**The 2016 Irene Sheahen Scholarship** has been awarded to Veronica Jacqueline Ordoñez Gallardo. In her application letter to the scholarship committee, she wrote that she always admired doctors and it has been her dream to become one. Her sponsors are Jay and Sandra Mesinger and she also thanks them and Ninos Adelante for the support she has received. She is attending the University of Guadalajara this fall and will study Surgery and Obstetrics.

My family is a small one, consisting of my mother, my two older sisters and my younger brother. My mother is the only breadwinner, dedicated to being a domestic worker to get us ahead with education and teaching us the example of hard work. For me it has become an

example of life and is a driving force for me to not give up and move forward as she did.

In my high school period I entered the scholarship program "Niños Adelante". I am very grateful for the support they have given me during my studies. I also thank my sponsors Jay and Sandra Mesinger for being aware and contacting me. They are people who I consider a lot and have become part of my family.

Since childhood my admiration for the doctors was awakening and with it the desire in me to practice that profession. It started as a dream and was gradually becoming a decision in my life. In my last year of upper secondary education I took the baccalaureate Chemist Biologist with the goal of entering college to fulfill my desire to study medicine. I always thought that was a huge

challenge because student demand at the University of Guadalajara is very important and coming from a different state and face another environment was very difficult. My first entrance exam was not favorable due to my lack of knowledge so decided to move to the city of Guadalajara to take a course and prepare better. The following year I tried again and my score was improved but not enough to be admitted. I was not willing to spend another year without studying I moved to the city of Morelia, Michoacan with my aunts. There I enrolled at the Michoacana University where I took an intensive English for a year while preparing for the entrance exam at the University of Guadalajara. On July 25 of this year I received the news of being admitted to the university to study the course of Surgeon and Obstetrician. It was the best news I've received because finally I come closer to fulfilling my dream, I am very excited to live this stage in my growth, it is something that has cost me much effort and at the end of the day everything has paid off .

