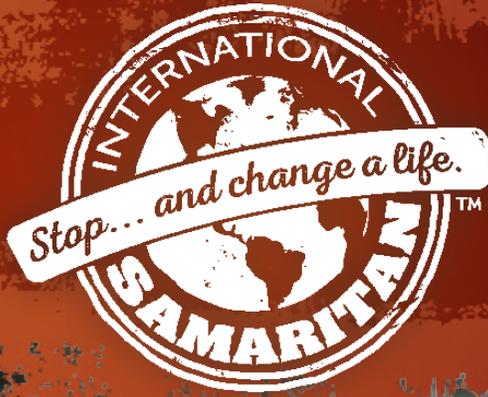


In Special Consultative Status with the United Nations



intsam.org

Summer/Fall 2017

SAMARITAN WORLD

News for the friends of International Samaritan



“I get good grades because I know it is my only way to help my family.”

Education - path towards opportunities and employment

Page 5

Bayron Sandino, a Step by Step Scholarship recipient in Nicaragua

Photo ©Timothy Bouldry

Dear friends,

“Education is an investment in the future”.

Education is the most important resource we can give to the children of garbage dump communities. As an example, average Guatemalan children attend only 4 years of schooling and just 3 out of 10 students graduate from the sixth grade.

The Guatemalan educational system reportedly provides for only 20 percent of the country’s children.

Research

from the Foundation for Economic and Social Development in Nicaragua, FUNIDES, shows that for each additional year a child attends school, their earning potential increases by 6.3% for boys and 5.7% for girls. Education also increases the level of social harmony in the community while reducing malnutrition and crime rates. We can’t afford not to send these children to school; an education can be the difference between a short, difficult life or one marked by years of better health and greater prosperity. Programs like Step by Step Scholarship help students increase their own potential, as well as that of their families and communities.

Make an impact.

You will read stories of Step by Step students on page 5. To help more children receive an education for a better life away from the dump, we aim to enroll 100 new students by the end of 2017. With your generous support, we will reach this ambitious goal.

Today, I pray that you will stop and change a life. Simply go to intsam.org/donate and give generously to our educational programs. The return on your investment to educate others will be exceptional.

Many blessings,

Oscar Dussán

President
International Samaritan



Sponsor

Help send children to school so they can escape from poverty.



Donate

Give money, hold a local fundraiser, send children to school. Every dollar helps.



Volunteer

Service trips throughout the year to help teach, build houses, provide medical services.



Lead

Contact our office about starting an I.S. campus chapter at your high school or university.

FRANCISCO’S STORY

Francisco, an alumnus from the Step by Step Scholarship, purchased a car. Read his story on **page 3**.

STEP BY STEP SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Students are given opportunities to pursue their professional dreams to become lawyers, nurses and doctors. Read about the program on **page 4**.

Newsletter Theme: Quality Education



As a continuation of the 2017 Samaritan World theme, United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), this newsletter focuses on Goal 4: Quality Education. International Samaritan supports education programs in Guatemala, Nicaragua, Honduras and Ethiopia, serving approximately 2,000 children daily. Through our program, children who were once destined to spend the entirety of their lives scavenging in the garbage dump now have the tools to escape the constraints of poverty.

Aims of Goal 4: Quality Education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

- Greater and more equitable access to quality education
- Technical and vocational education and training
- The knowledge, skills and values needed to function well and contribute to society education and training

Source: UN Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform

Francisco's Story

Five years after Step by Step Scholarship Program

Francisco Alexander Baltazar Francisco graduated from the Step by Step Scholarship program in 2012 with dreams of becoming an engineer. Now 23 years old, he works for Indy Motos Guatemala. He is taking classes to become an industrial engineer, and was even the first member of his family to buy a car. Francisco credits the Step by Step scholarship and the program director for his success. The program director helped him realize that his family, his classmates, and the family and friends of International Samaritan were all supporting him, and he took full advantage of this incredible opportunity to get an education.

Francisco continues to set goals for himself in pursuit of becoming "better every day." He said, "With the support of the scholarship, there is another path for my life." Francisco now has a job, an opportunity to go to college, and a car instead of a life spent working in the dump.

