

## Sponsor booklet

### 2025-2026



Dear reader,

We are delighted that you, your group, or your organization are showing interest in the work of Quina Care and Hospital San Miguel in Putumayo, Ecuador. Quina Care is dedicated to improving healthcare and ensuring access to medical services in Putumayo – one of the most remote regions of the Amazon rainforest.

This vital work would not be possible without the support of committed sponsors. You can make a tangible impact by contributing to the salary of one of our healthcare professionals or support staff. This may include doctors, nurses, laboratory technicians, cleaners, or receptionists – all of whom play an essential role in the hospital's daily operations.

Please note: sponsorship funds are not paid directly to the employee; they are fully allocated by Quina Care toward the staff member's salary. Sponsorship is initially for a minimum period of six months and can be cancelled on a monthly basis thereafter.

Would you like to make a difference? Below, you can see which staff members work with us and choose whom you would like to support. If a staff member has already been sponsored by someone else, we will let you know so that you can select another team member to support.

For more information about our staff, please visit our website: <https://www.quinacare.org/en/hospital-san-miguel-2/staff/>.

Together, we can ensure that everyone in Putumayo continues to have access to quality healthcare every day.

Are you interested or would you like to know more? Send us a message at **[care@quinacare.org](mailto:care@quinacare.org)**

Warm regards,

The Quina Care & Hospital San Miguel Team

## Salary table by position

Position	Monthly salary (in euros) €	Monthly salary (in US dollars) \$
Medical doctor	1127	1252
Laboratory technician	876	973
Assistant nurse	557	619
Nurse	876	973
Receptionist	540	600
Administrative officer	770	856
Cleaning staff	529	588

\*The monthly salary includes a 13th and 14th month payment.



**Andrea Paola Tenorio Chamba**

Employed since: May 2022

Position: Medical doctor

Tasks: Outpatient clinic,  
inpatient wards

Training in / developing skills in:  
Providing more emergency care  
and performing deliveries

I am Andrea Paola Tenorio Chamba, better known as Pao. I was born in Quito, raised in Loja, and graduated as a general physician from the Universidad Central del Ecuador. During my search for a permanent job, I have had both positive and less pleasant experiences, but I learned something from all of them.

At the end of high school, I was torn between studying medicine and art, because I had always loved drawing. Still, I have never regretted choosing medicine. My parents always encouraged me to keep going.

I now live with my partner Robin and our cats. We never expected to live and work in the eastern part of Ecuador, but the experience is unique. Working as a doctor in a remote area is very different from working in the city, where healthcare is more accessible. In a private clinic, I could never have learned what I am learning at Hospital San Miguel.

Thanks to the guidance of Dr. Carolien, Dr. Jacob, and the volunteering Dutch physicians, I have been able to grow professionally. I am deeply grateful for the trust they have placed in me, both as a person and as a professional.

Becoming a doctor is just the beginning for me. I am eager to continue developing my skills and to further specialize, discovering the exact path as I go.



**María Vanessa Dávila Campos**

Employed since: July 2022

Position: Laboratory technician,  
full-time

Tasks: Daily laboratory  
diagnostics

Training in / developing skills in:  
Scientific research on infectious  
diseases in the region

I am Vanessa Dávila, born in Barinas, Venezuela – a region known for its beautiful nature. I was raised there with the values of my parents, both teachers. They taught me the importance of knowledge and always encouraged me to pursue my dreams. That dream was inspired early on by my grandmother Cecilia, a dedicated midwife in a small rural community. Her work inspired me to contribute to the health of others as well.

After studying biomedical analysis at the University of Los Andes, I worked in various laboratories, first in Venezuela and later in Ecuador, where I migrated due to the crisis in my country. During the pandemic, I was on the front lines of the COVID-19 response. In 2022, I had the opportunity to join the team at Hospital San Miguel. As a laboratory technician, I perform routine tests in hematology, clinical chemistry, rapid testing, and microscopy. These analyses are crucial for making accurate diagnoses.

Over the past year, I have learned a tremendous amount. I took additional courses in bacteriology at the Universidad San Francisco de Quito and received training in PCR techniques within molecular biology. I also participate in research on HPV, dengue, and malaria. The most rewarding part is that I learn something new every day from the professionals around me.

Recently, my work was recognized with a publication in *The Lancet* on *Urbanorum* – a supposed parasite that we revealed is not a real parasite. This discovery underscores the value of accurate laboratory research.



