

Honduran students Experiencing Success with Support from Club Rotarians

Story by Ed Kolybaba on Jun 12, 2023

Recently two Rotarians from the Okanagan Rotary Club Cluster Group completed a visit to Honduras to monitor the achievement of 450 Honduran students who have been sponsored by Rotary members in Canada through **HELP Honduras**. The feedback shared with the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise, which is one of seven Rotary clubs within the Cluster, indicated that all of the students are attending school and most are doing very well.

Fourteen Kelowna Rotary Sunrise Rotarians have been sponsoring a total of 23 students and the club has also donated \$1000 to help with additional educational costs.

Linda Frandsen, chair of the club's International Service Committee, shared that the sponsorship funds covers the costs of the student's uniforms, school supplies, and extra academic help if required. Frandsen shared that the "parents are very involved as they must apply for the sponsorship and guarantee that their child attends school," and they are obligated to take parenting courses. Additionally, she noted that "they benefit by being able to access a medical clinic and workshops on hygiene, parenting and business training being offered through Alternativas Y Oportunidades (AYO).



Barb Penner, a Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise member and active supporter of AYO, meets with one of the children she sponsors

The sponsorship program is administered by AYO – a Honduran NGO controlled by Rotarians from four Rotary Clubs in Tegucigalpa. Their philosophy is to look after the whole family.

You can learn more about HELP Honduras and how to sponsor a child by going to <http://helphonduras.ca>.