



GIVE GIRLS A CHANCE

Name: Ana
Age: 16 years
Grade: 7

Country: Guatemala
Goal: "I would like to continue my studies so that I can eventually become a nurse."
Hobbies: "I like to play basketball, sing religious songs, dance and participate in all activities at the school."
Support: Approximately \$405.00 Cdn. for each of three years.

"I send you greetings and hope that you are doing fine. I speak Spanish and my native Maya language of Ixil.

I really like my family because we help our parents to cut coffee, plant beans and help out in whatever type of work in the house. I have 9 brothers and sisters. They are 24, 22, 20, 19, me at 16, 11, 9, 7, 4 and 2 years old. My house is made of wood with part of the roof in aluminium and part tiles. We have a dirt floor. In front of my house we have many flowers that we planted.

I can read and write a bit in my native language of Ixil. Here at the boarding school in Xix (IMOA) we have a class called Mayan language and I think that we will be taught how to read and write in our native languages.

In my village, we have two waterfalls surrounded by trees. We also have a lagoon with caves. Many people come to the area where I live to see the waterfalls, caves and the lagoon.

The people of my village are dedicated to cultivating coffee beans, corn and other products such as oranges, tangerines, sugar cane, limes avocados, malanga, guisquil (a squash) and bananas. There are about 1,050 people living in my community. My village is about 10 kilometres from the main town. It takes about 2 ½ hours to walk. It only takes about one hour in a car.

I like to play basketball, sing religious songs, dance and participate in activities here at the school. In my village, I participate in a group of young people in the Catholic Church every Saturday. We get together in the afternoons and sing and listen to the word of God.

I would like to continue my studies so that I can eventually study to become a nurse. I am in Grade 7 and will study here for the next 3 years. I now say goodbye and I want to tell you that I am thankful for your help with my education. May God bless you everyday.

Ana