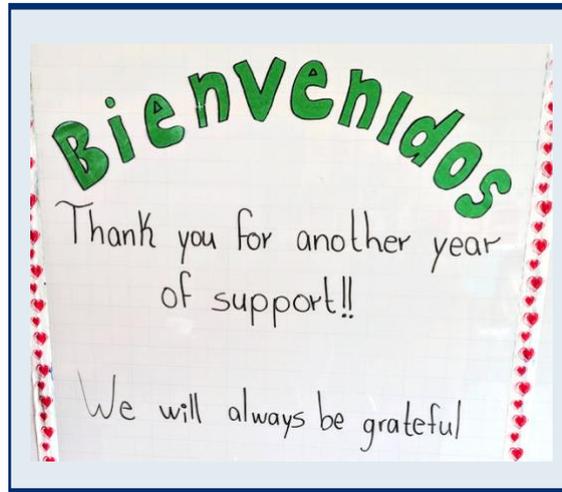


Q4 2025

2025 in Copán

A Year of Progress, Seen Up Close

As we look back on 2025, we see a year marked by steady progress across our education, vocational training, and village development programs. One of the biggest milestones was the launch of the ETAOO vocational program at Cashapa High School, where students now have access to sewing, baking, woodworking, and other hands-on skills — an opportunity that simply didn't exist a year ago. Interest in these courses has grown quickly, and many graduates are already using their skills to earn income in their communities.



This year also brought growth in our village partnerships. IPA expanded into two new communities — La Ruda and El Florido — extending school support, supplies, and scholarships to students who had previously gone without. We also selected seven villages for Rapid Development Phase 4, focusing on vocational training and strengthening Village Savings and Loan Associations. The earlier phases of RD continued to show strong results, with savings groups still active, issuing loans, and helping families start small businesses.

Throughout the year, construction projects moved forward in dozens of villages despite challenging weather and difficult access. Classrooms, kitchens, water systems, and electrical upgrades were completed with the support of our contractors and the Rotary Club of Copán Ruinas, whose involvement remains essential to every step of this work.

As we look ahead to 2026, we remain focused on the same core commitments — supporting students at every stage of their education, strengthening village leadership, and expanding opportunities that help families build a more secure future.

At a Glance: Key IPA 2025 Achievements

- Students in IPA villages move on to 7th grade at **2.5x** the regional rate.
- Students in IPA villages finish 9th grade at **3.7x** the rate of public schools.
- **100%** of supported villages have a middle school accessible on foot.
- Sponsors supported **2,675 students** across every stage of their education.

Awaiting Sponsors

Your support can change a life—
sponsor a student today.

To sign up at \$220/year, email:
adopt-a-dream@ipafoundation.org



Name: Jesly
Community: El Florido SR
School: Vara de Cohete IHER
Grade: 7



Name: Darwin
Community: El Chilar
School: El Chilar IHER
Grade: 7



Name: Dania
Community: El Florido SR
School: Rio Amarillo SR IHER
Grade: 10

Updates from the Field

Highlights from our education, health, and community programs in Copán

This quarter, we're sharing updates from November school visits, the strong momentum at Rio Amarillo, expansion of ETAOO vocational classes, growing VSLAs in RD4, and the construction projects improving classrooms and infrastructure.

November School Visits

Our November team spent two weeks visiting every IPA-supported village across Copán. These trips help us meet students face to face, talk with teachers, and confirm scholarship needs for the upcoming year. We reviewed classroom conditions, gathered end-of-year updates, and heard directly from families about transportation, health challenges, and the costs that make schooling difficult. These visits give us a clear picture of what's working well in each community and where additional support is needed for 2026.

Rio Amarillo High School

Rio Amarillo continues to be one of the strongest weekend high school programs in the region. Students proudly presented the small businesses they created for their *práctica*, showing real entrepreneurial skill and confidence. Teachers reported strong attendance and engagement throughout the year. With a fourth career track planned for 2027, the staff is now exploring options for additional space, and IPA is working with them to find a practical solution.

ETAOO Trade School

Sewing, confectionary, and cosmetology classes are running with solid attendance and quick progress. Students were eager to show the projects they've completed after only a few weeks. Welding continues at a church in Santa Rita due to electrical limitations at the Children International site. Many graduates in RD villages are already using their new skills to earn income, and interest in next year's classes remains strong.

VSLAs in RD4 Villages

Village savings and loan groups in Villanueva and La Reforma are active and growing. Both groups recently issued their first loans, and several members have already launched small businesses — from clothing sales to chicken production and coffee nurseries. Participation is still high, and both villages expressed interest in deepening their partnership with IPA, especially through additional education support.

Construction & Infrastructure

Mauricio is managing a busy schedule of 15 active projects, ranging from classroom repairs to water systems and electrical upgrades. Heavy rains and difficult road conditions caused delays in a few communities, but six major projects were completed this fall, including a new classroom in Siná and water installation at the Rio Amarillo school. Despite the challenges, work continues steadily as materials can be delivered.

