



Dear Friends,

In 2020, la BECA will celebrate our fifteenth anniversary. We've come a long way since three friends made a commitment to try to help girls and women achieve their dreams through education.

When la BECA awarded our first scholarships in 2005, we had no idea where our path would lead. We just knew that there were young women who wanted and needed our help to get an education . . . and we knew we wanted to be there for them.

Your support has made that happen. Each year, we are overjoyed to see young women who have persisted and persevered. Their hard work, along with the support you allow us to provide, has opened many doors.

In the past 15 years, and with your help, we have provided **more than \$400,000** in scholarships! Our la BECA graduates include a dentist, an attorney, a psychologist, several business owners, a head of school, and a large animal veterinarian. They also include the first person from her community ever to earn a high school diploma.



This year, we are especially happy to celebrate with a number of our scholars. On December 15, **Noemy** will graduate from a culinary program in Bolivia. She has worked hard to complete her classes – and you can see the beautiful dishes she prepared for a recent class project.

Noemy grew up in Villa Amistad, a la BECA partner that has worked with us since our very first year. Amistad provides a safe place for children who have been abused, abandoned, or orphaned. Our partnership allows Amistad to help young women attend college, university, or technical school.

In the La Cuenca region of Honduras, just getting back and forth to school can be a real challenge. Roads are not always in good repair, and during the rainy season, they may wash out altogether.

So when **Jeycel** and **Alma** walked across the stage to receive their high school diplomas, we knew that their graduation represented more than their academic work. It also reflected their persistence . . . and la BECA's commitment to staying with them.

This year, **we are supporting 33 young women in three countries** – Bolivia, El Salvador, and Honduras. They want to be doctors and lawyers, engineers and teachers. They all share the common dream of getting a good education.

But for every young woman we help, there is another in need. So once again at the end of the year, we are asking you to please consider la BECA as part of your year-end giving.



If you have already made a contribution this year, thank you! If you are still making your year-end giving plans, we hope you will consider what your gift can provide:

- **For \$100**, you can underwrite the extra expenses that sometimes cause a young scholar to drop out of school – things like transportation and class activities.
- **For \$250**, you can support one month of a university education for a future teacher, veterinarian, or lawyer.
- **For \$500**, you can send a young woman in the most remote areas of Honduras to high school for a school year.
- **For \$1000**, you can send a young woman to university for a term.

Again and again, your gifts have made it possible for young women to change their lives through education. We are grateful for that support.

With gratitude,
The la BECA Board

Kris Amundson • Sara Conrath • Sarah DeCamps • Kelly Newton Jeffers •
Margaret Reed Millar • Joanne Newton • Anne Reed • Carmen Tobar

____ YES! I want to help la BECA support the educational goals of women and girls in Central and South America. Enclosed is my contribution of: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

ZIP: _____

Email: _____

Return your contribution in the enclosed envelope. Mail it to
La BECA Women's Scholarship Foundation
PO Box 7064 Alexandria, VA 22307