



A.K.A.
Vida Internacional



P.O. Box 3069
Humble, TX 77347

Facebook
@lee.short.3388

Telephone
(832) 644-6166

Web Site
www.LSMI.org

Email
DrLeeShort@gmail.com

**Hard Life
Sweet Spirit**



Ana is a young Indian woman in her early twenties. She grew up in a Tlapaneco Indian village in the mountains. She is very smart and has a gentle and sweet spirit. She speaks Spanish, two Indian dialects and is now studying English in our program. Ana is one of our most dedicated volunteers. She helps us at both of our Community centers before she heads off to work in the late afternoon. Ana lives without electricity and water, and walks about 45 minutes to attend our Community Center in Mezcales. Ana was born without a left eyeball and she combs her hair over half her face to hide the condition. We have been making investigations and hope to some day help her get a prosthetic eyeball.

Ana told me chilling childhood tales of horror. Her little 8 year old sister was being prostituted by her God parents. When her father found out his daughter was abducted into the child sex slave trade, he confronted his trusted friends and he was murdered by them. The loss of their fa-ther's leadership and provision plummeted their family deeper into destitution. They were all barefoot, starving and had no school supplies of any kind. Their little sister later escaped when she was 16 and re-turned home. Recently her 17 year old brother was kidnapped and murdered because there was no money for his ransom to be paid. There's been so much sorrow in such a young life.

I'd like to share Ana's story in her own words with you: "I am from the state of Guerrero. I am poor, I left my people because I wanted



Ana's daughter , Pastor Lee, and Ana, standing outside of her home.



Pastor Lee with Ana’s daughter.

All contributions are tax deductible.

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to give my daughter a better life I don't want my daughter to suffer the way I suffered from hunger as a child. When I was little I would go out into the community even in the pouring rain to beg from door to door for a plate of food. I don't want that to happen to my daughter. This is the reason I decided to come here and look for a better future. Now, thank God we don't suffer as much from lack of food. When I first arrived at the Vida Center in Mezcales, my life was changed. I am so grateful to you all for providing hot meals, for all the friendships, and for allowing me to learn the Word of God. I have been here in the Vida Community Centers now for 2 years and 1 month, and I feel secure and protected.”

Together we're changing lives through the love of Christ.

Julie & Carol



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Mezcales, Mexico



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