



# Child Sponsorship Information Packet

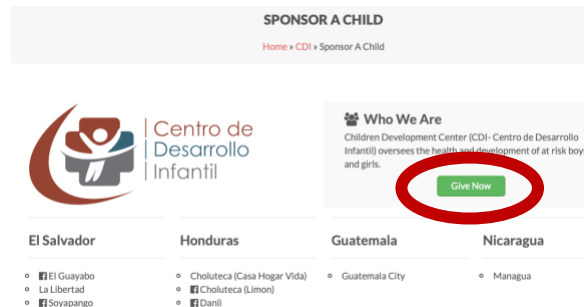
Children's Development Centers (CDC or CDI)  
The Volcano and Soyapango  
San Salvador, El Salvador

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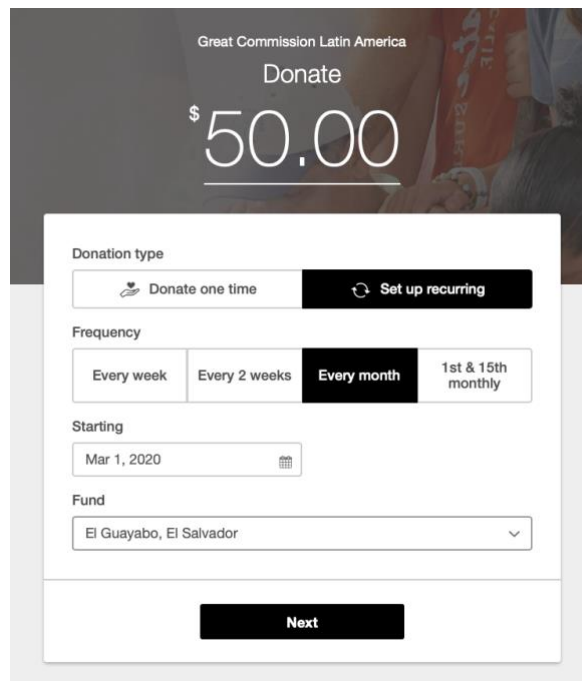
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# Setting Up Your Sponsorship

1. To view profiles of children currently in need of a sponsor, visit our website at [igcsansalvador.com/sponsor-a-child](http://igcsansalvador.com/sponsor-a-child).
  - Click on the picture or name of a child to learn more about them!
  - Also, you can filter out profiles by location.
2. When you've found a child you'd like to sponsor, visit <http://igcla.com/cdisponsor/> and click [GIVE NOW!](#)



3. Here, set up your recurring donation.
  - **Frequency:** Sponsorship is \$50 per month, although you may choose give \$12.50 weekly or \$25 every two weeks instead of \$50 monthly.
  - **Fund:** “El Guayabo, El Salvador” for a child at the Volcano or “Soyapango – El Salvador” for a child in Soyapango.



4. After completing your payment info, you'll have the opportunity to create a login and password to view or edit your contributions in the future.
5. **Almost done:** Please email our Sponsorship Coordinator, Ali Cruz, at [ali.howard12@gmail.com](mailto:ali.howard12@gmail.com) to verify your sponsorship and with which child you would like to sponsor. She will make sure that your giving is matched to the correct location and child.

# FAQs

## What does “CDI” stand for?

CDI stands for Centro de Desarrollo Infantil, Spanish for Children’s Development Center. Sometimes, we refer to the Centers as “CDC”.

## How does CDI work?

CDI is a donations-based organization that got started by local GCLA (Great Commission of Latin America) churches in 2008 to help provide meals and care for impoverished children. In San Salvador, we opened the Volcano CDI in 2011 and the Soyapango CDI in 2015.

## What does my monthly donation cover?

Your monthly donation provides for one child to receive all the benefits of our CDI program. Specific CDI programs may vary by city, but ours in San Salvador provide the following:

**Nutritional Support:** a daily, healthy meal and multi-vitamin

**Education Support:** tutoring by our full-time teachers and materials to complete homework and projects

**Medical and Dental Care:** free medical and dental checkups, services and medications through our Total Health medical clinics (both CDIs) and Dental Clinic (the Volcano)

**Spiritual Guidance:** the most important element of the CDI, we share the gospel with all the children and surrounding community, as well as having daily devotionals with the children

## How old are the children who usually attend CDI?

As a requirement, the children in our program all attend a local school. This means that most children aren’t able to attend our program until preschool (age 4), and we serve children all the way through high school (18+ years). We also anticipate supporting some of the children that express the interest to attend college!

## Where are the CDIs located?

In addition to the two CDIs we manage through GCLA San Salvador, GCLA has CDIs in these cities:

**El Salvador :** La Libertad

**Guatemala :** Guatemala City

**Honduras :** Danli, La Ceiba, La Lima, Limón, Los Cruces and San Pedro Sula

**Nicaragua :** Managua

**Can I contact the child I am sponsoring?**

Yes! The best way for you to contact the child you are currently sponsoring is to communicate via Ali Cruz ([ali.howard12@gmail.com](mailto:ali.howard12@gmail.com)) Please refer to the Child Communication Guidelines on paged 5-6 of this packet for more details.