**Patricia Picón Nadales**

Employed since: February 2025

Position: Laboratory technician,  
part-time

Tasks: Daily laboratory  
diagnostics

Training in / developing skills in:  
Promoting women's healthcare

My name is Patricia, and I began my career as a laboratory assistant in Venezuela. Later, as a graduate professional, I shared this passion with my mother, who is also a biomedical analyst. Although we belong to different generations, we both graduated from the Universidad de Los Andes (ULA) in Mérida. Beyond the degree, we share a vision: practicing science with humanity.

Like many people in my country, I had to emigrate. More than seven years ago, I arrived in Ecuador overland, seeking stability and better opportunities to continue my career. I settled in Lago Agrio, where I worked in the private sector. These were years of hard work, adaptation, and professional growth. They also gave me the opportunity to learn about the health conditions of many communities up close.

During that time, I became acquainted with the work of the Quina Care foundation, and when I saw the vacancy for a laboratory technician at Hospital San Miguel, I knew this was my chance.

Today, being part of Quina Care is more than just a job. It is an opportunity to provide dignified and humane care to those who need it most; to grow alongside a dedicated team; and to contribute, through the hospital, to comprehensive and quality care for the patients and communities of Puerto El Carmen. I feel happy, grateful, and full of hope for everything we can achieve together.



**Andrea Díaz Sáenz**

Employed since: 2021

Position: Nursing assistant

Tasks: Triage, outpatient support, blood collection, inpatient ward

Training in / developing skills in:  
Providing education on healthy nutrition

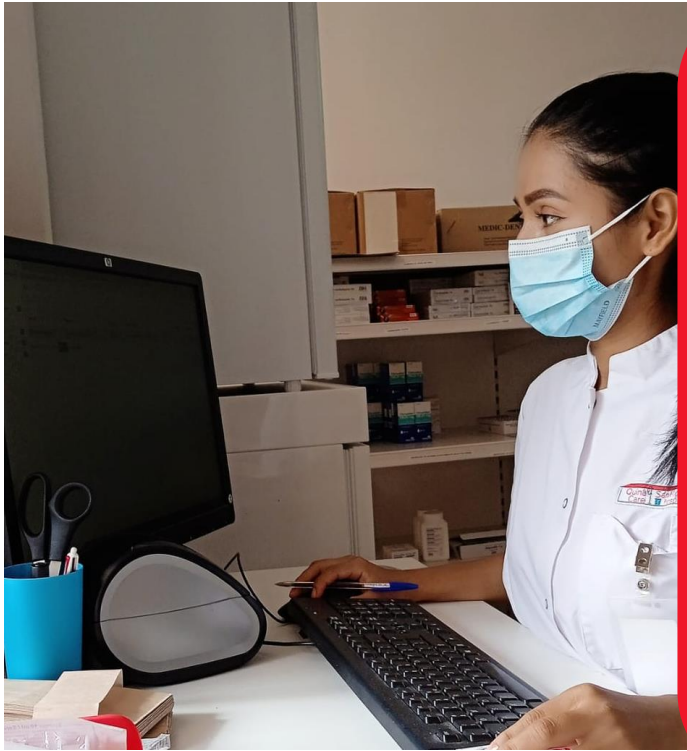
My name is Andrea Margarita Diaz Saenz, and I am originally from the Amazon region. I spent much of my childhood in Colombia, where I attended primary school. For secondary school, I moved to Guayaquil, Ecuador, where I decided to pursue a future in healthcare. I earned my diploma as a nursing assistant at the Hospital León Becerra de Guayaquil, with academic support from the Universidad Estatal de Milagro. During this training, I gained experience in various areas of healthcare.

I now live in Puerto El Carmen and work as a nursing assistant at Hospital San Miguel. The opportunity to work here with Quina Care came after an application process. When I learned that I had been accepted, it was an emotional moment for me and my family. I am grateful for the trust placed in me and proud to be part of this team.

Every day, I receive patients, perform triage, record vital signs, assist with blood draws, and support emergency care. My motivation comes from the desire to provide good care, especially in remote areas such as along the Putumayo River.

My dream is to further develop within healthcare, preferably in the field of dietetics. I hope more people will learn about the work of Quina Care – a foundation that, with dedication and vision, builds structured healthcare in a region where that is far from guaranteed.





