

# Video transcript

## A place to feel safe for young cancer sufferers

HSBC Mexico is helping sick children and their families in one of the poorest parts of the country. Casa de la Amistad is an institution that is helping children with cancer and we are supporting them through the HSBC 150 Community Fund.

My name is Ana Delgado and I've had cancer for three years. That's why I identify closely with Casa de la Amistad.

HSBC found out about our work and is now helping us with children in Oaxaca where late detection and diagnosis is a huge concern. Casa de la Amistad started as a shelter in Mexico City where sick children could come and stay. But we realised they also needed treatment and medication. So we created medicine banks across the country where we send food and medication so the children can continue their treatment.

I've come to Oaxaca to meet some of the families the charity supports.

The doctor told me that Luis had leukaemia. The truth is I was frightened because it was a word I hadn't heard before. Two days after he was admitted Luis suffered a cardiac arrest and he suddenly died. He was dead for about five minutes. Luis went into the intensive care unit for almost 20 days. It was a tough time for me and my son's life that left a mark on us. At that moment I thought that I had lost Luis.

Good afternoon. How are you? Come in. I'm Maura. Mrs Maura, how are you? I've come to see Martin today. Is this your favourite car? What do you want to be when you grow up? Fireman or policeman? Fireman and policeman.

- You want to be both?

- And a doctor.

So you want to be a doctor as well.

Bruises started to appear all over Martin's body. We were worried. He took some medical tests. And the doctor told me that Martin had leukaemia. I went to Casa de la Amistad and, thank God, Martin was able to receive their support. I found Casa de la Amistad at the right time. The social worker told me about this place where they could help me and they could give me the medication the hospital wasn't able to give me. For me, Casa de la Amistad is like our second home. It's the place where we feel safe.

The treatment I'm receiving is tiring because chemotherapy makes me very weak. I don't feel like doing anything. I always feel downhearted. I just want to play again and go to school. I want to play in the fields with my cousins. Is there a career path you want to follow in the future? Not really. Since my parents don't have any money... Don't worry. That's no impediment.

Meeting Willy was very emotional for me. Sometimes I also get frustrated that cancer stops me doing things and for a child it's even more difficult because they just want to play and run. They want to have fun. But, little by little, we can overcome this challenge.

Casa de la Amistad was founded 26 years ago and has since helped more than 8,700 children with cancer. It's been an honour for me to represent the HSBC team here at Casa de la Amistad. Thank you very much.