

Centro Educativo Mbaracayu – Scholarship Fund on Global Giving

PROJECT TITLE:

Help Poor, Rural Girls in Paraguay go to University!

PROJECT MESSAGE:

Now that 48 girls have almost completed three rigorous years of environmental science education and entrepreneurial skill building, many of them are looking ahead and figuring out their options and opportunities for the future. This group of girls will be graduating from Centro Educativo Mbaracayu in December 2011. While I was visiting and researching the school, many of these girls told me they would love to go onto University, either abroad or in Paraguay, as they dream about getting their undergraduate degrees in subjects including environmental science, agronomy, eco-tourism, or agricultural studies. However, this is a tough goal for many of them to accomplish, as they do not have the financial means to pay for University. We can help them make these dreams a reality by helping the girls with their tuition fees. This scholarship fund aims to help a girl (or girls, depending on the amount raised) attend University.

PROJECT PLAN:

This December 48 girls will graduate from Centro Educativo Mbaracayu. They were the first class of girls to begin at CEM in 2009, and they will now become the first class to graduate from the school. For many of them, the next step is attending University. However, this can be difficult due to the lack of monetary resources. This project would like to raise money for tuition and help send a girl (or girls, depending in amount raised) to University.

The girl will be chosen based on need, merit, and admittance to University. One girl will be chosen at first, and depending on the donation amounts raised, other girls can be helped with school tuition as well. An essay contest will be a part of the selection process as well. These essays will be read by Stephanie Brewer (Nike Foundation) and Nisha Kadaba (Researcher – University of Edinburgh). The school contact that will aid in the process will be Victoria Diaz and Celsa Acosta; they will help us ensure the girl picked has the proper qualifications in terms of school performance, participation, and financial background (need based girls will be a priority). The girls who apply for the scholarship need to have already applied to a University and (hopefully) already received an acceptance letter.

It costs about \$16,000 a year for a girl to attend University outside of Paraguay. It costs about \$8,000 a year for a girl to attending University in Paraguay.

The scholarship fund can provide for:

Tuition (either Full or Partial)

Room and Board

Netbooks

Books and Learning Materials

Transportation costs (if any money is leftover and a girl requires this in order to attend)

Time Table:

September – Announce scholarship fund requirements to girls and discuss essay contest; check in on donations, gauge amounts being collected to estimate how many girls we can help

October – Essays will be submitted, Nisha and Stephanie will review them, and then discuss the potential candidates with Celsa and Victoria

November – Winners will be decided upon

December – Winners announced at CEM Graduation

If successful this year, the Fund can continue on the GG site, and we can raise funds for next years graduates.



