



# **Pallotti High School Support**

## Scholarships for at-risk girls

— Belize City, Belize —



*The girls served by Pallotti High School come from extremely poor communities and desperately need our help.*

**She opens her mouth with wisdom,  
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.**

**PROVERBS 31:26**



## **We are a Catholic ministry**

that mobilizes the global Catholic Church to transform the poor and their communities materially and spiritually for the glory of Jesus Christ.

Rather than create new institutions to distribute aid, we support existing ministries and churches already serving the poor. In addition to being the most cost-effective way of helping the poor, empowering these ministries allows us to support the Church's spiritual mission and its important position of leadership in poor communities.

We consider every gift we receive as a precious resource from God. We direct every donation to its intended project, provide honest and accurate reports to our donors, and keep overhead costs to an industry low. We handle funds with utmost integrity and hold our ministry partners in the field to the same high standards by asking them to document costs and the impact of their outreach.

We invite you to join with us as we seek to transform the lives of the poor materially and spiritually — ways that please the Father and glorify him in Heaven and on earth.



## Project Synopsis

### Description

This project will provide scholarships and school lunches for poor, at-risk girls in Belize City.

### Purpose

To help girls who would otherwise be unable to afford a quality Catholic education and daily nutritious meals.

### Our Partners

Pallotti High School

### Location

Belize City, the largest city in Belize.

### Cost

**\$18,000** will provide 15 students that will cover one year's tuition, books, and exam expenses, and they will be provided with free daily school lunches.

### Highlights

- Pallotti High School is an all-girls school that offers financial aid to poor students through its work-study program.
- A large number of Pallotti's students are raised by single parents and they have to face the sometimes dangerous conditions of Belize City.
- By attending Pallotti High School, the girls will gain confidence and self-respect and become prepared for a successful career.
- As part of the work-study aspect, scholarship recipients will dedicate at least one hour after classes helping with different areas of the school.
- At Pallotti, the girls are trained up through Christ. Religious education is a mandatory subject and the rosary is prayed during the months of May and October. Every first Friday of the month, Mass is held, and the girls are also able to participate in retreats, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and community service.



*Young girls like Keili, who come from poor families, are grateful for the chance to get an education.*

### Philosophy and Objectives:

*Pallotti High School aims at the intellectual growth and personal development of its students. It is concerned with the development of true Christians who strive to understand and practice the Catholic religion and who participate in the apostolic work of the Church. It strives to educate its students to develop an awareness of their duties as citizens and of the need for wider and deeper concern for their society and for the world community.*



## The Need: Educational Opportunity for At-Risk Girls

Not far from U.S. shores, in the country of Belize, crushing foreign debt and high unemployment have battered poor families with so many additional hardships that most must wonder if they have any future at all. In this case, the man beset by robbers in Christ's story of the Good Samaritan comes to mind — and it should make each of us wonder how our Lord would have us respond to these families' needs.



*Many young people live in very poor conditions and school isn't always an option.*

The poor of Belize are quite literally our neighbors in need. So, what would God have us do? Our first goal should be to understand the impact of poverty on the families in Belize, so we can provide help that is appropriate and effective.

Almost half of the population lives below the poverty line. The country's largest city, Belize City, has significant problems and its infrastructure is old. Public education exists in Belize, but the cost of books, school uniforms and other related expenses often creates a roadblock for the poorest families — typically headed by single mothers. As a result, young girls are exposed to lawlessness and gang violence and many become susceptible to a life of crime.

As troubling as the situation is, hope is not lost — if we are willing to step forward and help. Fortunately, the Catholic Church in Belize is strong and its missions are poised to address these and other urgent needs. The dedicated Pallottine Sisters want to provide educational opportunities and new hope through Pallotti High School. There, with your support, the neediest girls can be offered education and receive free daily lunches.

This would be an incredible blessing to girls who live in troubled neighborhoods where gang violence too often claims family members and friends. It can also lift a terrible burden from single mothers who struggle to make ends meet and haven't the time or knowledge to help their daughters find a better path in life.