ETAOO Cosmetology Class



Volunteer Trip Updates

Highlights from our visit to Copán

In late October and early November, a group of IPA volunteers traveled to Copán to visit the schools and communities we support. One of the most memorable moments came early in the trip, when a volunteer stood outside a village classroom surrounded by students eager to talk, ask questions, and share their work. That sense of welcome set the tone for the week.

Working alongside members of the Rotary Club of Copán Ruinas, volunteers visited every supported village, meeting teachers, reviewing classroom needs, and gathering updates for the year ahead. They saw vocational classes in action, met scholarship applicants, and walked through construction projects that our local team has been managing in challenging terrain.

What stood out most was the human side of the work: teachers doing their best with limited resources, students proud of what they're learning, and families navigating real challenges with resilience. The trip offered a clear reminder of how much behind-the-scenes effort goes into each program — and how meaningful it is to see that impact in person.



Seeing Impact Up Close



During visits to classrooms, kitchens, and even latrine projects, volunteers observed how construction and repairs directly improve daily life for students and teachers.

Connecting Through Play



Volunteers spent time in schoolyards and open fields, joining students in games and activities — a simple but meaningful way to connect across language and age.

Sponsoring University Students

Opening New Doors in 2026

Over the past decade, IPA's work has helped far more students in rural Copán finish primary and secondary school. This progress is real and meaningful. Each year, more students are graduating prepared, motivated, and eager to continue their education. But for many, the path stops there — not because of ability, but because university is simply unaffordable.

IPA launched its university scholarship program to address this gap. These scholarships help students move from secondary school into professional training, turning years of hard work into lasting opportunity. University access matters beyond the individual student. These young adults want to become teachers, nurses, agronomists, lawyers, and business leaders — roles that strengthen schools, improve health, and create economic opportunity in their own communities. Supporting students through university ensures that education does not end at graduation but becomes a foundation for long-term impact.

University Scholarships: *Program Overview*

- **\$1,000 per year** sponsors a university student, with a **one-time \$330 laptop** provided in the first year
- Students study fields such as nursing, teaching, business, law, and agronomy
- 31 students applied for support for 2026
- **At least 6 students** still need a sponsor
- [Read all of their stories here](#)

Katerine's Story

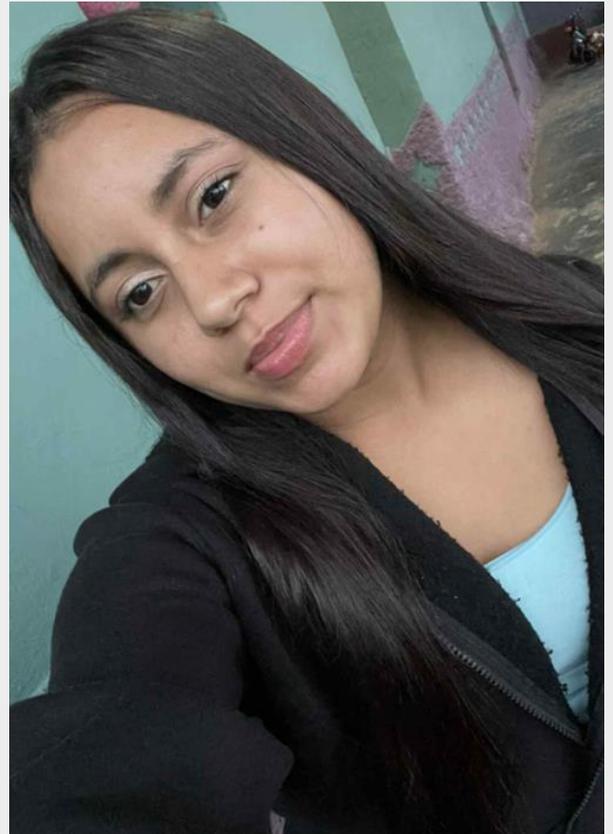
Future Nursing Student (Age 17)

Hello, my name is Katerine. I grew up in Delicias 1, Santa Rita, a humble and peaceful community, even though it is far from the city and the roads are very difficult to travel on. My family has always been low income, but my parents have found ways to support my studies.

What motivates me most is the opportunity you have given me by sponsoring my education from kindergarten through ninth grade. I feel deep nostalgia and gratitude when I think about it. Many children who are just as capable cannot study because they have so few resources, and this pushes me to keep going and fight for my dreams.

It hasn't always been easy. I've cried in frustration when I didn't understand something, but I kept going because every effort has its reward. I love learning, especially about anthropology and the recent history of our country and the world. My teachers have taught me to believe in myself.

I want to go to university because I want to earn a degree in nursing to get a good salary to help support my family in the future. You have helped me so much to pay for my studies. If it were not for you, I would not be where I am today!



Sponsor A University Student

If you'd like to sponsor Katerine or another applicant, contact:

Adopt-a-Dream@IPAFoundation.org