**Gladys Mamallacta Andi**

Employed since: February 2022

Position: Nursing assistant

Tasks: Triage, outpatient support, blood collection, inpatient ward

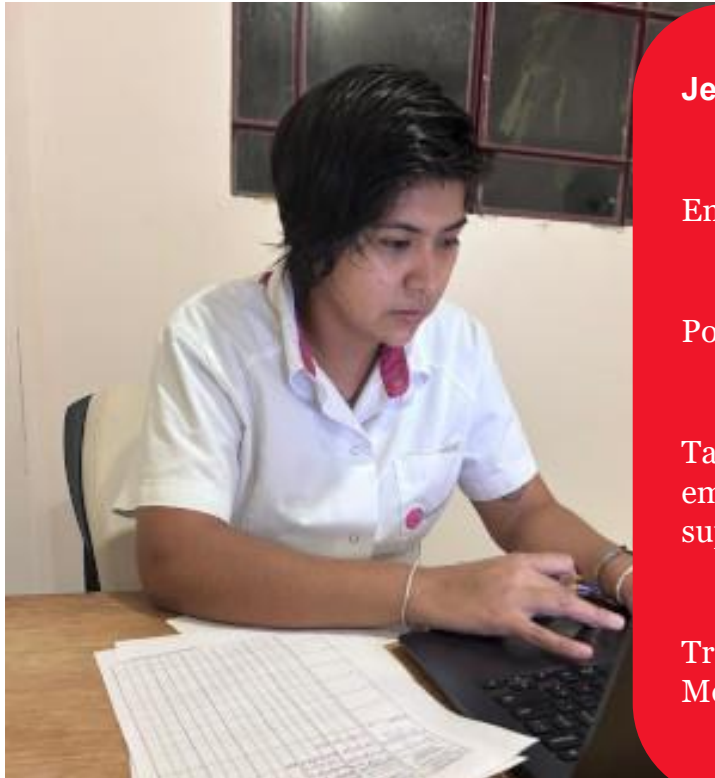
Training in / developing skills in:  
Training to become a nurse,  
started in 2023

We all have a unique calling, as unique as a fingerprint. Success comes from discovering what you truly enjoy, pursuing it with passion, and working hard. My name is Gladys Judith Mamallacta Andi. I was born in Lago Agrio and now live in Puerto El Carmen, Ecuador. From a young age, I was drawn to medicine. During elementary school, a medical brigade visited our village, and I was inspired by the work of doctors and nurses.

When I was 15, I moved to Putumayo, where I completed my secondary education. I am a single mother of a 7-year-old daughter, who is my greatest motivation. After high school, I studied nursing assistance at the Universidad Metropolitana de Guayaquil. Later, I began a nursing technician program, but due to financial circumstances, I had to stop. I moved frequently, always seeking a stable job for my daughter. Fortunately, Quina Care gave me an opportunity.

I first heard about Quina Care and the new hospital at the old school in San Miguel from my mother. After an interview, I felt welcomed by this dedicated team. I now work as a nursing assistant and, thanks to Quina Care, have resumed my studies to become a nurse.

I am inspired by people who remain courageous and keep fighting despite setbacks. I greatly admire the doctors of Quina Care, who left their families to provide high-quality care in Putumayo. Together, we make the world a little better.



**Jessica Rodríguez Valencia**

Employed since: July 2023

Position: Nurse

Tasks: Inpatient wards,  
emergency care, outpatient  
support

Training in / developing skills in:  
Mental health care

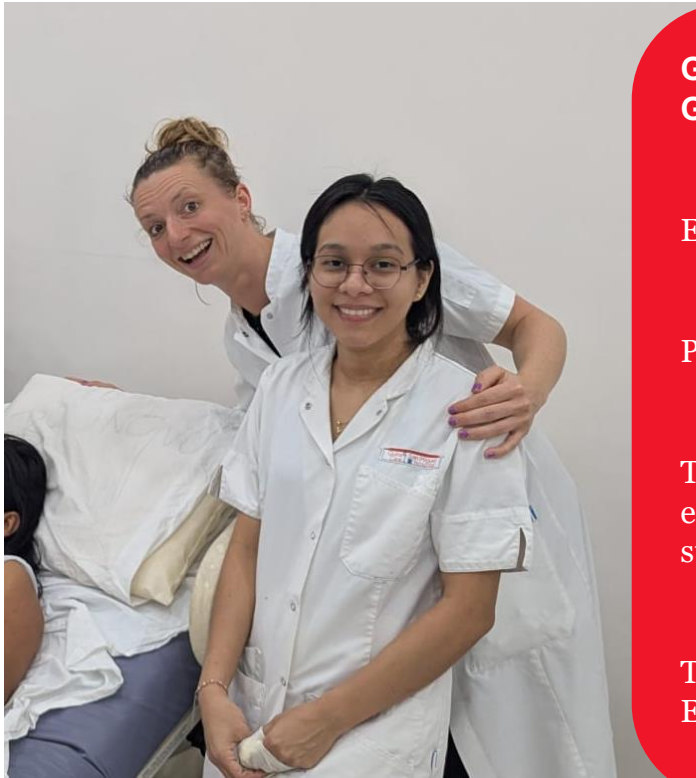
My own experience as a patient inspired me to become a nurse. After finishing high school at the Helmuth Waldmüller Institute, I began my Nursing studies at the Universidad de las Américas in Quito. During my mandatory rural year, I worked at the health center in Puerto El Carmen and became acquainted with Hospital San Miguel, a new hospital with experienced colleagues and excellent facilities.

