



*Osman Hope, Inc.*

PO Box 1327  
Brighton, MI 48116  
www.osmanhope.org

OSMAN HOPE INC  
NON-PROFIT  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Kingsport, TN  
Permit No. PI 101

OSMAN HOPE INC.  
WWW.OSMANHOPE.ORG

March 2015

# Osman HOPE!

*Bringing hope to children of poverty in Honduras*

## What Osman Hope Means to Me

**Raquel Abigail is a recent Secondary School graduate. She plans to go to University. Only 4.2% of Hondurans have a University Degree. She wrote the following to you:**



Margarita Grachen—President  
Phone: 412-732-0798  
Email: margaritagrachen@aol.com

Peter Borg—Treasurer  
Phone: 423-247-5418  
Email: rpborg@osmanhope.org

### Alpha Training- Margarita Grachen

In January of this year Osman Hope, in conjunction with the Episcopal Church of Honduras, hosted two days of training on Alpha. Alpha is a non-threatening fun and friendly tool used to discuss life issues and how Jesus can be a part of our lives. José Garrigó, the National Director for Alpha Latinos, brought a team of five individuals from the U.S. to conduct the training. Included in the team were three Latino young adults that conducted the training for the youth. Invited to the training were members from churches in Honduras and selected youth of Osman Hope.



The young adults go through an ice-breaking exercise as part of the training.

The purpose of the training was to teach the youth to run an Alpha course for the youth of the shelter and possibly the youth of the community. The idea is to empower the youth at the shelters to have their own youth ministry and Alpha would be the conduit. It was great to see our youth working together, learning and enjoying themselves with the youth of other churches.

It is with great excitement that we can report that the first Alpha course was started by the youth at the Amiguitos de Jesus shelter in Villanueva in late February. Led by four teenagers from the shelter they are now conducting the ten week program for the rest of the teenagers in the center. They created invitations, decorated notebooks and every week they prepare snacks and conduct the discussions. It goes to show that we need to teach them, empower them and just let them run with it. We believe that this type of activity will keep them focused on the right things and away from trouble. It has already given them a great sense of accomplishment as they are in charge of this program and they are proud of it.

Hello, God Bless you.

Osman Hope for me is a blessing in my life. Thanks to Osman Hope I decided to struggle for my dreams, without letting them down and to take advantage of the opportunity that they have given me to have success in my life and to be a source of pride for you and my Mother who is my motive for living.

My Mother is a single mother, and always has struggled, she alone, in order to be able to sustain us. When I was 6 years old, there were times when I remained alone because she didn't have anyone to take care of me, and my Mother went to work. I didn't have the hope to be able to study.

But at seven years old, I began to be a part of the Osman Hope shelter and from that moment my life changed, because here I never lacked food, and always they were caring for me.

Osman Hope taught me that God is everything and God never abandons; thanks to God for putting them in my life. Thanks to you as today I have graduated Secondary School as Bachelor Technical, Industrial Electricity. I have faith in God, that Osman Hope will help me to study in the University in order to accomplish my goal of being an Electrical Engineer.

I would like for Osman Hope to offer courses in English to the graduates since it is something very important to learn.

I give you thanks for the conferences that we have received, since they have served me well. I would like to receive more. Thanks for everything. God bless you all and your families. Always. I hope to see you soon. I love you all, very much, you are like my family.

Bye, Raquel Abigail

## The Way Out of Darkness – Margarita Grachen

When you are growing up in a country where violence, gang membership, teen pregnancy and drugs are the norm your chances of not being part of those statistics are pretty slim; especially when your parents are not educated and probably had been included in those statistics in their youth. Since 2012, when the children in our shelters started becoming teenagers, we realized that we had to do something to help our kids not become a statistic.



In 2013, we started the Young Ladies Retreats inviting all the teenage girls from all the shelters to hear and discuss subjects such as self-esteem, setting goals, purity, boyfriends, etc. In 2014, we decided to invite the moms to a Mother Daughter Retreat in order to discuss mother/daughter relationships and we also started the Young Men Retreat for the teenage boys to explore their lifestyles, their goals and showing them how, empowering them, to make the right choices in life.

All of these programs have been well received and have had a positive effect on the kids. However, as I reflected with our administrators back in March of 2014, we felt that a lot of the teenagers were lacking the spiritual component. Yes, we give them some biblical and moral teachings at the shelters but they lack the relationship with God. It was then that it was decided that we needed to have a spiritual retreat.



We had our first two day Spiritual Retreat for the Young Ladies last Fall. During the event 22 girls prayed to accept Jesus into their lives for the first time. It was a great event. I recently received a copy of a letter that one young lady wrote to her sponsor and her words were confirmation that we are doing the right thing. She wrote, “To tell you the truth I did not go to church, I was involved in worldly things, but then I started going to church and since then my life has changed. I even accepted God and since then I have, little by little, left my worldly behaviors and truly I feel happy and blessed. I have even started singing with the praise team at church.” This letter put a smile on my face.

Getting involved in the church and having a relationship with God is the only way for these kids to get out of the darkness that surrounds them. I am so thankful that God is touching their lives and equipping them to walk in the right direction. For 2015, we have introduced a new tool to keep the youth involved in their spiritual walk, Alpha. See article on page 4.

Check out our updated web page at [www.osmanhope.org!](http://www.osmanhope.org!)

## AmazonSmile

We have received our first donation from AmazonSmile. Thank you very much!

AmazonSmile (the charitable foundation at Amazon) will donate 0.5% of every purchase to Osman Hope. All you have to do is go to the following site: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-3612445> (the # 38-3612445 is Osman Hopes Identification number)

Please give this a try next time you buy something on line through Amazon. This has the potential to sponsor at least one child in Honduras each year.

## Esther Calderon and Ingrid Ramos

In December 2002, Esther and Ingrid were two of the first ten children to enter our shelter in La Lima. Both girls were five years old. They were chosen to go to the shelter because of the living conditions that they came from.



Esther has three siblings, each from a different father. There is no adult male in her life. They live in a three room home with outside facilities. Esther’s mother works as a maid, but her work has not been consistent.

Ingrid lives in a two room house with her mother and father. Her mother is a cook at the La Lima shelter and her father works odd jobs. Unfortunately, her father has a drink-



ing and abuse problem.

Both girls had the opportunity to go to a bilingual school, sponsored by an Osman Hope supporter. They have excelled in school. Unfortunately, because of family issues, Ingrid left the shelter and school for one year. However, she is back in the shelter and going to a public school. Esther will graduate from Secondary School this year and plans to attend University. Ingrid will graduate in two more years and also plans to go to University.

## New Board Member

Osman Hope is delighted to welcome our newest board member, John Keller. John and his wife Kathy live in the greater Pittsburgh, PA. area and have been sponsors of Osman Hope children for almost ten years. John has recently retired after a 30 year career on Wall Street and Investment Management. He is looking forward to supplementing the great work that we already have underway and is excited to make his first visit to our shelters in the months to come.



Osman Hope is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit. 100% of all donations go to the care of the children.