

Rotary District 5340 Matching Grant to Rotary Club of La Jolla

P-646 Laptop Computers Scholar Lab

Marc Lanci, former club president, applied for this grant on behalf of the Rotary Club of La Jolla/Club Centro de Tijuana joint John A. Vaughan Rotary Scholars Lab, which, in brief, “keeps poor Mexican students enrolled in Middle School and helps them go all the way to High School graduation. Students are selected from schools in the poorest areas of Tijuana with good grades, good citizenship marks and come from supportive families. We give them each a stipend of \$55 a month provided that they stay in school and come to our English/ computer lab every Saturday. Realizing that computer skills are a must and English is required for University in Mexico and for most jobs- these seemed like realistic and useful goals. keep our 27 students enrolled in Middle School and have them go all the way to High School graduation. We went to schools in the poorest areas and selected students with good grades, good citizenship marks and who came from supportive families. We have 30 students enrolled in four levels of English classes taught primarily by La Jolla Rotarians and other volunteers from San Diego/ La Jolla Members of the Tijuana Club are there onsite every Saturday. Mr. Guillermo Camarillo is our Tijuana Rotary Club primary contact. We teach via Skype from 9-11 each week. Most people who teach do not speak Spanish as we have student teachers from the local Tijuana University (UABC) assisting us.

To date, we have helped 9 sets of students graduate Secondary School. Many have gone onto University. Among our alumni we have a PhD student in Marine Biology, a paralegal, a computer programming engineer, a dental hygienist , a paramedic and numerous other entrepreneurial and educational success stories.

We used the matching district grant to purchase Best Buy Gift Certificates which allows us to buy the most current laptop computers for each of our graduates each year. To date we have purchased four laptop computers for \$1656.56. We have a balance of \$4343.44 in gift cards to use for future years graduates. Please see attached receipts from Best Buy.