

Rosa's Story

Rosa Verónica, thirteen years old, is a student of Paz y Esperanza's Sign Language School in Moyobamba. The second child of four, Rosa was born deaf. Her father is a farmer, and her mother is a homemaker. Last year, in theory, Rosa finished primary school at a public school. However, for the following school year, Rosa did not wish to continue on to secondary school, even though her parents encouraged her.

One day, Paz y Esperanza came to her school. They noticed how Rosa watched to see what her friends were doing and then copied from their notebooks. Rosa never fully learned how to read and write. She understood little from her classes. In her discouragement, Rosa was hesitant and wary to stay in school. Furthermore, she was not able to interact a lot with her classmates. Her classmates didn't want to play with a deaf girl, so she was often left alone during recess. Even at home, her mother could not help Rosa much with her homework because she wasn't able to communicate with her own daughter.

Now, along with other deaf children in the area, Rosa is learning sign language from Paz y Esperanza, through a dedicated teacher who constantly travels to help her students and their families learn sign language. As well, Rosa teaches her parents and her siblings how to communicate with sign language. Now, Rosa feels much better. She is very motivated to learn sign language so that she can teach her family and friends.