



# Lindsey and Steve Poulson

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**Location:** Honduras



**What we do:** Mentoring, creating safe spaces for at-risk children and young people to grow and supporting local project development.



**Bringing hope** where people have given up on God and the church

Dear friends,

Happy 2025 everyone!

Thank you for your prayers for our trip to the United States in November, we had a very good month enjoying family and visiting supporting churches and individuals. We made it safely back to Honduras and jumped right into Radio Christmas in December, the annual Street Kids Direct fundraiser. We are happy to report that the fundraising target was reached! Thank you to those who participated by listening or giving, we personally enjoyed getting to interview many children and young people whose lives are being impacted by mentoring and education.

The end of November also brings the end of the Honduran school year and the start of nearly three months of school holidays. We are very proud of all the kids who passed their classes, including Jose Daniel, who at 20 years old (you may remember he left the gang two years ago) has finally graduated from Grade 9! We also had one young man, Jorge, graduate from secondary school, and he has now become the first Proyecto Alas young person to be given a job in the coffee shop. Jorge had a very unique situation, as several years ago he was struggling to attend classes because he had been given the responsibility of caring full-time for his baby brother. We were able to get him registered in an education programme that held classes on Saturdays, so he only had to find arrangements for the toddler one day each week. He has fought through many challenges, personal and academic, but has finally reached his goal of graduating! He is settling into his new job at Cafe Alas, and we are excited to see how he will learn and grow in this new responsibility as he continues to consider whether he would like to pursue any further education. *Please keep Jorge in your prayers!*



Several of the Alas kids pose during the annual Christmas party

Of course, we could not end 2024 without Christmas celebrations! As always, we had a big party with the Proyecto Alas kids and young people, which included games, gifts and delicious food. The children also prepared some Christmas songs and dances to present to the rest of us. We had a little party with our staff members as well, where we saw their competitive sides come out during the games! As per Honduran tradition, we celebrated Christmas on 24 December with a turkey dinner and fireworks at midnight, with the young men who are studying in the university/trade school programme. We also bring a bit of our own

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**With Jesus  
With each other  
To the edges**



American/English tradition by filling stockings for each one – which they still find a bit strange but enjoy all the same! We must say we welcomed in the year 2025 with an early night, tired but content after so much activity.

Every year, we close the project for three weeks after Christmas to give our staff a much-needed rest. In January we restarted the year with a week of annual planning with the staff, where we discussed everything from schedules, roles and responsibilities to the list of children and young people we will be working with. This year, we have 62 children and young people on our books, 46 of whom are registering for the new school year and 12 of whom we are still trying to reach; five young adults continuing

their education and five more who have left school who we will continue to mentor and walk alongside; there are also two mothers to whom we are providing scholarships to study at nursing school. Quite a lot of people to keep track of! But thankfully we have been able to grow our team once again this year, increasing our part-time psychologist, Fernanda, to full-time, and hiring a new education coordinator, Abi! These two young women are incredibly passionate and skilled in their fields, and we are excited to watch them flourish in their roles. *Please pray for them and the rest of the staff (Lorena, Christian and Sergio) as they begin this new year, and pray for the children as they start their academic year in February.*

It's also a new year for the Alas businesses. Steve is working to restructure some of the leadership in the coffee shops in hopes of better unifying what are currently two coffee shops into one coffee shop with two locations. The barbershop continues to be the most profitable of all the businesses, and Owen has started training one of the Alas young people, Alfonzo, to be his assistant. Alfonzo has struggled academically for many years, and while at 17 years old he continues to work through primary school, it has been a joy to see him find something he loves that he excels at outside of academics. *Please pray for Alfonzo as he develops his skills.*

We also want to thank you for your prayers for Lindsey's pregnancy. All is going well; she has not developed any complications and is coping with the normal aches and changes that come with the third trimester. Our next link letter should include news of a successful birth and photo of our shiny new daughter! Lindsey will be taking three months' maternity leave from mid-March to mid-June and Steve will be taking at least several weeks at the start as we learn to be a family of three. *Please pray for us as we adjust, that we would have wisdom and patience with ourselves (and each other!), and that the different areas of ministry and business will continue to thrive as we take some time away.*

Much love to you all,

Lindsey, Steve and Baby Poulson



**Photos from top to bottom:** The Proyecto Alas 2025 team (L to R): Sergio, Fernanda, Abi, Steve, Lindsey, Lorena, Christian; Alfonzo performing his second haircut on his own; we wish you a wonderful start to the new year and look forward to introducing you to Baby Girl soon!



## Bringing hope where people have given up on God and church

**We've loved hearing recent mission stories from others in our area of work.**

Jonathan in Ecuador has grown spiritually and got his first job as he's gained life skills, and a Breakfast Club in Hull celebrated 25 years of food, community and steps of faith.

Read more at [churchmissionsociety.org/bringhope](https://churchmissionsociety.org/bringhope)

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