La BECA Women's Scholarship Foundation

Bringing Education, Compassion, and Assistance to Women and Girls in Latin America and the Caribbean

2023 Annual Report









La BECA has awarded well over **\$800,000** since we started in 2005. We began with 7 scholars in 2 countries and currently support over 40 scholars in 4 countries – Bolivia, El Salvador, Honduras, and Panama.











Dear Friends:

"What happens to your La BECA scholars after they

graduate?" In the seventeen years that we have provided scholarships for young women, we have been part of many success stories.

One of our very first scholarships in **Bolivia** was awarded to Amalia. Since earning her degree, she has developed a career in telecommunications. She and her husband Daniel have a daughter, Sofía. Mercedes, another La BECA scholar, also lives with them. Amalia is shown here talking about how her scholarship was truly life-changing.



We also had happy news out of **Honduras**. A few years ago, we were asked to support young women in the Villa Soleada community. Located just outside El Progreso, this community is, as Sen. Tim Kaine, who was a missionary there, "not just poor, but poor for Honduras."

This year, our La BECA scholar Osiris has become the first university graduate – male or female – from that community. Based on our experience in other places, she may be the first but she will not be the last. Seeing the first university graduate will likely mean that more young women from Villa Soleada will want to go to college, and that young men will, too.

Your support continues to make a difference – not just while these outstanding young women are in school, but long after they graduate. **Without your support,** they might not have been able to achieve their dreams. But because of your generosity, our La BECA graduates include school administrators, attorneys, engineers, dentists, and business leaders.

In 2022, we provided over \$135,000 in scholarships. Including the grants that have been awarded in 2023 to date (thanks to your generosity), we have now awarded well over \$800,000 since we started in 2005. We began with 5 scholars in 2 countries and currently support over 40 scholars in 4 countries - **Bolivia, El Salvador, Honduras,** and **Panama**.



In 2022, two La BECA scholars earned their college degrees. Josselyn and Andrea are now our latest college graduates.

This annual report shares information about our scholars, past and present. We also provide information on our total scholarship contributions.

La BECA gives out \$8418 in scholarships to seven young women – three in Honduras and four in Bolivia.	- 2005	— Jensy and Julia were two of the first La BECA scholars. Jensy is now a dentist and Julia is a successful Realtor.
In 2008, Flora earned a degree in accounting, becoming the first person from her Bolivian village ever to earn a college degree. She is not the last college graduate, however -her example led many other students from her community to start university.	2008	2008 - La BECA awards \$20,470 in scholarships to ten scholars in three countries.
Total La BECA giving over time is \$156,888.	2012	— Josselyn graduated from high school and enrolled in the University of San Pedro Sula.
	2015	Total La BECA giving neared a new milestone — (\$249,203). We provided support for 33 scholars in three countries.
With scholarship awards of \$49,373, La BECA supported 28 scholars in three countries - Bolivia, Honduras, and El Salvador.	2018	La BECA's 15th anniversary brought with it the challenges of helping young women continue their education during COVID. La BECA purchased computers and supported connectivity so our scholars can continue to study online.
In El Salvador, Miriam graduated with a degree in nursing. She is the first person from her family to graduate from high school or college.	- 2021	Yulissa graduated from high school in Honduras. La BECA helped her continue her studies. She enrolled in the Central American Technological University (UNITEC) to study accounting and finance.

La BECA awarded over \$135,000 in scholarships. Over the years, we have helped 122 young women pursue their educational goals.

2022

Katherine and Tirza are currently studying medicine at La Universidad Católica in San Pedro Sula. Tirza is preparing for a career as a cardiologist.

Preparing for Their Futures





Heidy and Sofia are La BECA's most recent high school graduates. They will be starting university this fall. Sofia will study engineering and Heidy will study nutrition.

More Ways You Can Help La BECA

There are many ways to support La BECA. Many of our contributors write a check or use a credit card. Some have arranged banking mechanisms to provide recurring, monthly donations. Now it is also possible to donate long-term appreciated securities, including stocks, bonds, and mutual funds, directly to La BECA. Some donors have found that this type of gift increases their gift and their tax deduction at the same time. You should consult your tax adviser before making a gift of stock. But we are happy to provide you with more information on this new way to support La BECA.

Additionally, this year we created an investment account, allowing us to create an endowment, over time. Should you wish to include LaBECA in your estate planning, we now have a way you can contribute to our longer term stability. We are deeply grateful for your support in whichever form it takes!

Do you want to help la BECA by supporting young women in Central and South America as they achieve their educational dreams?

Contribute online at www.labeca.org Or contribute via mail – La BECA PO Box 7064 Alexandria, VA 22307

La BECA is a 501(c)(3) organization

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