



JANUARY UPDATE

Choosing Higher Education in 2019!



The Amigos de Santa Cruz scholarship program is at the heart of what we do. This year, we are proud to provide scholarships to 46 young men and women to study in High School and University. Each year, we kick off the program with a meeting of all students and their parents. Remember that most of these parents only attended school for a year or two themselves. Seeing their children now go on to higher education is a dream come true.

Starting the New Year with a Good Book

Two years ago, Amigos started an afternoon reading program to reinforce our efforts at improving the quality of early education in Santa Cruz. The program started slow, among a population unaccustomed to reading. But this January, the students are eager to come back! Children took books home to read over break, and are eagerly visiting our office to borrow a new read.

With strong literacy skills and a love for reading, Santa Cruz children will be well-prepared for success in their education!



And don't forget that you can help us to build our lending library by purchasing a book on our [Amazon Wish List](#).

Building Leadership Skills with the Santa Cruz Youth Corps



Leadership and community service are key components of all Amigos' youth programs. The Santa Cruz Youth Corps, a year-long professional development program, provides a pathway to employment for recent graduates. This year, 10 youth are participating in the program, placed in various offices and businesses around Lake Atitlán to gain professional experience, build their leadership skills, and gain meaningful employment.

These young men and women are the future leaders of Santa Cruz, and we can see that their future looks very bright!

Meet Wilson, Our New Youth Program Coordinator

We are excited to introduce Wilson Campa, one of our newest staff leaders. Wilson comes to Amigos with lots of energy, passion and experience. He has designed education and leadership programs for youth, and worked with organizations such as Planned Parenthood Global and the United Nations Population Fund.

Wilson will be leading Amigos' continued work with youth in the area of sexual and reproductive health education, both in the public schools and for out of school youth and young parents. He will also head Amigos' programs in youth leadership development. The work that Wilson will lead is a critical part of Amigos' mission, investing in the next generation of Santa Cruz leaders and providing them with the tools to make positive changes in their community.



Welcome, Wilson!

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