

## **ADRIANA VIMOS**

Quito

### **How many siblings do you have?**

I have three siblings, two of them are between 14 and 16 years old and they currently live with my mom and me, and my other sister is 21 years old, who lives with my father.

### **Do you have any pets?**

We have a dog, his name is Dayco, and he is 5 years old.

### **What are your favorite pastimes or hobbies?**

My favorite hobbies are reading and listening to music of all kinds.

### **Are you working? What type of work are you doing?**

At the moment I am not working, because of my mother's illness. I can't leave her alone and I have to take care of the house and my brothers.



### **Studies**

**Academic level/program :** University/Psychology

**School:** Salesian Polytechnic University

**Graduation date:** 2025

### **What work will you pursue with your program?**

I aspire to take part in projects where helping others is at the core.

### **The Foundation**

I met Mike and Margarita when I was studying at CMT in Cotacollao when I was about 11 years old. I remember Mike used to give classes at CMT and used to give games in the theater room; I interacted little with them, until 5 years later when they contacted me and told me about DEOF and expressed their intention to help me continue with my studies. After that in 2019 we used to receive classes on Saturdays with Mike and several companions of the foundation.

This was very nice as we got to know each other better and became friends, then on one occasion, we had a meeting in Caroline Park with the members of the foundation where we got to know most of the stories and aspirations of the members and especially the impact of Mike and Margarita's help in their lives.

I am currently planning to go to college in September to study psychology thanks to Mike and Maggie paying for my studies. Now we keep in touch almost weekly and I think they have radically changed the lives of many and for that we are grateful.

I have received economic and emotional support from the foundation. In terms of economic support I received money for glasses, books, food, and transportation for me and my mother because of her illness, and recently a laptop for my studies that are about to start. In terms of emotional support they have supported me a lot because my mother's illness is not being easy and sometimes I get down, but thanks to them and some members this situation is more bearable.

The most memorable moment so far is the support received because of my mother's illness since the foundation helps mainly in the studies, but Mike and Maggie knowing this situation have helped me with money for medicine, transportation, and food something that I think not just anyone would do and that is why it has been a blessing to be part of DEOF.

### **COVID disruption**

Covid for my family and me marked a before and after. It was a hard stage because it was scary to think that someone in my family could die if infected, and even worse the fact that as we could not go out, there was no money. Then when the situation calmed down a bit it was worrying to think that my mom could get infected because she went out to work and it was where she started feeling terrible and sometime later she was diagnosed with cancer. I think it is the worst thing that has happened to us so far. She is vaccinated and receiving treatment in the Quito cancer hospital, Solca , but that does not mean that we are safe. This was and is one of the hardest times for everyone but I think it leaves many lessons and certainly this will not last a lifetime.

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