Though he says he does not have a role model from his family, he is blazing his own trail and has a strong desire to better himself and his family in the future. "I want to thank God, my family, the people who work at International Samaritan, and the donors because I have achieved my dreams and I am going for more." We are proud to see him becoming a role model for others.

International Samaritan is grateful to partner with supporters to ensure that former students like Francisco have the financial and social support to pursue their dreams through education. To learn how you can help other students reach their full potential through education, go to page 4.



Francisco Alexander, an alumnus from Step by Step Scholarship Program with his new car

**CAMPUS
CHAPTER
FUNDRAISER**

University of Michigan Campus Chapter President shares his story about starting a chapter on **page 5**.

**NEW
WEBSITE**

We have launched a new website for friends and family of International Samaritan. Find out more on **page 7**.

About Step by Step Scholarship Program

2007
Guatemala City, Guatemala

2011
San Pedro Sula, Honduras

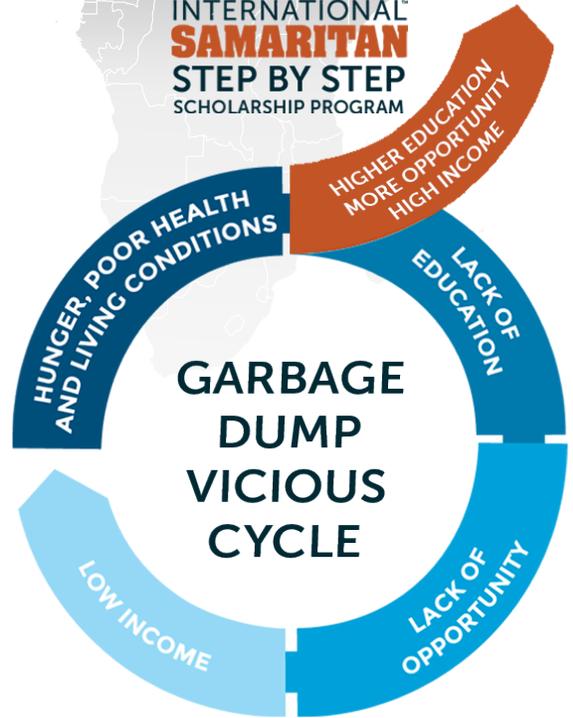
2015
Managua and Ciudad Sandino, Nicaragua

2014
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

INTERNATIONAL
SAMARITAN
STEP BY STEP
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

In 2007, International Samaritan worked in partnership with the University of Central America's Institute of Public Opinion and research consultant Ken Coleman to better determine the most urgent and pressing needs of children and families being served in Guatemala. The overwhelming majority of respondents to the survey indicated they wanted access to education after the sixth grade. In 2007, the Step by Step Scholarship Program was officially implemented to give opportunities for graduates of the elementary school to continue their education.

The Step by Step Scholarship Program's mission empowers children of garbage dump families to change the reality of their communities. Each recipient is funded an average of \$2,500 each year which includes school tuition, books, school supplies, academic support, food, and transportation. We are very proud of our scholarship recipients who work hard to overcome obstacles and continue to dream for themselves, their families, and their communities. An increasing number of students are applying for scholarships and are waiting to be sponsored. Your partnership in the Step by Step Scholarship Program will change their lives, and we thank you for your support.



Child Sponsorship is the most powerful way to fight poverty
intsam.org/you-can-help/sponsor

International Samaritan launched monthly sponsorship for our supporters who wish to give throughout the year.

\$20/month	School Supplies
\$30/month	School Tuition
\$50/month	Food & Nutrition
\$100/month	Healthcare
\$200/month	All Their Needs



IMPACT	
100%	of Enrolled Youth Graduate from School
95%	of Enrolled Youth Have Not Joined Gangs
60%	of Enrolled Youth Have Found Jobs

Sponsor today by signing up on our giving envelope or by going on our website at intsam.org/you-can-help/sponsor. For further questions, please contact Minhee Choi at minhee@intsam.org or 734-222-0701.

Step by Step Scholarship Student Profiles



Bayron | Nicaragua

Age
15

Hobby
Soccer, Repairing things

Favorite Subject
Math

Future Dream
Construction

In 2010, Hurricane Mitch destroyed Bayron's neighborhood, forcing thousands of his neighbors to relocate to government subsidized housing next to Managua's main garbage dumpsite. Because of the Step by Step Scholarship Program, Bayron does not have to work in the garbage dump to recycle materials anymore. Now, he can participate in International Samaritan's English afterschool and tutoring classes and can dream of working in the construction field through education.



