. One of our teachers shared with me a vision she had where she saw us all together at the school, and there was a huge table laid out with gifts, and there was a huge pile of our original Global Shore sweatshirts, one for each person.

I think it has to do with this season of restoration, of getting back to the original vision. There's still so much that we want to see. When we've gone through restoration, we'll receive that restitution — we'll receive back what we've lost.

The Lord doesn't forget his promises, and they aren't lost. He's not slow to bless us, he's not stingy with his hand. We're called to focus this year, running in the vision he's given us. If we're faithful to what he's calling us to, it'll be a powerful year. //

Since 2004, Julianna has lived in Guatemala and led the local work of Global Shore Opportunities while drinking good coffee, eating good food, riding horses and enjoying life with her husband, Jacobo, and their children.

## GLOBALSHORE OPPORTUNITIES

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