



PROJECT AMIGO



Newsletter!

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A Becaria and her Two Families

Rotarians Roger and Mary were inspired to sponsor a child after a friend returned from a Service Week in Colima. In 2010 they were matched with a 4th grader, Dalia Martinez Perez. Dalia is currently a senior at the University of Colima.

Although they have never been to Colima or met Dalia, they have been her sponsors all these years.



Last year Roger and Mary reached out to Project Amigo to find out what they could do to help minimize the impact of Covid on our students. Although they had been receiving monthly emails from Dalia; they didn't feel they really knew how things were going for her family. They did know that Dalia's Dad had not been able to work and that she was doing embroidery to help with family income. They were pleased to learn that Project Amigo families who had lost their jobs due to Covid were invited to apply for a micro-loan. Using the skills learned as a business student, Dalia submitted an application and business plan for a micro-loan to create an embroidery business, named Bordando Sueños. The business capitalized on her Mother's embroidery skills. That business still provides a source of income for Dalia's family and for other family members.

Dalia is a model student who used all she had learned at the University of Colima to help her family move forward during a challenging time. Roger and Mary are extremely proud of all of Dalia's accomplishments and wanted to send her a gift to express that pride. When asked for input for a gift Dalia responded, "There is no bigger or better present than the help I have already received from my sponsors so that I can keep studying. I am grateful for the offer of a gift, but I can't think of anything more special than the continued support from Roger and Mary." Roger and Mary proudly display a special hand embroidered "servilleta" sent by Dalia and her family as an expression of their gratitude.



Roger and Mary's grandchildren are excited about someday traveling to Colima to meet Dalia and her family. These two families will always have an important connection. They are the familia encouraging and supporting Dalia and are ready to cheer her on at graduation.

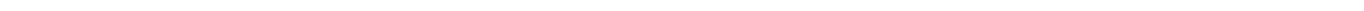
Let us know if you'd like to get to know one of our Becarios better and become a part of his or her family as well.

This fall there will be fifty new Becarios in need of a sponsor.

Swim Lessons

Every year there is a special Service Week—Swim Week. During this week a group of lucky junior high Becarios learn how to swim! Project Amigo Becarios rarely get the opportunity to learn to swim. At the end of the week these kids will have learned to float and do the doggie paddle; skills to help keep them safe in an emergency. Overcoming their fear and figuring out the steps to swim also gives a boost to their self-confidence. These Becarios learn that anything is possible with the application of determination and investment of time and effort. Applying that same dedication to their education can help

overcome learning challenges. We invite you to make a [donation](#) to send Becarios to learn to swim lessons.





Mexican Cooking Service Week

October 8 –15, 2023
Join us for another unique and wonderful Service

Week: **Mexican Cooking Service Week**. Anyone who registers by August 15 will get \$100 discount on the registration fee.

During this week you'll learn to prepare typical Mexican dishes such as Chiles en Nogada, tortillas from scratch beginning with cooking the nixtamal and grinding it to make the dough. And you will make a dessert or two.

Additionally, you will explore cooking with Becarios and share some of our American traditions like decorating cookies with the younger students, maybe even make pizzas.

Don't miss the opportunity to learn from our amazing Project Amigo cooks and share some of our American cooking traditions.



**RESERVE YOUR
SPOT** by August 15
and save \$100.

Volunteer Experience

Earlier this year we held the Community and International Service Week. First time volunteers Andrew, Meghan and Althea would like to share their experience with you. Hear about their time spent with Project Amigo in the video below.



Thank you Sponsors!
