

KAREN BEDON

Quito

How many siblings do you have?

I have two siblings (Angelica and Jefferson)

Do you have any pets?

I have a cat called Negrito.

What are your favorite pastimes or hobbies?

Singing, painting and reading.

Studies

Academic program: General Psychology

School name: Central University of Ecuador

Graduation: 2026

What work will you pursue with your program?

I'd love to have my own office and help people.



The Foundation

I met Mike and Margarita in 2009; I remember I met Mike during the homework classes in the mornings because I liked to read; we could find a lot of books and if I didn't understand something Mike explained it to me and I liked to go there every morning to read and play with the others. It is worth mentioning that here is where I learned to play the game called "24". I met Margarita when she taught us health classes. I liked very much how she explained and taught us many interesting things, and her way of being with us was very nice. She explained to us if we did not understand. We made drawings and did activities; she always treated us with tenderness and a smile that characterized her very much.

DEOF has supported me with economic expenses in my college entrance process, such as pre-university. They have helped cover the cost of orthodontics and third molar extraction surgery, internet at our home, and support in vocational orientation and meetings with different people.

The day that Mike and Margarita invited me to be part of the pre-DEOF classes is most memorable, because the truth is I did not expect it. They had never told me anything before; I knew that Adriana and Jonathan were already chosen from my class; therefore, there seemed no opportunity for me. I also thought that I would not be included because my siblings were already in the foundation, and when I found out I was very excited about this opportunity and this family. Also, the Zoom Christmas program in December 2020 seemed very special to me. There were many members of the foundation and despite the distance, I felt the affection among all of them.

DEOF for me means family. With the support and trust that they are placing in me, I want to give more, to show that I'm capable, to emerge and help others to support the dreams that the lack of money often stops. DEOF for me are angels that if it had not been for them, we would not be studying because we would probably only work to contribute to the house. However, they have been significant support both financially and emotionally.

2024 Update:

I am currently studying the fifth semester of my Psychology degree. I really enjoy the connection with society, this means that every semester we go to the most vulnerable neighborhoods in Ecuador, to do workshops, either with older adults, with children, or with the residents of the neighborhood in general. My favorite subjects currently are semiology and psychopathology, the two go hand in hand.

I studied a theater course for about a year, with Juanita Guarderas, an impressive figure in the world of art and theater in Ecuador. The people who do theater are interesting, they help me a lot on a mental and emotional level, I have great experiences from it.

I am also currently attending an art workshop, I am very passionate about painting. I am grateful to the foundation for its support in this part of my life that I love.

I am currently 21 years old, I find myself living alone in an apartment that with the help of the Foundation I can live in, something for which I am grateful my entire life.