

## Carmen Escamilla's Wonderful Testimony

Our school is a crucial part of the ministry of Rancho Santa Marta. We are not only able to minister to the 300 + students that attend Colegio Santa Marta but the school also provides a platform to evangelize to the non-Christian teachers on our staff. We know you pray along with us for our teachers so we would like to share excerpts of a letter from one of our junior high teachers sent to us.

Around 7 years ago I began to collaborate as a teacher in this ministry bringing with me a health condition that not one doctor could remedy. My ear became disfigured and my self-esteem was terrible. The children at the home, always the most difficult ones and with very defiant characters would pray for me and with no apparent reason my ear began to heal.

During those 7 years my husband and I prayed day and night for the opportunity to become pregnant, but there was no answer. Doctors told me that because of health reasons I would not be able to have children. I continued to pray and when I completed 35 years of age I asked the Lord that maybe He had other plans for us. A few months passed and I felt pain when I walked and I thought I should start exercising but something inside told me to take a pregnancy test. I reluctantly took one and to our surprise after having an ultrasound I was already 32 weeks and 4 days pregnant!!!

There were complications in my pregnancy and I had to have a caesarean but after one week in the incubation nursery Gibran was given to us and ever since I marvel at how God answered our prayers and has completed his promise, giving to us more than what we deserve.

I know that I am a loved daughter and I want to share a verse, Matthew 17:20 "And He said to them, "Because of your meager faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you." There is nothing impossible for our Lord. God bless you and may He continue to bless this ministry because he not only changes the lives of these children but also all of those who are involved as workers too.



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## Juan Alberto Arellano



At 7-years old, Juan Alberto was brought to us through DIF (social services in Ensenada, Mexico). His biological mother set him on fire, and he suffered severe burns on over 50% of his body. He nearly died but after several weeks of treatment he was released from the hospital.

Juan became a Christian at a young age at the ranch. We had the privilege of raising him in RSM until he turned 18 years old, then he went to Ensenada, where he reunited with his mother and stepfather. Unfortunately, this reunion did not last, so Juan Alberto decided to move to our Ensenada house for college students to pursue his education at UABC university. Four years later, he graduated as a psychologist and obtained a full-time job with DIF. He was able to renew his relationship with his half-brothers and his biological father.

Juan Alberto would come back to the ranch to visit, and for several years, he purchased Christmas trees for all the children's homes. He always appreciated what RSM had done for him. We recently, received a phone call that Juan Alberto was diagnosed with pneumonia and hospitalized. They tested him twice for COVID but said the tests were negative. He steadily became worse and was put on a ventilator. A few days later, he began to have organ failure and succumbed to the disease.

Although, we are saddened by how Juan Alberto's story ends, we know that he received tender, loving care during his years living with us at RSM. The care he received helped him to overcome a very difficult past. Many of you, knew him so it is our desire to inform you of his passing and thank you for the years of prayers, friendship, and dedication extended to this wonderful young man that has walked into the arms of Jesus.

Bill and Kaye Lawrence  
Founders of RSM