



**In his former home  
A lost soul**

## FROM DESPAIR TO A BETTER LIFE



**Happy in his new home  
Virgen del Socorro Hospital**

**New Patient-This is Jose Santiago.** His mother died from uterine cancer. His older sister can't look after him because she is a single mother with several children and works in a tortilla stand. His younger sister is 16 and unfortunately is pregnant and has no way to support him.

The boy is badly cared for and they only give him something to eat once a day. At times, the neighbors bring him a little extra food. Jose also has convulsions but no one has enough money to buy anti-convulsants.

Flory contacted Virgen del Socorro Hospital, a branch of Obras Hospital that takes care of orphans and disabled people who don't have families that can care for them. Jose qualifies to be accepted by them. He will have a good quality of life, medicine, therapy and be treated with dignity.

However, he first needed to have a national ID card and various health tests. and of course, a Covid test. Once these requirements were fulfilled, he would be accepted for the rest of his life. The hospital then finds a Guatemalan patron that will donate for his care.

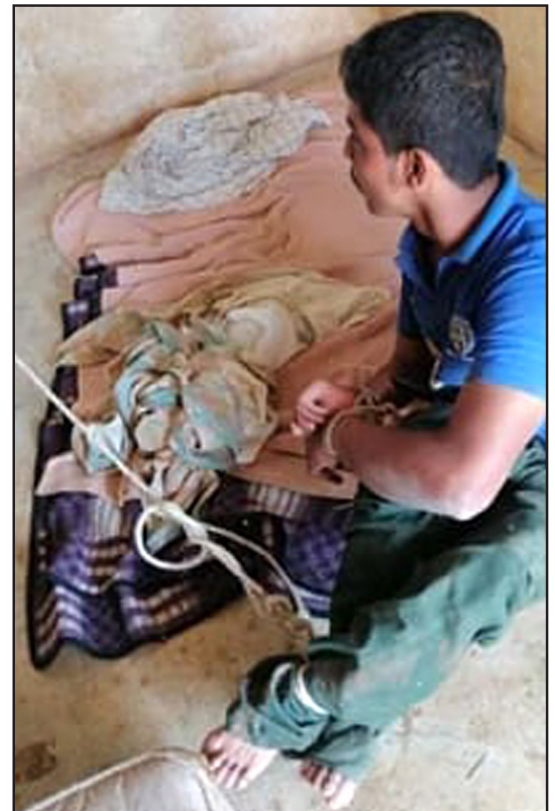
(Flory was extremely grateful that they didn't require us to have his teeth fixed because they were really BAD! They said they will take care of having them fixed.)

**Costs: \$300 for various health tests, \$150 for several nights in a hotel** for him and his aunt and sister. But now he is set for life.

## Photo Stories from Flory

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Some concerned neighbors recently brought this boy to Flory's attention. His stepfather beats him, as does his mother, and they tie him up so he can't pound on the door when he is hungry. It seems as though he may also be eligible to be accepted by Virgen del Socorro. Flory is going to investigate.