



*Voices Today:**
History in the Making

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In October 2011 Guatemala was affected by the Tropical depression E 12 which caused great damage in several regions of the country. The department of Chimaltenango was no exception. Since ABPD works in Chimaltenango, they responded with humanitarian aid. They needed more personnel to respond to the emergency.

That is why I became part of the ABPD emergency team. I then applied for the position of nutrition educator, starting my relationship indefinitely in July 2012.

From the beginning of my training I was passionate about community work. From the first moment, I was excited about the work and every challenge. Every obstacle has contributed to making me try harder and harder.

Direct contact with people, especially with women and children, has been essential for my growth as a human being. Realizing the needs and living conditions of my brothers and sisters has impacted my life and made me value more and more how much I have.

All this has contributed to my personal and professional growth, too, since I did not know how to drive a car. However, I learned to drive and thus am able to travel to the communities and carry out my work.

At times I have felt powerless in the face of the conditions in which families live and not being able to help or support them more. Hearing their sorrows, joys, triumphs and failures, awakened in me an internal force to find more ways in which I can support families. This was one of the reasons why I decided to resume university studies, which at a point earlier, I had to stop. Now I bring an increased humanitarian approach to my Social Work studies.

Throughout more than eight years of working at ABPD I have met very special people who give the best they have for the benefit of Guatemalans. This for me has had impact, driving me to be better every day and work for the well-being of Guatemalan families. I work to empower them and make them agents of change in their homes and communities so that they can seek solutions to their different problems.

Each member of ALDEA that I have had the opportunity to meet has given their trust and friendship, for which I am very grateful. I hope to fulfill what people rely on me to do.

Without a doubt, working at ABPD has been one of the best stages of my life in which I have been able to grow personally and professionally. I love my job and I love what I do. Every day I learn from people and I grow. Thank you, ABPD, and thank Life.