

## Esperanza School

Viviana

[Esperanza de Ana](#)

*I feel and see that the Esperanza School program (ES) has impacted my life in a very positive way. Before entering the program, I remember that I was enrolled in a school that I only attended some days. My mother did not have money to buy me notebooks or a uniform; in addition, she went out to work and did not have time to take me to school. Being alone at home, my brothers and I went out to the street to play without measuring the consequences since we didn't have an adult person who gave us direction.*

*When I joined the Esperanza de Ana programs (EA) at the age of 7, they changed my school; I was in the 2nd grade of primary school, and they supported me in my studies (they gave me a scholarship) from there my attendance at school was more frequent. Since then, ES has always been there for me, accompanying me, motivating me to be better and not give up on achieving my goals. I remember a lot that they caught my attention every time I missed school. Now I can see that that helped me a lot because it taught me to be more responsible. I also remember that they told me, "Every class you miss is one less learning opportunity." It is why I am very grateful every time they repeated to me the importance of my studies and attending school.*

*By attending ES, I received help in realizing my goals. Now it is different due to Covid. Still, they visited me at my house. I also did not have to worry about what I was going to eat, ES fed us lunch every day, and that gave me peace of mind and gratitude since other children do not have that opportunity; I was also taught to pray before eating and to have good posture when sitting.*

*I have also seen changes in my spiritual life; when we attended ES in person, we had a time altogether, from the smallest to the largest, to thank God with songs, listening to the Bible. All that helped me grow in my relationship with Him; they were very beautiful afternoons. Now we continue to carry this time differently, but with the same purpose of knowing more about God.*

*Regarding my relationship with myself and with others, with the Crecer (Grow) workshop, I can see that it has helped me form my character. Now I know how to react to various situations, being more empathetic and controlling my emotions, I still grow in this aspect.*

*Another thing I thank ES for is how they encouraged me a lot of the value of reading. Now, reading has become one of my favorite hobbies; I have read almost 17 books this year. When I arrived at EA, I did not look at a book, much less know how to read it; I remember that they taught me and motivated me to read with a lot of patience. I was not born as a reader, but now, I can say I would spend my whole day reading entire books.*

*Now I am 16 years old, and I am about to finish my last year of high school. From my experience, I can say that ES is a program that helps us get ahead, guides us academically, shares us about God, encourages us to read, are always willing to help us, and it is cool.*

