

# In Pedro's Shoes:

## *A Story of Dreams and Determination*

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Meet Pedro Jese Castillo Zorrilla, an 11-year-old with a bright smile and even brighter dreams. **Pedro lives in Punta Cana with his mother and sister, a close-knit Christian family he describes as “kind, respectful, and full of joy.”** Every morning, Pedro walks into Hope Academy with hope in his heart and determination in his step.



At school, Pedro learns from what he calls “the best teachers” who make learning not just possible but enjoyable. **He admits that sometimes he struggles with being lazy—like any 11-year-old might—but he’s determined to push himself to be a better student.** Why? Because **Pedro dreams big.** When he talks about his future, his eyes light up with excitement: “I want to be a basketball player!” It’s a dream that fuels his drive and keeps him hopeful about what lies ahead.

Yet, **life hasn’t been without its challenges.** Pedro recently faced the heartbreaking loss of his grandmother. With a heavy heart, he shared how sad it is to know he won’t be able to help her as he grows older. **But even in his grief, Pedro carries her memory with him, finding strength in the love and values she instilled in him.**

**Pedro’s story is one of hope, resilience, and the power of education to unlock a world of possibilities.** Through your support, Pedro has the tools and encouragement he needs to dream beyond his circumstances. **He isn’t just learning math and reading at Hope Academy—he’s discovering who he is and who he can become.**

**Your generosity makes this possible.** When you support 2nd Mile Missions, you’re investing in students like Pedro—kids with dreams as big as their hearts and the determination to make them come true. **As you step into Pedro’s shoes for a moment, imagine how your giving today can impact his tomorrow.**

**Together,** we can help Pedro and so many others take bold steps toward a brighter future.

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