



## New Hope Academy

### STRONG ROOTS, LASTING HOPE



The 2025–26 school year marks the 30th anniversary of New Hope Academy. We opened our doors for the first time in September of 1996. In that time, New Hope has served 1,324 students. In all of those years, it can be overwhelming to think of everything that God has done in the lives of our students, teachers, and families. It would be almost impossible to count the number of people who learned to read in these classrooms or how many put their trust in Jesus for the first time or how many discovered the first steps of their calling in life. It's not hyperbole to say that the world would be a different place if New Hope didn't exist. Thirty years can make a tremendous difference. But sometimes, even just one year can make all the difference.

Carlos Soria-Garcia was perfectly happy as a fifth grader at his neighborhood school in Franklin. His younger brother, Erick, however, was struggling. Carlos' family were members of La Casa de Mi Padre, and were counseled by the pastor of the church, Neil Paez (and his wife, Lenis), to look into New Hope Academy for Erick. They were surprised and thrilled to find that New Hope was an option for their family because of financial aid. After going through the admissions process for Erick, the school mentioned that there was a seat open in sixth grade if they were interested in applying for Carlos as well.



Carlos was, as he recalls, not enthusiastic. "I was saying to my mom and dad that I didn't want to leave all my friends and go to a completely new school. They kept on saying that it was just one year since I was going into 6th grade. And I was like – exactly! What difference is one year going to make? Well, looking back on it, it turns out that that one year made all the difference. It changed the trajectory of my life."

Carlos started his one year at New Hope Academy in Mrs. Goodwin's class, and he immediately sensed that something was different – "I had never had a teacher before who cared for me so much."



You can help us by making a gift of any amount. Here is some guidance as you consider the impact you could make:

**ONE DAY SCHOLARSHIP**

**\$80**

**ONE WEEK SCHOLARSHIP**

**\$500**

**ONE MONTH SCHOLARSHIP**

**\$1,500**

**HALF YEAR SCHOLARSHIP**

**\$7,500**

**FULL YEAR SCHOLARSHIP**

**\$15,000**

SCAN TO DONATE



His grades improved from good to very good, and he says that New Hope was the place where he caught the desire for a strong work ethic. In the late fall of that year, the school arranged for all the boys in the class to visit Montgomery Bell Academy, a prestigious all-boys school in Nashville. Carlos remembers, “It was really just a field trip for me. I never saw myself as an ‘MBA Guy.’ It was just so far-fetched.”

Far-fetched or not, Carlos started as a seventh grader at MBA in the fall of 2013. “I needed to have my eyes opened, and that’s what New Hope did for me.” Carlos says that the first time he ever even left the state of Tennessee was on the Washington, DC trip at the end of 6th grade at New Hope, but then as a student at MBA he had multiple opportunities to travel the world, including to the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Dominican Republic, London, and New Zealand. He said that he didn’t know that much about colleges, but the college counseling department at MBA encouraged him to set his sights high, and God opened the door for him to attend Washington University in St. Louis (ranked the #20 university in the country). Four years later, he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in architecture from a world-class university and landed a job with the Southern Land Company back in Nashville. He is now three years away from completing the five-year work-experience requirement for NCARB licensure, a goal he’s pursuing while working at Southern Land Company. His brother, Erick, will also graduate this December with a degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Tennessee.

Looking back on it all, Carlos recalls something that his mother would say consistently to their family – “We don’t believe in luck. It all comes from God.” He says, “The whole story is so unlikely. There’s no other way to describe it really, but God.” Carlos’ story is special, but it’s not unique here at New Hope. Every day, families who find themselves in low-income situations put their faith in God by entrusting their students to New Hope. Their faith is a gift to our community. But in order to provide the scholarship funding so that those students can receive the gift of an excellent Christian education at New Hope, each year God uses over a thousand donors like you from across the country. This year we need to raise \$2.25 million in order to continue providing opportunities for the next Carlos Soria-Garcia to have their eyes opened to faith, to hard work, to the love of learning, and to a big world that God wants them to love and to influence for the sake of His Kingdom.

**After 30 years, it’s a story that’s so unlikely...but God. Just like Carlos’ mother, though, we don’t believe in luck. We believe in God’s provision for the teachers and students at New Hope every day because for the last 30 years we have seen God do it day after day after day through people like you. We have about 120 students this year who need financial assistance in order to make a New Hope education possible. Will you prayerfully consider during this season of generosity making a gift to New Hope Academy in support of our scholarship students? No one knows what God has in store for the next 30 years, but we invite you to make an investment into the life-changing education of a child because sometimes one year – one child, one donor, one gift – can make all the difference.**

1820 Downs Boulevard, Franklin, TN 37064 | (615) 595-0324 | Learn more at [nhafranklin.org](http://nhafranklin.org)

*We deeply appreciate you and your prayerfully considered generosity to the students of New Hope Academy. We have enclosed an envelope with a gift form for your use, or you can donate online at [www.nhafranklin.org/donate](http://www.nhafranklin.org/donate). We are also available to discuss gifts of stock. Please contact Parker Page at [ppage@nhafranklin.org](mailto:ppage@nhafranklin.org).*