**“I wish there were more schools benefitting from IBREA’s efforts”**

Even though becoming a mother when she was only 17 signified a radical change in her life, Laura Yamileth Calderon Toledo is one of the students with good performance in the Centro Escolar Distrito Itali, located in Tonacatepeque.

Her grades in Mathematics are between 9.5 and 10. That is one of the subjects she likes most, along with Natural Science and English. But her academic performance was not always like that. Her face turns red when she recognizes that, and it’s because before her behavior was rather conflictive and she was not focused in her studies. Last year, Laura’s life experienced a turn that one can qualify as a 180 degrees one, when she participated in the project of the International Brain Education Association (IBREA).

IBREA brought to the Centro Escolar Distrito Italia, where she studies 9th grade, an innovative program that precisely through the daily practice of a series of combined exercises and dynamics, favors not only the development of the brain but also improves the conviviality.

“We would do exercises of relaxation and we would write what we felt” she asserte.

The Director of the school, teachers and students from different classes who had conflictive behaviors, were incorporated in this initiative which lasted for a number of weeks under the instruction of specialists from other countries, including Spain.

“Before this program came, I felt stressed. I did not want to do anything. Sometimes I would not even bring my homework. I had low grades. Since the program came, I was able to organize myself. I did a schedule of each thing and now each task has its time, my baby has a time and school has another time” says the young girl withouth hesitation but with some nervousness.

The teachers of the school recognize that the benefits of the program were replicated in other students.

The young mother says that her family is proud of her. The advances in her life have put her in a first plane and in fact a major Korean TV came to the country to document her experience and transmit it in Korea. The team filmed Laura during three full days, from the time she woke up to the time she went to bed, her interaction with her family and in the school.

“I wish that more schools could benefit from this program because it’s very beautiful. It’s a good experience because before I had problems with some of the students. With this project, we came together” says the young girl after remembering with nostalgia the adventure they experienced when the instructors took them together with the teachers to an excursion to a natural reserve. “They covered our eyes. A teacher was guiding us all through a difficult path with a lot of stones that we were tripping and almost falling. It was very beautiful because they took us all the way to the river like that” she says with a big smile in her face.

To Laura, who together with other students tries to replicate the good experiences in the program with other children, life has given her opportunities.

Soon she will travel to Korea as a guest of IBREA. There, she will expose, in front of representatives from different countries, the way in which the program brought positive changes in her life and the benefits in the school atmosphere.

“I feel happy, enthusiastic, because I have never been out of the country. Even in my dreams, I did not see the possibility of going out of the country” says the young girl.