



INFRASTRUCTURE

Provide structures that promote safety, dignity and stability for children

PROPOSAL



Help launch a new Compassion centre in San Marcos, Colombia

Your Gift of Compassion will help our church partner in San Marcos to launch a brand-new child development centre, providing hope, new opportunities and critical support to 175 children and their families.



NEW CENTRE:

CDI Salvacion Child Development Centre



CENTRE CODE:

C00787



CHURCH PARTNER:

Iglesia Luz y Salvación
 (Light and Salvation Church)



EXPECTED TO SPONSOR:

175 children



FIRST DAY OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

5 November 2018



GIFT AMOUNT:

A\$10,000

Compassion partners with local churches in some of the world's most vulnerable communities. Their church building forms the Compassion centre, the hub of our Child Sponsorship Program.

At their centre, children have opportunities to connect with a sponsor, hear the gospel, receive education and healthcare and be equipped to ultimately become self-supporting. It is a place where children can have fun, learn and flourish.

Each centre is overseen by a director and run by a local committee, encouraging local engagement and accountability. By employing local staff and volunteers, the centre also plays a role in boosting the local economy.

When you launch a new Compassion centre, you are helping to transform hundreds of children's lives. You also become part of expanding Compassion's ministry to children worldwide.



Your support provides:



A place of safety and refuge for children at their new Compassion centre where they can learn, play, explore and build friendships within a protected and caring environment.



Healthcare and nutritional support as required to protect children from disease and help them develop healthily so they can embrace their education at school and the centre.



Educational support and resources that help children to grow in confidence, build their knowledge and skills and prepare for life after the classroom.



One-to-one sponsorship opportunities for children, including the chance to write letters and build a unique relationship with a sponsor.

Why launch a centre in San Marcos?

In San Marcos, children and their families live in severe poverty. With limited access to basic care and education, children need urgent support to live and develop healthily. Like all new Compassion centre locations, this community was chosen strategically and in collaboration with our local church partners.

- Unemployment is a significant challenge in this community. Those who are employed typically work in unstable and seasonal jobs, such as agriculture, fishing and motorcycle taxi driving. Without a steady income, many parents cannot afford to provide for their children's basic needs.
- Many homes in this community are overcrowded and unsanitary. While health clinics are accessible to families, most of the community's clinics are under-resourced and lack specialists to provide treatment. For families, this often means driving to the closest city, Sincelejo, to access health support. Common illnesses for children include malnutrition and gastrointestinal diseases.
- Both public and private schools are established in this community. However, teachers have limited teaching resources—especially technology resources—which seriously hinders children's learning.

Investing in long-term development

Compassion is committed to sustainable child development. For this reason, the launch of a new centre is always carried out as a long-term partnership with maximum community engagement.

Your support will equip local community leaders with the information and skills they need to open and run this new centre and respond confidently to any challenges along the way.

Once this centre is established, children will start to be registered in Compassion's Child Sponsorship Program and receive sponsors. For a child, the chance to be connected with a sponsor is precious—it's an opportunity for them to receive long-term support, love and encouragement.

The impact of a new centre goes far beyond its walls, touching all aspects of community life: investing in the next generation, building the local economy and becoming a place where children and families can meet and share life together for many years to come

“Colombia has put up with conflict for over 50 years. It's claimed thousands of lives and forced millions from their homes.”

The World Bank, 2016

Thank you for partnering with Compassion Australia to release children from poverty in Jesus' name.