





October Greetings from CREA

As the seasons change and the weather cools, we celebrate CREA's important work. Thousands of participants are receiving educational services at our Library + Learning Center and also in 14 surrounding communities where CREA's impact is undeniable.

The success stories that follow reflect our incredible team on the ground and the essential partnership with our generous supporters who make our work possible.

Academic Success

Children, youth, and young adults receive critical supplemental learning support from primary school through secondary school and beyond. Teachers reinforce the fundamentals of literacy and math, keeping lessons relevant to what kids are learning in school to maximize student success.



Mariano learns fundamental math concepts using manipulative blocks.

Mariano is a 6-year-old first grader who joined CREA programming this year after being encouraged by his cousins. Not one to enjoy school, he was reluctant when he first came to CREA. But he discovered a love for math while using objects that physically and visually engage students in learning, and he is now mastering addition and subtraction. Mariano is now very committed to school and loves coming to CREA every day where he learns new things and can ask lots of questions about numbers.

Library Services

In addition to making books accessible to the whole community, CREA's teachers provide specialized instruction to kids of all ages to improve their basic literacy skills. One-on-one time with CREA's teachers deepens students' reading comprehension, as well as builds their self-confidence, and this individualized attention leads to greater academic success.



Ashly Nicole now finds reading FUN.

When fourth grader Ashly Nicole came to CREA, she was unable to recognize the letters of the alphabet. CREA teachers worked with Ashly Nicole individually every day using different literacy development strategies. In just one year, she has become an intermediate reader and now comprehends everything she reads. Ashly Nicole's confidence is soaring and reading is no longer a struggle, it is FUN!

Youth Development

CREA's Youth Development Initiative focuses on the personal development of adolescents and young adults. By nurturing the whole child, both academically as well as socially, youth learn to make informed choices and take action to improve themselves as well as their communities. They are guided to complete school and explore their choices of higher education or learning a trade.



Robin has a big dream of completing a degree in Veterinary Medicine at university.

High schooler Robin joined the Youth Development program at CREA in 2020. At 15-years-old, he is a cheerful, charismatic, social, and kind young man. Robin loves science, especially chemistry and physics. He cannot wait to graduate and go on to university where he will study Veterinary Medicine. Robin wants to become a vet because he loves animals and is excited to give back to his family and his community.

Special CREA Highlight



Mariana spends an afternoon tutoring students.

Mariana has seen CREA grow from operating out of a small closet with a few dozen children to a full Library + Learning Center with almost 3,000 participants. She is a retired teacher volunteering with CREA using her 35 years of teaching experience across the entire country of Nicaragua. Her teaching philosophy includes a healthy dose of love and she says there is nothing better than when a child understands something and looks up into her eyes and smiles.

**Wishing you a lovely autumn. You are instrumental in helping
CREA change the trajectory of the lives of young
people in Nicaragua.**



***¡Muchas Gracias!
Michelle Chackerian, Executive Director,
Lilly Berrios, In-Country Operations Director,
and the entire staff and Board of Directors at CREA***



Elevating Nicaraguans and their communities through literacy and learning.

www.creanicaragua.org