



THIS ISSUE

SEPTEMBER 2024:

A BRIGHTER FUTURE
FOR MELANIE!

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A Brighter Future for Melanie How Community Support Changed Her Life

At just 11 years old, Melanie faced a daunting challenge that threatened to steal her sight. Diagnosed with severe keratoconus, a progressive eye disorder, her world became increasingly blurred. For Melanie and her mother, the struggle was not just medical; it was financial, as they rely on the Cuenca Soup Kitchen for meals and support. The prospect of affording the necessary surgeries seemed impossible.

CSK sought partnerships to extend our support beyond food assistance by collaborating with two other foundations, Social Vision and Helping Kids in Ecuador.

Through the combined efforts of these foundations as well as other organizations and individuals, funds were raised to cover the costs of two surgeries. The surgeries, performed by Exilaser were successful and the world Melanie had known as a blurred haze began to come into focus.

Melanie's story is not just about one girl's triumph over adversity; it is a testament to the power of community collaboration, encouraging us all to invest in the well-being of our neighbors. It is a reminder that with community support, even the most challenging circumstances can be transformed into stories of hope.





HeartStrings

a knitting circle with a purpose

HeartStrings, a dedicated knitting circle under the auspices of the Cuenca Soup Kitchen, is making a tangible difference by creating warm hats, scarves, and blankets for those in need—babies, children, the elderly, and cancer patients.

The project has donated hundreds of handmade items. Extra items are donated to orphanages, homes for the elderly, and local cancer patients, ensuring that no one is left out in the cold.

HeartStrings welcomes new members. Whether you're a seasoned knitter or a complete beginner, there's a place for you. They are enthusiastic about teaching newcomers the basics of knitting and crocheting, making it an ideal opportunity to learn a new skill while contributing to a noble cause.

HeartStrings is in need of yarn donations and funding to purchase more yarn. Contributions will help ensure that they can continue crafting essential items for those who need them most.

For more information on how to get involved or to make a donation, please contact info@cuencasoupkitchen.org.





Collaboration Spotlight building community together

The Cuenca Soup Kitchen is not just a place for nourishing food. By fostering partnerships with local and international entities, the Soup Kitchen amplifies its impact, addressing food insecurity and supporting other needs in Cuenca's vulnerable population.

One of the notable collaborations of the Cuenca Soup Kitchen is with Helping Kids in Ecuador. This organization focuses on improving the lives of underprivileged children through medical interventions.

Additional Soup Kitchen beneficiaries are helped by Social Vision as they provide medical services to the vulnerable of all ages.

The International Christian Community brings a diverse group of volunteers and resources to the Cuenca Soup Kitchen. The support from ICC underscores the importance of shared values and collective action.

The collaboration with St. Christopher Episcopal Mission has been particularly impactful. The mission's commitment to serving the whole individual resonates includes everything from fundraising to music lessons.

By partnering with organizations and individuals CSK expands its capacity to serve and empower those in need. Together we are building a stronger, more resilient community.



EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES:

ANGEL TREE

Be an Angel. Sponsor A Child. Give Joy!

Saturday October 12, 10:00 - 2:00
Common Grounds Feria

The children are making their wishes and
you can make them come true

HEARTSTRINGS

Knitting group creating
warmth for those in need:

babies . new mothers . children . the elderly . the ill

Join us: Mondays, noon, La Yunta

CELEBRATION!

Providing cakes and gifts for children on their special day

Join the party!

we rise by lifting others

Robert Ingersoll



info@cuencasoupkitchen.org