



THE CUENCA FOUNDATION

MARCH 2026

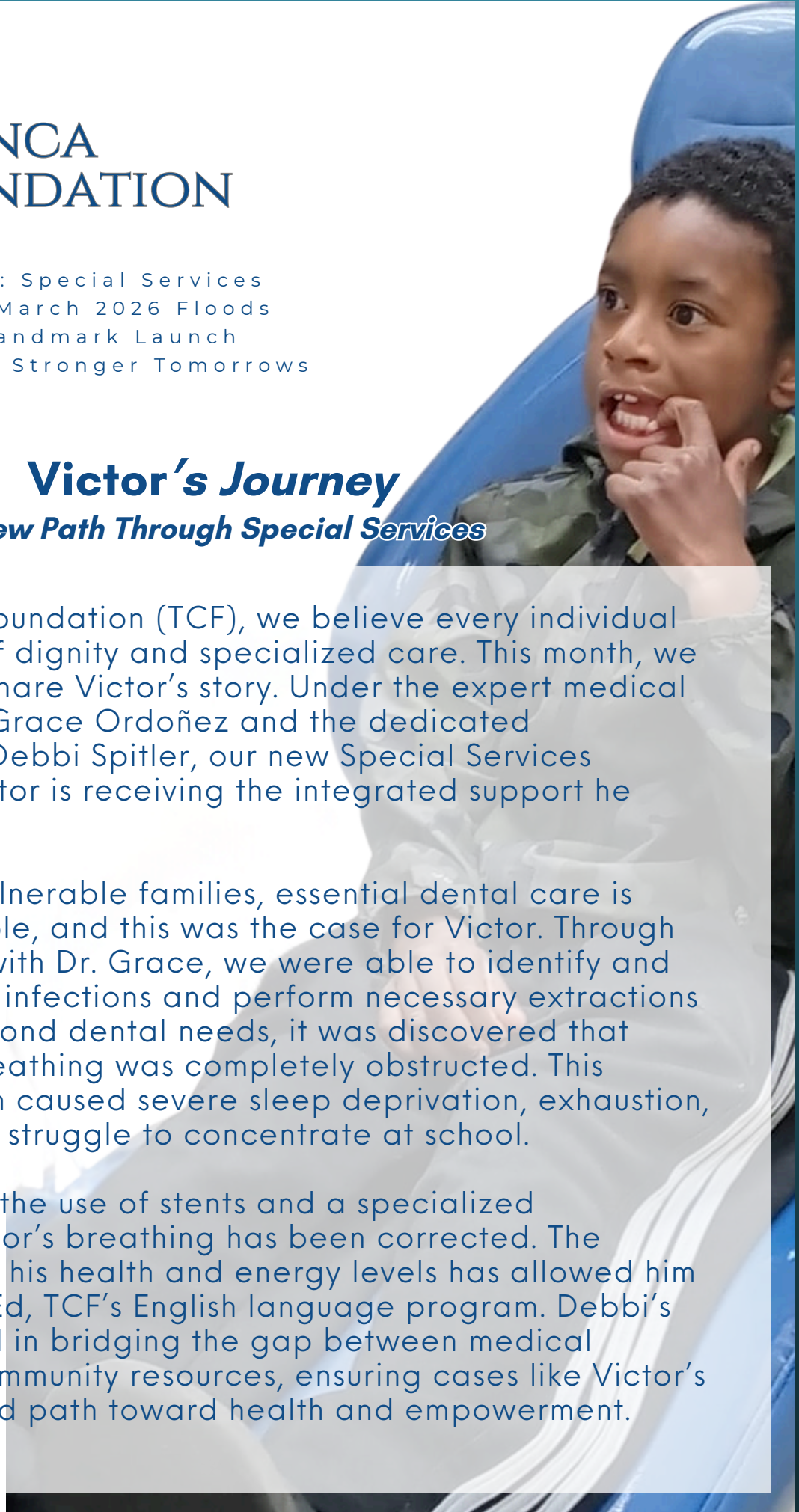
- Victor's Journey: Special Services
- Cuenca Strong: March 2026 Floods
- EmpowerEd: A Landmark Launch
- Celebrating Joy: Stronger Tomorrows

Victor's Journey *A New Path Through Special Services*

At The Cuenca Foundation (TCF), we believe every individual deserves a life of dignity and specialized care. This month, we are honored to share Victor's story. Under the expert medical guidance of Dr. Grace Ordoñez and the dedicated coordination of Debbi Spitler, our new Special Services Ambassador, Victor is receiving the integrated support he needs to thrive.

For financially vulnerable families, essential dental care is often unaffordable, and this was the case for Victor. Through our partnership with Dr. Grace, we were able to identify and treat two serious infections and perform necessary extractions of two teeth. Beyond dental needs, it was discovered that Victor's nasal breathing was completely obstructed. This chronic condition caused severe sleep deprivation, exhaustion, and a significant struggle to concentrate at school.

Today, thanks to the use of stents and a specialized mouthguard, Victor's breathing has been corrected. The transformation in his health and energy levels has allowed him to join EmpowerEd, TCF's English language program. Debbi's role remains vital in bridging the gap between medical necessity and community resources, ensuring cases like Victor's receive a tailored path toward health and empowerment.



Cuenca Strong

Responding to the March 2026 Floods

When record-breaking floods hit Cuenca this month, the city faced an immediate crisis. The Cuenca Foundation joined the city's relief efforts by providing bulk and shelf-stable foods to those impacted by this emergency.

Through your generous support, we have been on the ground:

- Delivering bulk essentials.
- Partnering with local authorities to ensure relief reaches those in urgent need.

Your donations have turned into immediate lifelines, providing the essentials needed as members of our community begin the long process of drying out and rebuilding.



EmpowerEd

A Landmark Launch for Teacher Training

We are thrilled to announce the successful relaunch of the EmpowerEd Initiative, a project spearheaded by Dr. Sonya Groves. This program represents a powerful partnership between The Cuenca Foundation, the Municipality of Cuenca, and the University of Cuenca's teacher training program.

Thanks to the Municipality, we have a beautiful, professional classroom space to host our students. A unique and vital aspect of this partnership is the professional development of the university student teachers; they are now being exposed to innovative language teaching methods that go far beyond rote memorization, including the active use of manipulatives and play-based learning. This initiative is designed to equip both teachers and beneficiaries with marketable skills.

We also wish to offer special recognition to the dedicated families in our program. These parents work tirelessly and overcome immense obstacles to ensure their children have access to the educational opportunities they deserve. Their commitment is the true engine behind these success stories.



Celebrating Joy

The Foundation of Stronger Tomorrows

Beyond providing for basic needs of food, education, and hygiene, TCF remains committed to fostering normalcy and joy for families in vulnerable positions. Acknowledging everyday milestones is a foundation for a more stable and hopeful future.

Celebrating a birthday provides a vital opportunity for the community to come together. Our program is inclusive of all, ensuring that both children and intellectually challenged adults are honored on their special days. Through the generosity of our volunteers, cakes and thoughtful gifts are provided for these occasions. These items go home with the families, so that parents, children, and friends can celebrate together in their own space.

By supporting these "everyday milestones," we help families maintain their own traditions and build a sense of stability.

To learn more, contact us at info@cuencafoundation.org.

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES:

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 at info@cuencafoundation.org

we rise by lifting others

Robert Ingersoll



info@cuencafoundation.org