

FRANKLIN



My name is Franklin. I'm going to share a bit about my childhood.

When I was 5 years old, my mother came to the United States.

My brother and I stayed with our grandparents and aunt.

I never met my father.

**My best friend is my brother.
We went through a lot when we
were younger, good and bad.**

**I remember a woman telling us,
“Don’t bother them, don’t you
see they are little orphans,”
and that felt bad.**

**But to this day, we are
responsible and don’t have
any vices.**





For my graduation, the person who was with me that day was my aunt.

It was nice but at the same time sad because I'd see all my classmates with their parents, and although I had my aunt with me, it wasn't the same. I never had a hug from a father, nor a piece of advice or scolding.

But I did have my grandfather, and for that, I am thankful.

This photo was taken the day I said goodbye to my grandparents to come to the United States.

Well, that's what I thought because when I was going to Mexico, the man who was taking me abandoned me, and they deported me to Guatemala. I was locked up for a month, like I was in jail, without being able to see the sun. And later I came back again, but this time with my brother.

When I was close to arriving at the United States border, they caught us and sent us back to Guatemala.

When I returned for a second time to Guatemala, I felt down. I remember feeling disappointed, and I asked myself if the United States even existed.

But I didn't give up. I tried a third time alone, and my brother stayed in Guatemala. I'm grateful to God because I am now here.

Getting to the United States was a dream come true for me.





I also remember that water didn't get to my grandparents' home.

Every two days, water would fall, but not much. We'd bring back water from another home.

One day, I was walking looking towards the mountain, and the more I walked, the further away it got, and I'd think, 'Will my life always be like this? Always chasing after water?'

That day I felt very unmotivated, that's why I can't forget it.



**They say that what you sow today,
you will reap in the future.**

**Now I am working, and I'm
achieving my dreams. Foremost,
I'm thankful to God because my
life is changing and to this
country for opening many doors.**

**I'm also thankful with KIND
because I had a deportation order,
and they helped me.**

**I feel that I'm going on the right
path. I'm not yet where I'd like to
be, but I'm working hard to be
someone in life.**