I got to know the community, their culture, and their medical needs very well. This experience had a profound impact on me. Upon returning to Quito, I continued my studies with a master's program at TECH University. At the same time, I participated in medical brigades for foreign aid teams. When I learned about a vacancy at Hospital San Miguel, I applied immediately. During the interview, I met Dr. Carolien and Dr. Jacob. I was accepted and returned to Puerto El Carmen with great enthusiasm.

Thanks to Quina Care, I am able to contribute daily to accessible healthcare in a place where patients previously had to travel for hours. Today, we receive patients every day for emergency care, admissions, laboratory tests, and outpatient services, 24 hours a day. As a nurse, I have direct contact with patients and learn something new every day, both professionally and personally. The work is meaningful, and the collegial atmosphere feels like family.

I am grateful for this opportunity and admire the perseverance of the doctors who make all of this possible. Their dedication changes lives – including mine.





**Gema Karolina Zambrano  
García**

Employed since: July 2023

Position: Nurse

Tasks: Inpatient wards,  
emergency care, outpatient  
support

Training in / developing skills in:  
Emergency care and childbirth

My name is Gema García, and I am a trained nurse. My journey began in 2016, when I left my hometown of San Vicente to study Nursing at the University of Manabí. Five years later, I earned my degree and discovered my true calling: helping people in need of medical care.

After graduating, it was difficult to find work until I learned about Hospital San Miguel through my rural internship. During my job search, I saw a vacancy at Quina Care – far from home, but full of potential. I applied with some doubts but hoped for an opportunity. To my joy, I received an invitation from Dr. Carolien for an interview. Meeting the team and learning about their mission deeply moved me. The next day, I received the exciting call: I was accepted.

Since then, I have been working at the hospital with love and dedication for a year and a half. At Quina Care, nursing is more than a profession – it is a calling. Every day, we strive to provide high-quality, accessible care in a region where this was not previously guaranteed. From opening the operating room to improving facilities, everything is done with teamwork and dedication.

The support of Dr. Jacob and Dr. Carolien makes us feel at home here. Working at Quina Care is a unique experience that has enriched me both as a nurse and as a person.



**Angelo Xavier Reyes Barco**

Employed since: August 2023

Position: Nurse

Tasks: Inpatient wards,  
emergency care, outpatient  
support

Training in / developing skills in:  
Emergency care and education

My name is Angelo Reyes. From a young age, I knew I wanted to make a difference in healthcare. Thanks in part to my parents and grandparents, who demonstrated the importance of education and values, I began studying Nursing at the Universidad del Norte in Ibarra after finishing high school. Each semester confirmed my choice: this is what I want to do.

During my internships in Esmeraldas, I gained valuable practical experience in hospitals and health centers. Afterwards, I completed my mandatory rural year in Tarapoa, where I got to know the local community and their healthcare needs. This motivated me to do my work to the best of my ability.

Through a doctor, I learned about a vacancy at Hospital San Miguel in Puerto El Carmen. I applied and was, to my delight, accepted. Since then, I have been working with dedication as a nurse in this special hospital. I am part of a committed team providing care to people from remote villages – by boat or overland – offering quality medical services such as emergency care, outpatient services, admissions, laboratory work, and obstetrics.

Direct contact with patients has made me more empathetic and strengthened my skills. My colleagues feel like family. Together, we learn every day, share responsibilities, and build a healthcare institution that continues to grow. Quina Care has given me not only an opportunity but also a home. I am grateful for the trust placed in me and proud to apply my knowledge where it is needed most.



