

Building, Empowering and Following in Nicaragua



Kids have stories

There has been so much energy and excitement around the Skylark Centre recently that we just had to share!

Kids who play

Batter up! ⚾

It was great to host the *Christ Thru Baseball* camps at the Skylark Centre in July. It was the first time that this organization used our facilities for the purpose, as their name suggests, to reach young men through their competitive spirit and their love of baseball. Lisa, one of the organization's leaders, expressed that using the Skylark Centre and nearby San Marcos facilities allowed for the boys and their local pastors to all be together to worship God and play ball. Catch out the action from July 1-14 on CTB's Facebook page ([christthrubaseball](https://www.facebook.com/christthrubaseball)). ⚾



Off the field, the boys participated in joy-filled and inspiring worship of the God that made them, loves them and brought them to this moment.



Kids with skill

This 8 year old has some remarkable skills!

In our current program model, there is a time gap between when children leave the *Best Start in Christ* preschool and when they might return many years later for skills development and business training. In a trial of program expansion, our Community Development Manager, Nataly, took training that is normally geared to women in the Los Medranos community to some local 10-year-olds. The younger sister of one of the girls begged Nat to let her participate. Well, she excelled and made some of the best bracelets in the group. She was so excited! It was exciting for Nat too, to watch God-given talent explode in that room!

Kids seeing opportunity

Crafty!

Bracelets are popular with the youth and not-so youth. The kids were thrilled to be able to make them for their friends and some are planning on making a little bit of money for themselves in the process. Well done, young entrepreneurs!! We can't wait to see what you do next.



Kids helping kids



Here's a thoughtful young lady, using her gifts!

It's hard to tell, but Angélica (left) is 9 years old. She jumped in to help with the classroom cleaning in June alongside parents and the kids in the *Best Start* program. She spent her youngest years in the program, and more than 5 years later she's back here helping, knowing that her young niece is coming to school here every weekday just like she did.

Kids have parents

Parents were asked to answer some evaluation questions as we seek to better walk alongside them and their families. This is just a sample of responses.

Is the Best Start in Christ program a good initiative?

"Yes, because it is a good opportunity for the families of the community to complement the knowledge the kids get at home. In addition, the daily snack is an essential help for many parents who do not have the possibility of feeding our children correctly."

What impact has it had on your family?

"I have noticed the change over time...[my daughter] began to talk to me about Jesus and I found out that there were things that she learned in the program that she [started doing] at home. In addition, her father's involvement in the program has strengthened the family unity."

What makes the program unique?

"The completeness of the curriculum since children are not only taught proper hygiene habits, behavioural norms or basic knowledge, but also the importance of the presence of Jesus in our lives and homes."

Find more quotes from parents in our newest blog post, easily accessible from the home page of our website. You made this happen!!

Contact Us

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