



Thirty four-year old Patricia Escorcia is both mother and housewife, she improved her quality of life thanks to abdominal reduction surgery performed at the Junta de Beneficencia Luis Vernaza Hospital.

"I weighed approximately 440 pounds, had limited mobility, couldn't stand being on my feet, did not go out, and my waist was in pain as well as my body, I had kidney trouble and would urinate on myself as a result of any physical exertion.

On the street my biggest problema was my inability to climb on the bus, since I couldn't go through the turnstile, which was very embarrassing.

This mother and housewife felt terrible. She spent her days ill and depressed because she felt her life was senseless. Until one day she went to the Luis Vernaza Hospital and according to her, "At that precise moment my life began to change enormously".

Everyone, from social workers to health professionals showed concern for Patricia's case who was finally attended to, free of charge. "The doctors pointed out they had to perform surgical treatment (abdominal reduction). I didn't spend a cent, they took care of everything, it was a miracle." She says.

Six months have gone by since Patricia had surgery and she has managed to lose 100 pounds. Now Patricia helps the kids with the homework, plays with them and performs all her chores as a housewife without getting tired.

"I feel that the surgery I underwent has given value to my life, my husband, the kids and I feel very happy, my life has changed considerably".

Patricia remains in the care of the Luis Vernaza Hospital doctors and is very grateful. "I tell everyone that the Junta is the best thing that could have happened to me in my life. I don't regret for one day having knocked on their door because not only did they open them, but also the ones to their hearts. There were many who extended their hand at the Guayaquil Junta de Beneficencia and said, "Here I am come and talk to me when you need me, I'm right here." she concluded.