Carmen | Guatemala

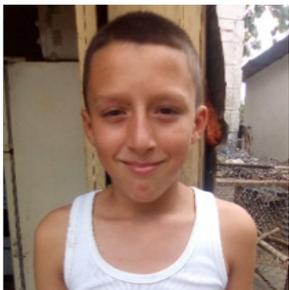
Age
20

Hobby
Listening to Music

Favorite Subject
Law

Future Dream
Lawyer

Prior to receiving her Step by Step scholarship, Carmen, who is 20 years old, had only a 6th grade education because she had to work to support her family financially. Thanks to her scholarship, Carmen was able to return to school and join a community of people that help her focus on achieving her dream of becoming a lawyer. A chance at an education afforded her many of the tools she needs to contribute positively not only to her own family but also to her society.



Juan David | Honduras

Age
12

Hobby
Playing with his dog

Favorite Subject
Social Studies

Future Dream
Doctor

Born in the garbage dump, Juan can now go to school with clean clothes, new school supplies, and textbooks. He is no longer exhausted and exposed to danger from collecting aluminum, copper, bronze and plastic from the municipal garbage dump in the Ocotillo sector. Now he dreams of becoming a doctor to help the less fortunate. He has been given both an education and a pathway out of poverty.

High School Service Volunteer to Campus Chapter Founder at University of Michigan



Sean Yanik's first service trip with International Samaritan occurred in his junior year at University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy. His work during that trip sparked his passion for helping garbage dump communities, and he launched the University of Michigan International Samaritan Campus Chapter.

As the president of the University of Michigan International Samaritan Campus Chapter, Sean focuses on fundraising creatively for the Step by Step Scholarship Program, holding a cider and donut fundraiser at football games (food donated by Blake's Cider Mill) and tabling at the UM hospital to collect funds. Over the course of his involvement, his chapter has generated more than \$2,000 to support International Samaritan's mission of alleviating poverty in garbage dump communities.



Left: Sean's first service immersion experience with University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy.



Right: University of Michigan Campus Chapter at Cider and Donut Fundraiser.

Friends of International Samaritan,

As we continue through the summer, which is the busiest time for our service immersion trips, it is important to remember the reasons why we have so many volunteers partnering with us to serve the people living in garbage dump communities. We provide a great amount of assistance to the people we serve, whether it is through building homes, working in schools, or providing critical medical care. But I believe the greater impact is on the volunteers themselves.

They are invited to form relationships with the local people and to embrace these people as brothers and sisters. This experience takes our trips beyond a simple construction project and beyond a mere tourist trip. It becomes a vehicle of renewed perspectives and changed lives for our volunteers, giving them a broadened worldview and enabling them to live their lives with greater empathy and compassion.

Support from people like you helps make these changes happen not only in the lives of the people we serve, but also in the lives of our volunteers.

Blessings,

Dan Piaskowski

International Service Coordinator

Our Service Immersion Experience Partners (January - June, 2017)

St. Michael's Catholic Academy, TX
 St. Joseph's University, PA
 Marian High School, MI
 St. Mary Student Parish, MI
 Spring Hill College, AL
 U of Toledo Honors College, OH
 U of M Ross School of Business, MI
 St. Vincent College, PA
 John Carroll University, OH
 St. Xavier High School, OH
 Walsh Jesuit High School, NY
 St. John's Jesuit High School, OH
 Regis Jesuit Girls High School, CO
 Regis Jesuit Boys High School, CO
 Montini Catholic High School, IL
 Bishop Watterson High School, OH
 St. Charles Preparatory School, OH
 Jesuit High School, OH
 Bishop Hartley High School, OH

Michigan Ross Business School serves in Granada, Nicaragua



Students from Michigan Ross School of Business

Michigan Ross School of Business had their first service immersion trip to Granada, Nicaragua. Sponsored by a generous grant from the Royal Bank of Canada, their projects included rebuilding the home of one of the workers from the garbage dump and spending time with boys affected by domestic violence. In addition, the students had the opportunity to interview local business owners. Their evenings included nightly reflections about their observations and experiences. No doubt, these invaluable lessons will carry the Michigan Ross students into their future studies and careers. If you own a business and want to sponsor a trip for students to experience the reality of garbage dump community, contact Sarah Daniel at sarah@intsam.org or 734-222.0701.

