## **CENTRAL MEXICO YOUTH FUND NEWSLETTER**

Website: centralmexicoyouthfund.org

Helping young Mexicans get a quality education and lead productive lives

### Who We Are

The Central Mexico Youth Fund supports activities in Mexico that help children, adolescents, and young adults get an education and lead productive lives in their own country. Many of these students grew up in indigenous communities surrounding Querétaro.

The Central Mexico Youth Fund was founded in March 2013 and is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization, so contributions to it are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Please contact Charles Goldsmith at <u>centralmexicoyouthfund@gmail.com</u> if you have any questions.

## Your Donations are Used Effectively

We provide financial assistance to reputable nonprofit organizations in Mexico that focus on youth who come from families with limited economic resources and/or indigenous communities and offer them educational opportunities and training in life skills.

These organizations provide regular financial reports to the Central Mexico Youth Fund on the use of donated funds. Board members also make at least an annual visit to each organization to confirm that contributions are used for the intended purposes.

You can make a secure donation at <u>centralmexicoyouthfund.org</u>/.



# Working with Our Partner Organizations

Cadena de Ayuda helps young men and women from rural areas to pursue their university studies in Querétaro by paying tuition and living expenses, and giving them access to computer equipment and internet services. The Central Mexico Youth Fund has provided funds to purchase two new computer monitors and paid for lessons to help some students get their drivers license, which is required by employers.

El Puente de Esperanza offers a residence in Querétaro and pays the

high school fees, university tuition, and living expenses for academically promising young students, most of whom grew up in indigenous communities. The Central Mexico Youth Fund makes a monthly contribution to partially cover these costs.



**Niños and Niñas** delivers pre-school and after-school tutoring programs to children from indigenous communities who otherwise would be selling candy in the streets. The Central Mexico Youth Fund

is seeking funds from U.S. foundations on behalf of this organization to pay the cost of renting school buses that would transport these children from their homes to school.





## In the News: Cadena de Ayuda

The Querétaro newspaper *El Universal* recently featured an article about Dave Peterson, Director of Cadena de Ayuda. Dave is a 69 year old American from Georgia and the adoptive father of three children. He was a high school teacher in Georgia and founded Cadena de Ayuda in 2004 with seven students.

The article, entitled "My Calling is to Help Others," explains that Cadena de Ayuda has provided scholarships to 135 students from poor families, who range in age from 16 to 25 years old.

When asked by the journalist if he acts as a father to these young people, Dave responded, "sometimes, at other times I'm the boss, a bit of a grouch, and sometimes an advisor."

We congratulate Dave for his compassionate grouchiness that has helped these young people achieve their academic goals and are pleased to support this great organization!

## The Lives We Impact

Here are some of the personal stories as told by the students of El Puente:

#### VIRI:

"After a failed attempt, having the chance to study again is tremendous, not just for the chance itself, but also for the lessons you get that help you improve, not give up, and keep working toward what you want. I was able to remain in the nursing program at the Autonomous University of Querétaro. I am so happy to be able to make one of my greatest dreams come true, to start meeting new challenges, and to experience new things that will help me continue to grow."

#### **EDUARDO:**

"I am enrolled in Administrative Mechanical Engineering at the Querétaro campus of the Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education. I am thrilled to be here and I belong to the student group called Energía Baja SAE. The group is working on the design and construction of an all-terrain race car for the Baja SAE national and international competitions. I love working with this group because we help and learn from one another as we pursue our goal."

#### LEONICIA:

"I am in the first semester of Agricultural Engineering at the Amazcala campus of the Autonomous University of Querétaro. I enrolled in this program because I love working in the fields and am fascinated by greenhouses, and because this career benefits our country. I like to work in the communities and would be delighted to return to mine (in the Sierra Gorda region of northern Querétaro State) one day to use my professional skills to pay back my community's support."

