

HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Educational Issues in Latin America

According to a report by the Congressional Research Service:

- Latin America's education indicators still lag behind the developed world and many developing countries of comparable income levels in East Asia.
- Few governments in Latin America invest the percent of their budgets on education that is recommended by international education experts.
- Grade repetition and dropout rates are high, particularly at the secondary level and in the poorer countries of Central America. Half of all youth in Latin America never finish high school. These numbers are higher among the poor.
- Post-secondary enrollment in Latin America is significantly lower than in other parts of the world, with an average of only 20% of eligible students enrolled. In comparison, 73% of students enroll in post-secondary education in the United States.

Higher Education at Our Homes

Education is an essential part of the NPH model. After secondary school, each child has the opportunity to finish a technical course. Those who have the aptitude and desire may pursue a university degree if they give an additional year of service to help their NPH family after completing their studies.

Depending on where a student attends school, he/she may live in an NPH home that has a shared kitchen, dining room, computer lab and a House Director. We provide for all of their food, transportation, school books and supplies, as well as specialized materials so they may focus on their studies. Supporting these motivated young scholars is a costly investment, but one that yields a great return.

The average annual cost for a university education is \$5,000 per student. This covers tuition and fees, and all living expenses, including food, clothing and transportation. Most students complete their degrees in four years.



50%

of all youth in
Latin America
never finish
high school



227

NPH youths
are studying
in university



Helping Break the Cycle of Poverty

We prepare all our children to become productive and self-sufficient adults. Those who obtain a university degree find that their prospects for success in their societies are amplified, allowing them to compete in a global job market. Today, many are educators, doctors, accountants, nurses, carpenters, farmers and community leaders. Appreciating the impact NPH has had on their lives, some work for NPH while others sponsor children, organize fundraisers, or serve as our ambassadors.

The number of our university students has grown steadily each year. Currently we have 227 young adults (119 female and 108 male) attending universities. As a result, the budget to support our university population is also the highest it has ever been. This is truly an effective and targeted investment in the future of these countries — creating caring and talented citizens to help their societies thrive.



“ I joined NPH at the age of 6.
I am now an
orthopedic surgeon
working with the poor in Honduras.
This would not have been possible
without NPH. ”

~ Dr. Merlin Antunez

To learn about sponsoring a university student, visit nphusa.org/university

Total University Students: 227

Total Estimated Cost: \$1,135,000

Current Students



119
Female



108
Male

Country	Students
Bolivia	9
Dominican Republic	10
El Salvador	18
Guatemala	17
Haiti	49
Honduras	40
Mexico	63
Nicaragua	18
Peru	3

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