



A Story of Two Brothers

Immigration Services

Brothers Andres' and Isaac's father was a policeman in Honduras who was murdered by gang members. The police never opened an investigation out of fear of retaliation and advised the mom to leave Honduras or she would likely be killed too. Karen, the boys' mom, fled to the US, leaving Andres and Isaac with her mother. The boys and their grandmother moved to try to hide from the gangs, but the gang eventually found them and threatened them.

Last year, Karen sent for her boys to join her in the US, in part because of continued threats. They were arrested at the border and sent to ORR (Office of Refugee Resettlement) care, which is how Catholic Charities first got involved. CCA helped the boys reunify with their mom last summer and continues to provide post release services, including visits to connect the family to resources.

The grandmother stayed behind when Andres and Isaac came to the US because she didn't think she could physically make the trip through the desert. However, she continued to receive threats and hoped to join the family in GA in January 2016. Tragically, in December 2015, the boys' grandmother was locked in an out-building at her house in Honduras and the building was set on fire, killing her. There was no investigation opened to determine who killed her, but the mom believes that it was the same gang that killed her husband and have threatened her family ever since.

Their grief is still very fresh, and Karen becomes tearful when discussing the loss of her mom and the lack of justice for her killers. However, she is grateful the boys are now safe in the US and can live a life without the constant fear of violence.

CCA staff applied for political asylum on behalf of the kids and recently found out that they were approved. This means that they will be able to stay in the U.S. with their mom and that their future is now filled with hope.

