

VALLE DE LUZ

GUATEMALA



In war-torn Guatemala, the indigenous people fled their mountain homes for the shelter of cities. They managed to escape violent rural warfare but found themselves exposed to new suffering. Today, prejudice and discrimination denies them dignified work and forces them into Central America's largest slum. Each day, their new home threatens them with hunger, disease, and gang violence, stealing any hope of a bright future. But amidst this darkness, there is light. Valle De Luz provides the the power to transform despair into hope. Children find joy and safety in local schools while women learn to make and sell jewelry in nearby training centers. When you buy their Jade bracelets, delicate earrings, and shimmering necklaces, you lift the outcast, impoverished, and persecuted to places of dignity and worth.



STORIES OF RESCUE & EMPOWERMENT

COUNTRY: GUATEMALA • PROGRAM: EDUCATION



Sofia

You don't have to look hard to see the scars on Sofia's chest. They cut across her delicate skin, acting as a life-long reminder of torture. For years, Sofia lived as a hostage to one of Guatemala's brutal gangs. At the hands of her captors, she endured unimaginable abuse. After two miscarriages, fifteen-year-old Sofia desperately sought a way out. Valle De Luz quickly provided her with the protection and shelter she needed. Through their vocational training program, she now learns to make jewelry—a skill that will enable her to become self-sustaining. While Sofia lives in safety and freedom, her mind remains trapped in the darkness of her past. With counseling, medical care, and loving support, Valle De Luz will walk with Sofia on the path towards complete restoration. When you wear the work of her hands, you celebrate with Sofia, as she steps towards true healing and empowerment.

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