

Melissa Gaudette, '98

OAXACA, MEXICO

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This is the view that I woke to every morning.



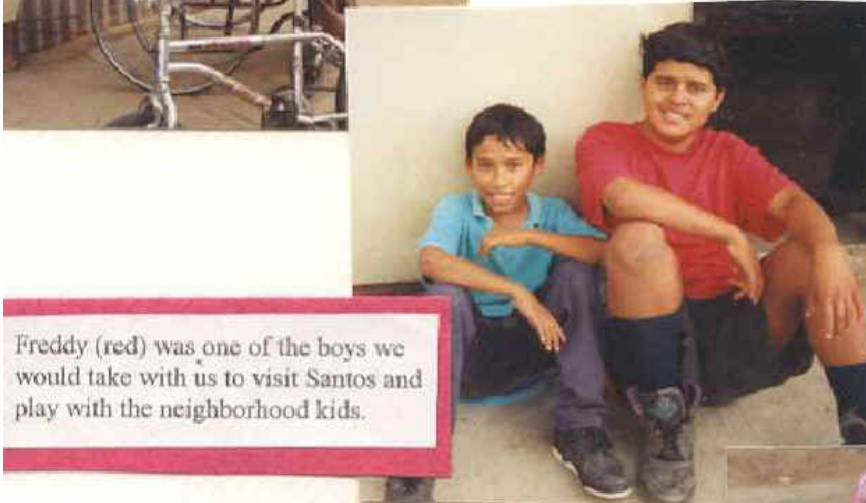
Each morning, I visited Ester (lower right) and her family (Nancy, top, and Samuel, bottom). We exercised everyday to help strengthen Ester's muscles that have deteriorated due to lack of use.

Since Ester was essentially bedridden, she cared for Samuel who had a high fever when he was younger that led to brain damage.



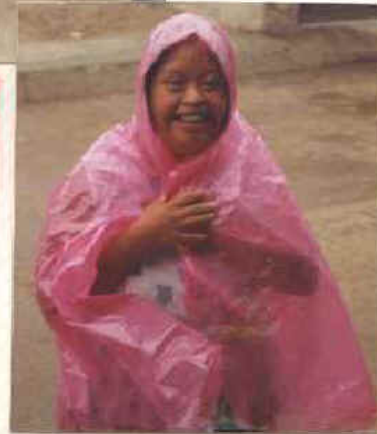


In the afternoons, I visited Santos. He is the most inspirational person I have ever met. Despite that fact that he cannot use his arms or legs, he is the most wonderful artist, but more importantly, he is the most wonderful person.



Freddy (red) was one of the boys we would take with us to visit Santos and play with the neighborhood kids.

The smile on Andrea's face is the one that greeted us everyday as we picked her up at her house and walked to visit Santos and his family. When we walked her home, she gave everyone a hug good-bye, everyday. She was just so excited to see us everyday.



Here are my ESL students. The girls would show up with notebooks and pens and were eager to learn English. The boys just showed up to play. So, I had to design games that incorporated fun with learning. ESL was an optional activity. It was great seeing so many students wanting to be there.