

FAMILY

Paying it forward

Josselyn and Open Arms Foundation

Flipt kids regularly supports Brian and Katherine Miller and Open Arms Foundation in Medellin, Colombia, where they provide “life as we know it” to kids who otherwise live on the streets.

Josselyn Mangum

Ten-year-old fourth-grader, Josselyn Mangum combined her skill at making bead bracelets (that she learned from her grandmother) with the love of helping children (that she caught from her mom) to do something for kids she’s never seen or met. Josselyn got busy and made a dozen bracelets to sell at her brother’s soccer games. “It takes a while to make each one,” shares Josselyn, “and I just asked people to buy them.” She sold every last one, brought all the money she made, and put it in the Flipt Kids offering.

When Brian and Katherine heard about what she had done, they made sure to return the favor during their visit earlier this year. Brian awarded Josselyn with a bag filled with handmade bracelets from Colombia. She gave most of them away in conjunction with a school project on Colombia, but there is one she has kept. “It reminds me of how special the children must feel to be there [with Brian and Katherine].”

And what has she walked away with from all of this? “A lot of those kids don’t have the blessings I have. So if I could do something to help them have just a little of what I have every day, that would be good.”

Recently, Jonathan Florence emptied quite an envelope stuffed with cash into the 3rd grade offering. When asked if he “robbed a bank,” he said, “no” and that he had made bracelets and brought in all the money. He got the idea from Josselyn Mangum!



Brian Miller with children from Open Arms in Medellin, Colombia