**Can I meet the child I am sponsoring?**

In order to meet the child we ask that you first notify us at GCLA San Salvador whether you are traveling on a mission trip or by yourself and would like to meet the child you are sponsoring. We would then coordinate a time for you to visit the child at the CDI he or she attends.

**Can I send a gift to child I am sponsoring?**

Yes! Please refer to the Child Communication Guidelines on page 5 of this packet for more details.

**I have more questions, whom can I ask?** You can email our staff:

Ali Cruz (Sponsorship Coordinator – San Salvador): [ali.howard12@gmail.com](mailto:ali.howard12@gmail.com)

Rebeccah Irias (Communications Director – all CDIs): [reby.iriias@gmail.com](mailto:reby.iriias@gmail.com)

**How long am I expected to sponsor a child?**

We ask our sponsors to make yearlong commitments, but would love it if you would like to be a part of the child's life until he or she graduates from our program.

**What happens if I am no longer able to sponsor a child?**

If for any reason you are no longer able or interested in sponsoring a child in our program we ask that you let us know by sending us a quick email.

**What happens if I can't keep up with my monthly donations?**

If for any reason you do not make your donations, we will email you 90 days after your last donation to inquire about whether you will continue to sponsor the child.

# Child Communication Guidelines

We immensely appreciate continued financial and prayer support for your sponsor child. We know that many sponsors desire to connect with their child even further, and that's awesome! If you would like to send an extra gift or letter to your child, here are some guidelines we ask you to respect:

## **GIFTS:**

1. The postal system in El Salvador is unreliable and we have lost packages in the past. For that reason, we ask that you NOT mail anything directly to us for your sponsor child. The best way to get a package to us is to send it with one of the mission teams that visit us throughout the year. If your church is sending a team, you may coordinate with the team leader to send the gift with the team luggage. If not, please email us and we will coordinate where you could send the package in the States to then be brought with a team. Please let our CDC staff know before sending so that we can ensure delivery and send pictures back to you!
2. Remember to include a note with your name and the child's name and city.
3. Please refrain from sending an outwardly pricey gift that could put the child at risk for theft. Please consider a gift under \$50 that will help to improve their education, clothing, personal hygiene, motor skills, etc.
4. Please make sure that your gift fits within a 1-gallon Ziploc bag.
5. Please refrain from sending or giving any cash to the child you sponsor. If you prefer to send money, we will verify a specific need that the family has and use the cash gift to buy those items locally to then deliver to them.
6. Please do not share any of your personal contact information with the child (i.e. email address, mailing address, phone number or social media accounts).
7. Please refrain from sending anything that may promote aggression such as toy guns, toy swords, etc.
8. Gift Suggestions:
  - School supplies
  - Educational games or toys
  - T-shirt, socks, underwear
  - Girls: hair ties and clips, purses, necklaces, bracelets
  - Boys: soccer ball, athletic shorts

## LETTERS:

1. We love when our sponsors send letters of encouragement to the children we serve!
2. The best way to send a handwritten letter is with one of the mission teams that visit us throughout the year. If your church is sending a team, you may coordinate with the team leader to send the letter with them. If not, please email us and we will coordinate where you could send the letter in the States to then be brought with a team. Please let our CDC staff know before sending so that we can ensure delivery and send pictures!
3. You may also send a letter electronically by emailing our Sponsorship Coordinator, Ali Cruz, at [ali.howard12@gmail.com](mailto:ali.howard12@gmail.com). She will translate the letter and deliver it both in English and Spanish to your sponsor child.
4. Although we encourage our children to write back if they receive a letter from their sponsor, we do not obligate them to do so and cannot guarantee that you will receive a response.
5. Please do not share any of your personal contact information with the child (i.e. email address, mailing address, phone number or social media accounts).

Following these instructions will promote excellence in the CDC's services and will avoid any potential problems. If at any time, you need more information about instructions for sponsors, please don't hesitate to contact our Sponsorship Coordinator at: [ali.howard12@gmail.com](mailto:ali.howard12@gmail.com).

# Sponsor Child Updates

1. We will be sending you a personalized report about your child/children twice a year via email.
  - These update reports will include a photo and information about how your child is doing in the areas of education, nutrition, health and their spiritual growth.
  - If you are not receiving these updates, it may be possible that we have an incorrect email address for you.
  - If you think this might be the case, feel free to email our Sponsorship Coordinator, Ali Cruz, at: [ali.howard12@gmail.com](mailto:ali.howard12@gmail.com) to make sure you are on the email list.

2. On our social media pages, there will be frequent updates about what is happening at the Children's Development Centers (CDC or CDI), including photos of the children.



[Children's Development Centers GCLA San Salvador \(Facebook\)](#)



[Mission Teams GCLA San Salvador \(Facebook\)](#)



[GCLA San Salvador Projects \(Instagram\)](#)

3. At Great Commission Church's web site, you can learn more about the CDC and children in need of sponsors.



[Great Commission Church San Salvador](#)

4. If at any time, you need more information about your child or either of the CDCs (The Volcano and Soyapango), please do not hesitate to contact Ali at: [ali.howard12@gmail.com](mailto:ali.howard12@gmail.com)