

Scholarship Recipient.....

Jesus Alberto Aguilar Bautista

The life of Jesús Alberto Aguilar Bautista is a beautiful testament to the value of the Sister Peggy Scholarship Program. Jesús grew up with his mother in Chimbote. His father left he and his mother when Jesus was 4 years old and started a new family. Because he and his mother received no support, Jesus started working at the young age of 9 years old helping his mother to clean houses and odd jobs to support their family while keeping up with his studies. However, by the time he was a teenager, their poverty required him to work in any job he could find including selling homemade candies at recess, unloading crates before school, handing out leaflets in the street or working in the countryside weeding or harvesting rice.

As hard as they worked, their existence was day to day with no money to continue his education which was his dream. One day while selling in the market with his mother, they talked with her friend about Jesús' desire to continue his education. The friend shared information about the ACAF scholarship program and encouraged Jesús to contact ACAF. He applied and interviewed with ACAF and his lifetime of work and dedication were a key factor. He received a scholarship to study mechanics at the Vocational Institute, Senati. Jesús' excellent grades, collaborative attitude and hard work made him stand out as one of the best students in his class. Even with his scholarship, he did not rest. While he completed his classes, he continued to work to buy his supplies and provide for his mother.

Now, Jesús is a professional, filled with happiness and satisfaction and shared, "I completed my studies in December of 2019 and am now working in a metalics foundry. ***"I am extremely proud of what I have achieved, and I just do not have words to express my thanks and to explain what ACAF means in my life and how much they have helped me. I may never find a way to pay back everything they have done for me, but if ACAF ever needs my help either personally or professionally, I***

would be delighted to help. I also thank the benefactors who contribute to help transform the lives of so many young people like me. Now, I am dedicating myself little by little to improve my work, envisioning in the future having my own company. Then I can provide support to people who need it, just as God, through ACAF, supported me, I also want to help others."

Jesus' goal is now to continue developing personally and professionally and to continue learning. He wants to further improve his family's economic condition

