



The Star Transformation

As the oldest daughter of five children, Estela grew up in the remote Northwestern area of Guatemala with the responsibility of looking after her siblings while her mother worked in the fields. Estela and her siblings sometimes worked alongside their mother harvesting crops for local farmers, but their combined efforts only brought in \$50 a month for the family to live on. This vastly inadequate income left the children under educated and malnourished leaving Estela destined to become another statistic of young girls in rural Guatemala who were unable to achieve their dreams of education and employment.

Finding Freedom accepted the family into our program in 2013, providing one meal a day, and paying for the education of all the children. A generous FFF donor provided the funds needed to construct a new home for the family.

During her middle and high school years Estela proved to be innately intelligent and remained in the top of her class throughout her scholastic years at Maya Jaguar boarding school. Making the decision to support her with a scholarship to nursing school was costly for our organization but we knew that her true potential was within reach if only she had the means to obtain it. It is difficult to properly denote the hardships that Estela went through in her determination to rise above her upbringing. There are no credible statistics on the number of indigenous Mayan women who obtain a college degree, but the numbers are startlingly low.

Estela recently graduated from nursing school in 2019 and has accepted a job in a large regional hospital in Guatemala and She will be running a weekend clinic for us twice a month in an area that has no access to medical care. This FFF funded basic healthcare clinic has long been a dream of ours. We often don't know the outcome of young adulthood for the students that we include in our scholarship program. But we could not have asked for a better utilization of our funds and a more promising future than what Estela has achieved. As a registered nurse with an adequate income who originated in a remote village, Estela defied amazing odds and will benefit her mother and younger siblings with her newly obtained income. Finding Freedom looks forward to a long-term relationship with this young nurse as she continues to benefit not only her immediate family with her income but also her community through our clinic.



(Top Photo) Entry into FFF in 2013

(Bottom Photo) A Star Transformation 2019

CONTACT

Jody Greenlee
Executive Director
859.608.7747
Jody@FreedomThrough
Friendship.org

Marguerite Doyle
CFO & Middle East Director
859.312.3964
Doyle@FreedomThroug
Friendship.org

Finding Freedom Through Friendship, Inc.
1781 Eastwood Dr. Lexington, KY 40502
green71957@aol.com
finding-freedom-through-friendship.org