**Karen Jurado Tamba**

Employed since: April 2024

Position: Nurse

Tasks: Inpatient wards,  
emergency care, outpatient  
support

Training in / developing skills in:  
Assisting in surgeries

In December 2023, a friend who works in Tarapoa sent me information about a nursing vacancy at the Quina Care Foundation. I applied, and in January 2024, I was invited for an on-site interview, where I met Dr. Jacob and Dr. Carolien. I was impressed by their hard work and many dreams, all with one goal: to improve and make medical care more accessible in Putumayo and the surrounding area. What initially seemed like a dream became a reality. I still remember congratulating them that day on their dedication to the community.

I found it remarkable to discover a hospital located hundreds of kilometers away, where people would otherwise have to travel four hours or more to access more specialized care.

In April 2024, I received a call from Dr. Carolien asking if I was still interested in joining the team. I said yes – a moment that was both exciting and special for me.

When I arrived at Hospital San Miguel, I was warmly welcomed, and the entire team helped me with the introduction. Thanks to their support, I quickly adapted. As a nursing team, we carry out various tasks, such as nursing procedures, blood collection, administering medication, monitoring vital signs, assisting with medical procedures, and providing education to patients and their families to support their recovery and well-being.



### Elvis David Salazar Iles

Employed since: 2021

Position: Contractor and nursing assistant

Tasks: Triage, outpatient support, blood collection, inpatient ward

Training in / developing skills in:  
Currently training to become a nurse

My name is Elvis David Salazar Iles. Although I am originally Colombian, I have lived in Ecuador for many years with my family. I am the father of three children, aged 19, 15, and 9. My career as a contractor has taken me to many places, but one recommendation changed everything: through the building materials supplier Aceroscenter, I came into contact with Quina Care.

Aceroscenter knew me from previous projects and recommended me when Quina Care was looking for a reliable contractor. Since then, I have been working on the complete renovation of Hospital San Miguel. From replacing the roof structure to constructing a new elevator shaft – nearly every space in the building has been addressed. We have removed old walls, built new ones, completely upgraded the plumbing, and optimized treatment rooms. The hospital is now in excellent technical condition, and every improvement contributes to better care for the community.

However, construction is not my only passion. My lifelong dream has always been to become a nurse – helping people not just through building, but also through care. Thanks to support from the GNAP Foundation, I have now begun training as a nurse, alongside my work as a contractor. It is a unique combination: building a hospital and soon providing care within its walls.

I am grateful for the trust that Quina Care and GNAP place in me. This opportunity offers my family and me a better future – and allows me to contribute to health in two meaningful ways.



**Mercedes Lidia Dagua Noteno**

Employed since: March 2025

Position: Nursing assistant, on-call

Tasks: Triage, outpatient support, blood collection

Training in / developing skills in:  
Women's empowerment and education

My name is Mercedes. I am 35 years old, mother of three children, and was born in Putumayo, Ecuador, a remote region in the province of Sucumbíos. My eldest child has a physical disability, which makes my dedication to good care even more personal.

From a young age, I wanted to work in healthcare. I trained as a caregiver and interned in the emergency room and intensive care unit at the hospital in Lago Agrio. When I heard about a new hospital project in our region – established by a Dutch couple – my desire to become a nurse grew. I began training, but due to financial difficulties, I had to stop. Yet I never lost hope.

During those years, my family lived in great uncertainty. There were moments when I could not provide my children with what they needed. In desperation, I prayed for an opportunity. Then, one morning, a message came: would I like to come for an interview at Hospital San Miguel? I seized the chance with both hands.

The interview with Dr. Jacob and Dr. Carolien felt warm and humane. A few days later, I received the exciting call: I was allowed to start. Since then, I have been working as a nursing assistant at the hospital. I support doctors, inform patients, administer medication, and provide care with attention and love.

My dream? To complete my nursing education and continue contributing to the well-being of my community. Thanks to Quina Care, I feel seen and valued again.





**Rosa Elvira Pérez Tobar**

Employed since: 2021

Position: Hospital  
administration, receptionist,  
nursing assistant

Tasks: Administration and  
reception

Training in / developing skills in:  
Hospital management, team-  
building through football, on-call  
nursing assistant

My name is Rosa, and I am from Puerto El Carmen. Like many, I had a dream: to find a job where I could make a difference in my community. After studying public administration, I returned to my hometown determined to find meaningful work – despite the economic crisis and lack of job opportunities.

When I heard that a hospital would open in my former school building, I didn't hesitate. I applied and was – to my delight – hired as a receptionist at Hospital San Miguel. From that moment, I became part of a special team, where I immediately felt welcome.

