

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER 2024

www.esperanzajuvenil.org



Edition 1: January to March 2024

## OUR IMPACT IN 2024

 **203** Scholars

**162** School      **41** College

 **8** Residences

 **2** Campuses

 **16** Graduate Students



## NEW STUDENTS

This year, we welcomed 32 new students from various regions of the country. Of these, 10 joined as residents, while the remaining were day students. Our commitment to our scholars is to equip them with the necessary tools to ensure a high-quality education. We focus on values, academic excellence, comprehensive care, professional development, service orientation, and other areas. Our goal is to assist them in achieving their aspirations and becoming successful professionals who positively impact their communities and country.



## TESTIMONIAL

“My name is Ofelia, and I am 12 years old. I come from Cobán, Alta Verapaz. What I love most about joining Esperanza Juvenil are the choir classes we have on Saturdays and the English projects our teacher assigns to us. During my time at Esperanza Juvenil, I learned the importance of teamwork and how it can benefit me no matter where I go.”



## EDUCATION

We started the 2024 school year in January with 162 students enrolled in our elementary and high school campuses. Throughout the year's first quarter, we focused on helping our students develop important skills to improve their academic performance. We have been fostering their leadership abilities, independence, soft skills, and personal values in line with our institutional values through various activities.

We are pleased to report that our students have made significant progress in their education during this first unit of the school year. To successfully close this first cycle, our teaching and management team has been working hard to achieve its objectives, which are primarily focused on providing quality classes and ensuring the continued progress of our students. To this end, we implemented training sessions for our team members to help strengthen our pedagogical model, innovation area, and STEAM approach.





## COLLEGE STUDENTS

We currently have 41 college students enrolled in our university program! Each of them is studying the career of their choice at different universities in Guatemala. Our university coordinator holds monthly meetings with our students to follow up on their progress. In the most recent meeting held in March, our university committee discussed various topics that would help enhance and strengthen our students' university experience. These meetings provide a platform for us to support our young people in achieving their academic and professional goals.



Adriana Ramón  
Forensic Criminology  
Rafael Landívar University

"I am happy to be a part of Esperanza Juvenil. Thanks to this program, I can continue my studies and achieve my goal of graduating from college. Being a part of this program has taught me to be a strong and persevering person. In the most difficult moments, I know I can rely on their help. I am deeply grateful for the support and guidance this program has provided me with."

## GRADUATION

We are pleased to announce that Sindy Cortez has graduated from Mariano Galvez University with a degree in Psychology. This makes her our 15th university graduate in this year's first quarter. Sindy shared the following:

"I thank God and the Esperanza Juvenil team for their unconditional support, which enabled me to graduate from college. I recognize that few programs in Guatemala accompany their students on this path."

Sindy Cortez,  
University Graduate



## OUR YOUTH IN ACTION



Service is a fundamental value that we teach all our students to uphold. It is essential for them to understand its significance and put it into practice regularly. By involving our students in service projects, we help them contribute positively to society and develop their leadership skills, empathy, and sense of responsibility, which will be invaluable for their future.

Recently, our senior students had the opportunity to renovate classrooms in one of the villages of Tecpán Chimaltenango. They painted the classrooms before the school year began, significantly contributing to the community. Additionally, our students have cleaned our area's streets and participate in volunteer activities once a month with Desarrollo en Movimiento, an NGO dedicated to providing food support to partner programs.

## VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

Partnering with international schools is an essential aspect of our academic preparation program. It helps us to prepare our students for the English language, which is a crucial tool in today's globalized world. A recent example is when we hosted a group of volunteer students from Saint Louis University High School in January. They participated in our academic activities and stayed with our resident students for three weeks. Throughout their stay, they practiced English with our students, which was a great learning experience for all involved.





## TRAINING

Our team has participated in several training sessions these first three months of the year to enhance their knowledge on different topics. This initiative aims to provide them with experiences and equip them with relevant tools for stronger and more effective support of our students.

One of the key highlights was the annual Leadership Gathering organized by Boys Hope Girls Hope Network Headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri. Our entire leadership team participated in this training and received new tools and feedback on the operation of Esperanza Juvenil. Additionally, other team members participated in significant trainings such as Strategic Storytelling and Communication and The Fundamentals of Public Speaking, which took place in Antigua, Guatemala.

## THE 2024 HERO OF HOPE AWARD

We are thrilled to share with you that in March, our Executive Director, Lucas Pinzon, was awarded the 2024 Hero of Hope Award by Boys Hope Girls Hope Network Headquarters. This award recognizes a team member who made a meaningful contribution to the program, staff, and education of students through their leadership.

Through dedication and hard work, Lucas has become a role model for our students. He has enabled Esperanza Juvenil to serve a larger number of Guatemalan children and youth each year.



## ESPERANZA JUVENIL ANNIVERSARY

Esperanza Juvenil celebrated its 33rd anniversary on February 20. Over the past three decades, with the generous support of our donors and community, we have been able to expand and provide education to a growing number of children and youth. We have witnessed firsthand the positive impact education can have on the lives of those we serve.

To celebrate this milestone, our students from both campuses organized special activities such as drawing contests and poetry and song performances, all centered around the anniversary of the program. We have overcome many challenges and achieved great success over the past 33 years, allowing us to grow and advance in our commitment to changing lives through education.



## RESIDENCES

Our resident students had the opportunity to participate in various recreational and learning activities during the first three months of the year. Some of the activities they have taken part in include:

- Visits to the theater and ecological parks
- Soccer championships
- Visit to the Congress of the Republic

These experiences have provided our students with many valuable learning opportunities.

*We are truly grateful for your unwavering support in our mission to provide integral education to our students. Every accomplishment and breakthrough a direct result of your dedication. We firmly believe that by working together, we can overcome obstacles and transform lives through the power of education.*