Safe Homes for Garbage Dump Community Members

According to the Center for Disease Control, safe and affordable housing is critical for good physical, emotional, and social health. International Samaritan helps build safe and healthy communities by constructing and repairing houses and schools for families who have previously lived in houses constructed of salvaged materials from the garbage dump. In 2017, we completed dozens of projects hand in hand with locals and volunteers. We are currently working on building houses, stoves, latrines, and playgrounds, as well as improving school buildings near garbage dump communities to help break the cycle of poverty. International Samaritan is thankful to have volunteers who not only meet the demands of hard work, but also establish relationships with the families they serve in garbage dump communities.



Thank you volunteers from Montini Catholic High School in Lombard, Illinois, Notre Dame Academy in Green Bay, Wisconsin, Nardin Academy in Buffalo, New York, and St. Michael Catholic Academy in Austin, Texas who constructed Luis Alman's House in Granada, Nicaragua.

DO YOU WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

Join us for individual service immersion and medical missions:

Service Immersion Trips

August 6-13
Guatemala

November 18-25
Nicaragua

Contact Dan Piaskowski
dan@intsam.org or 734-222-0701

Medical Missions

August 13-20
Nicaragua

November 11-19
Guatemala

Contact Mateusz Plaza
mateusz@intsam.org or 734-222-0701

Introducing our new website intsam.org



We are pleased to announce the launch of our new website. Our goal with this new site is to provide our visitors an easier way to learn about International Samaritan's work and allow our friends to be better connected with recent updates from garbage dump communities. The new website is interactive and gives better access to our mission, volunteer opportunities, and impact pages.

Dear Friends,

To one extent or another, we have all benefited from receiving an education. Learning new skills, ways of seeing the world, or ways of solving problems has undoubtedly had a positive effect on our lives, personally and professionally.

But to the desperately poor of garbage dump communities of the world, access to a quality education can mean the difference between a short, brutal life of hunger and despair, and a healthier, happier, more hopeful life.

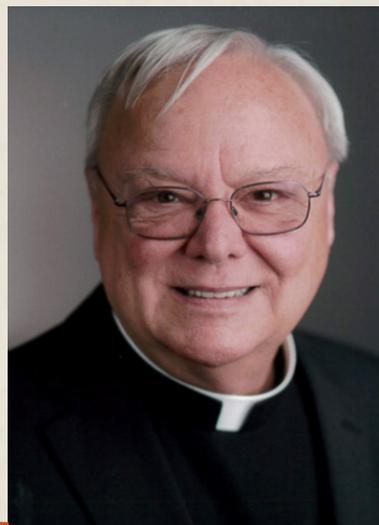
We know that for every year of school a garbage dump child attends, his or her life expectancy increases, as does his or her lifetime earning potential. In this newsletter you'll see the story of Francisco, a Step by Step Scholarship student. Your support of his education is giving him the chance to break out of poverty and to leave life at the dump for a life of dignity and achievement.

You are partners with International Samaritan, an organization grounded in the Ignatian value of seeing Christ's presence in the poorest of the poor and opening our hearts to them. Heart is the beginning and ending of all we do together. For your continued support, I pray that God blesses your generous hearts.

Yours in Christ,

Father Don Vettese, S. J.

Founder
International Samaritan



803 N. Main Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
P (734) 222-0701
info@intsam.org



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Is Planned Giving Right for You?

Would you like to see our work continue for years to come? Would you like to donate but don't currently have the budget? Would you like your legacy to include serving the poorest and most marginalized children? *If any of these questions hit home, planned giving is an option to consider.*

By adding a provision to your will or trust, a donation is paid after death after beneficiaries are paid. It will cost you nothing during your lifetime. International Samaritan is offering free professional counsel to anyone interested in planned giving. We are happy to discuss how our strategic needs fit your interests.

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Please call Fr. Don Vettese at our office at (734) 222-0701 for further information.