Every day, I receive patients who sometimes travel for hours – by foot, boat, or on rough roads – seeking care. As a receptionist, I am their first point of contact: I explain the care process, create patient records, and provide guidance on payment and registration. Because I wanted to contribute even more, I took courses in hospital administration on my own initiative, so I could support the hospital in other areas as well.

This job has helped me grow both professionally and personally. I greatly admire the doctors of Quina Care: they had a dream, and despite difficulties, they made it a reality. Their perseverance inspires me every day. I also want to keep learning and growing, to help build better healthcare in Putumayo.



**Martha Lidia Arimuya Tanguila**

**Employed since: 2021**

**Position: Cleaner**

**Tasks: Daily cleaning and  
maintaining equipment**

**Training in / developing skills in:  
Making colleagues laugh, scaring  
away dangerous animals**

My name is Martha Lidia Arimuya Tanguila. I was born in the canton of Putumayo and now live in Puerto El Carmen, where I also spent my childhood. As a single mother of three daughters, I work hard every day to give them a better future. Despite difficult circumstances and a lack of job opportunities, I always believed that one day something good would come my way.

On social media, I saw a vacancy at a new hospital in my village. I didn't hesitate and, together with my mother, gathered all the necessary documents. I applied as a cleaning assistant, a role in which I have experience. Although I was not accepted in the first round, I remained hopeful. Then, one day, while I happened to be in an area with phone reception, I received a message from Dr. Carolien: a position had opened up again. My heart leapt. Shortly after, I got the job.

Since then, I have been working with great dedication at Hospital San Miguel. I ensure that the building remains clean, safe, and welcoming – even if that means scaring away dangerous animals. I feel valued and am happy to be part of a close-knit team that strives every day to provide the best care for our community. My work gives me fulfillment, strength, and joy. thanks to this opportunity, I feel stronger than ever.



**Marilú Isabel Calderón Hidalgo**

Employed since: March 2023

Position: Cleaner

Tasks: Daily cleaning and maintaining equipment

Training in / developing skills in:  
Laundry and sterilizing instruments

My name is Marilu Isabel Calderon Hidalgo. I am 28 years old, married, and mother of two children: Valentina and Miller. Thanks to a special opportunity through the Quina Care Foundation, my life – and that of my family – has changed profoundly.

I grew up in a modest family in Puerto El Carmen, near the border with Colombia. Education was important, but financially challenging. Nevertheless, with the help of an accelerated secondary education program, I was able to complete my high school diploma. For years, I saw vacancies at Quina Care, but I never dared to apply. Until one day, a position as a cleaning assistant became available. Hopeful and nervous, I gathered my documents and submitted them to the hospital.

A few days later, I received the news that I had been selected for a three-month trial period. I felt disbelief, joy, and gratitude all at once. Since then, I have been working proudly at Hospital San Miguel. My tasks are varied: from cleaning consultation rooms and inpatient wards, to cooking for admitted patients, doing laundry, sterilizing instruments, and managing waste.

This job has given me not only employment but also hope for a better future. We have since purchased a piece of land in Puerto El Carmen – a first step toward our dream home. Thanks to the support of my colleagues, the doctors, and especially my family, I remain motivated to grow – including academically.

I am proud to be part of this healthcare project that positively impacts the lives of so many people in our region.



**Maribel Magalí Chacón Aguilar**

Employed since: May 2024

Position: Cleaner and cook

Tasks: Daily cleaning and maintaining equipment

Training in / developing skills in:  
Healthy nutrition for admitted patients

Hello, my name is Magali Maribel Chacón Aguilar. I am 40 years old, married to Ronald Paz, and mother of four children: Anthoni (24), Karla (23), Mily (15), and Dorian (6).

My story with the Quina Care Foundation began when Dr. Jacob called me asking if I could help in the kitchen. That phone call changed my life. I live in a village with few job opportunities and limited resources, and my financial situation was very difficult. Thanks to this work, I was able to pay for therapies for my sick daughter and better support my family.

My eldest son now lives on his own, but I still support him. Karla wants to become a police officer and is about to graduate, something I am very proud of.

After 11 months, the doctors invited me for a meeting. New departments had opened, and they were looking for an additional cleaner. Because they were satisfied with my work, I was offered a permanent contract. Since then, I have been happily working in cleaning, laundry, the kitchen, and waste management. I also attend trainings to work safely and effectively.

I am very grateful for this opportunity. Thanks to my job, I can pursue dreams such as building my own house. It is not easy, but step by step, we are making progress.