Through your support of the Pallottine Sisters, you will give needy girls priceless gifts — a superior Catholic education, greater self-worth and the tools to achieve economic independence! This will not only bless this generation, but it promises to impact generations to come as these secure, well-educated women carry those qualities on to their sons and daughters.

The Pallottine Sisters are eager to lift their community's most desperate girls out of poverty. Please, help them with a generous financial gift. Through it, you can ensure poor, at-risk girls receive a top-notch education, are blessed intellectually and spiritually, and receive the blessed mercy Christ described in his account of the Good Samaritan.



## The Program: A safe place to learn and thrive

Pallotti High School is poised to serve as a beacon of hope for girls growing up in a city riddled with crime and poverty. It has the facilities and staff needed to reach the poorest of the poor and break the generational cycle of poverty that has plagued the poorest families in Belize.

It has long been a highly regarded educational institution in Belize and is known for both solid academics and a strong program of spiritual formation. In many ways, this high school is also viewed as a safe haven from gang activity and other negative influences. Its teachers go well beyond educating the girls academically. They understand they have a stabilizing role in many of the girls' lives, and they try to inspire and guide them. For young women who have struggled in life, this relationship can help build self-confidence and restore hope.

With faith at its core, the mission of the school is "to provide young women with an education which promotes and demonstrates the human and religious values consistent with the Gospel message." To maintain this, students attend Mass regularly, go to chapel, pray before class and volunteer in the community. This model has been proven to work through many stories of lives changed for the better.

The work-study program the Pallottine Sisters want to offer would provide 15 of the area's neediest girls with scholarships to pursue their studies. Through this project, the school would also be able to offer school lunches. The benefits and blessings your support provides will be profound. It will equip needy girls with crucial academic skills and confidence. It will strengthen their spirituality and give them a strong work ethic they can rely on for the rest of their lives.

**Ishell Ellis** is a newly hopeful teenager who lives with her humble mother and stepfather and has suffered through situations of extreme poverty and abuse. Her parents were not previously able to assist her with paying for school. Ishell had potential but was very shy and emotionally disturbed. She's now in her third year at Pallotti thanks to a work-study scholarship and has shown great improvement, which is reflected in her term reports. By funding this project, you can help other young women in Ishell's position. There are many waiting for scholarships, and we want to ensure they have the blessed opportunity Ishell is enjoying.

"I did not only work hard so that my mother may be proud nor to be awarded at graduation, but I did so because I know there are many people who can't afford an education due to lack of support from their parents."

*Ishell Ellis is proud to wear her school uniform.*





## Help Now!



*Though disadvantaged youth like Alize may come from desperate circumstances, they have dreams for a better life.*

circumstances. As the school's namesake saint, St. Vincent Pallotti, said, "Our soul is a living and intelligent being with the distinctive characteristics of being a living image of God." Show these poor girls that they too are "living images" of God. Empower them to take control of their destinies and, as future leaders in their communities, give them the opportunity to change this world for the better!

Pallotti High School wants to be a shining "city on a hill" and bring new hope into the lives of teenage girls who are currently struggling to survive amidst the ravages of extreme poverty — but they will need your help to accomplish these ambitious goals.

Your support will empower them to rescue and restore girls who might easily have been lost to the temptations of gangs and crime in bad neighborhoods. Now, these girls can be put on a different path — a path to a better life.

This transformation will be based on the offer of a quality Catholic education, one that can guide these young women and help them flourish. It will include scholarships and will target and support those who might otherwise have had to end their educational journeys early, ending up in the same terrible situations as their parents and trapped in an endless cycle of poverty.

Please, empower Pallotti High School to take on this important mission! We must not let another girl spiral into a life of crime. We must believe in this future generation and lift these young women out of their bad

**As a father has compassion for his children,  
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.**

PSALM 103:13

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### Our Promise to You!

Donations from this campaign will be used to cover any expenditures for this project incurred through June 30, 2024, the close of our ministry's fiscal year. In the event that more funds are raised than needed to fully fund the project, the excess funds, if any, will be used to meet the most urgent needs of the ministry.

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