



## ***Carroll Christian Schools***

550 Baltimore Blvd., Westminster, MD 21157

To Whom It May Concern,

Four years ago I started a program to help students who live in Colombia and try to help provide them with an education so they would have an opportunity for a brighter future. These students do not have money. They cannot help themselves financially but they want to learn English, get a quality education and an opportunity to change their future for the better. So far with this program, we have brought 14 Colombian students (4 girls and 10 boys) to America to receive an education. Some of them have graduated from high school and have gone on to attend college. We have a couple of the students at John Brown University. They have earned full ride scholarships for college. We have also had students get over an 1190 on the SAT. They are doing well at the college level and the program is proving to be very successful.

These students come from a mission in Medellin, Colombia call the CDUC. It is a soccer club that teaches these kids soccer skills and gives them the opportunity to play soccer. A few years ago Mr. Wittig, the CDUC director, began to desire that the best kids that he worked with would have an opportunity to come to the United States to attend an American high school with the goal that they graduate and use this education to make a difference in their lives. He believed that they would be able to use their soccer skills to earn a soccer scholarship for college if they could get the education to get them that far. We began working to provide the education and they have done well. We also have continued to work on their soccer skills and give them exposure so they can hopefully earn the soccer scholarship for their future. We have them playing soccer in school and also for the FC Frederick Soccer club in Frederick, MD. FC Frederick is one of the top soccer clubs in America. They just need to complete their high school education. These kids are doing their part to be able to achieve their dreams. They just need some financial help to make it happen. The first year we brought 2 Colombian boys. The next year we brought 2 more Colombian boys and 2 Colombian girls. The third year we brought 3 Colombian boys and 2 more Colombian girls. The program has been growing with the success of the students who have come to America and as a result the desire of other boys and girls to come has also increased.

My wife and I have had the privilege of hosting 4 Colombian boys and working along with the other students. It has been a great blessing. There are also other students in Colombia who would like to come if we had the financial support to host them. We currently have 2 boys that we have hosted for the last 2 years and hope to host again next year for their Senior year if we can raise the financial support for them. Please allow me to tell you a little more about them.

Santiago is an extremely hard working and driven young man. When he arrived at our home 2 years ago he could only say a few words of English. As is to be expected, he struggled initially but he was up to the challenge. Within 2 months he was speaking English very well and by the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter last year he was on the honor roll and has continued to improve. He works extremely hard and often into the early hours of the morning. Santiago is one of 12 kids and his family cannot afford to help him. He is a great soccer player and has several colleges who are interested in him. It is very likely that he will be able to get the college scholarship as the other Colombians have done. He is in need of the financial

support to bring him back and finish his education. He is currently a Junior and wants to return for his Senior year and then go on to college.

Brayner is also hard working and has done very well. He took 2 years of English before he came. He also adjusted to American Academics and made the honor roll by the third quarter last year. He continues to develop and improve. He is a very good goalie and also has colleges interested in him. He has the potential that he could also earn a college scholarship. He is also a Junior and would like to return to finish his high school education and then go on to college. In order to return next year he would also need financial help.

My wife and I would love to host them again if we can generate the support that is needed. It costs approximately \$7,000 per boy to host them for each school year. That cost includes their flights to and from Colombia, health insurance, school supplies, field trips, sports, clothes, food, transportation, college visits, the cost of their embassy visits, the cost of their Senior trip, and much more.

There are also several younger students including one of Santiago's brothers, Alejo, who would like to come if they had support. For the younger students, it would cost approximately \$5,500 per student.

I work at a small Christian School and my wife and I have 4 children of our own. We count these Colombian students as part of our family. My wife stays busy caring for the large family. On a small single income we do the best that we can but we just cannot afford to cover the additional cost for these boys.

This is an opportunity for you to make an investment into the future, their future. Who knows what these Colombian boys and girls could become. They have dreams and you could be used to help them accomplish dreams that they could never accomplish on their own in Colombia. Would you consider joining us in making a difference in the lives of Santiago, Brayner and others?

A host fund has been established to help these Colombian students. If you would be willing to contribute to help these students please send a check to Carroll Christian Schools the address is 550 Baltimore Blvd. Westminster, MD 21157. Please make the Check out to COD (Church of the Open Door) and in the memo designate it "Host Fund".

If you have any questions please contact me at [mreisberg@carrollchristian.com](mailto:mreisberg@carrollchristian.com). Please know that 100% of the designated funds will go directly to the costs for these students. Receipts have to be turned in to the host fund for reimbursement. We are a nonprofit organization so if you would like, we can issue you a letter that states your contribution that you could turn in with your taxes.

Thank you for considering helping these students achieve their dreams and help their families.

In Christ,

Matthew Reisberg  
Administrator  
Carroll Christian Schools  
550 Baltimore Blvd.