

## A LOS PATOJOS SUCCESS STORY

Genser struggled in his younger years due to familial violence. As a consequence, his studies at school suffered. He came to Los Patojos when he was 11 years old. Over the last 8 years he learned that he cannot change his past, but he can improve his future. After graduating Grade 9 he received a scholarship to study with Agrequima, a non-profit in Guatemala whose aim is to teach the proper use and management of pesticides and fertilizers to produce more organic crops.

Genser completed the program and is now in charge of the farm at the Los Patojos centre in San Miguel Duenas. Genser feels that being a part of Los Patojos has taught him that he can express his own ideas, follow his dreams and change his life circumstances.

He actively participates in sports and cultural programs, helps to cook and clean the centre. He also teaches the younger students what he has learned about the importance of the agriculture program which provides them with low cost but healthier food.

Genser states that the most valuable lessons he has learned at Los Patojos are dignity, honour and that sacrifice equals success. He has a new goal, to become an Agricultural Engineer. We will help him in any way we can to achieve his goal so he can continue to help the other 400 students



Genser



Agricultural Team



Youth working at Duenas

### ♥ THANK YOU ♥

We thank you for your donations in the past and hope we can count on your continued support. We promise that every dollar donated to our charity goes to the children and projects. The directors pay all administrative, travel and other costs ourselves.

#### Give Kids A Chance Foundation

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The directors brought 170 pounds of donations, medicine, medical supplies and tooth brushes which are always needed in our clinic. Melissa will be the new clinic supervisor and she will be implementing a larger more comprehensive medical program for the students and staff in the school as well as for the community.



The directors of Give Kids A Chance visited our school, Los Patojos in October. It was a truly inspiring visit as we attended the first Grade 9 graduation. This is a very significant event for our students as in Guatemala less than 40% of students are even enrolled in high school and far less graduate. We are very proud of the teachers and the students, 91% of our students graduated. One father returned to the school after the graduation ceremonies crying because he cannot read nor write, but his daughter just graduated from Grade 9.

