This picture was taken on the first day of service in Oaxaca. I am teaching one of the students at the center the idea of synonyms. Over the course of my six weeks I worked with students daily and taught some of them English while explaining math or other subjects in Spanish. My language was not very good, but it was enough for me to communicate and do my job. It was a challenge that I really appreciated and it pushed me to work on my Spanish which was a much needed challenge.

Oaxaca had incredible street art. On every corner there was some form of art that was truly stunning. I personally like this one because of the cool representation of the heart. I think it is safe to say I fell in love with Oaxaca, so the idea of giving your heart to something is very relevant. Below are some of our students with street art in the city.
I love this picture because of all the students I worked with and served, my bond with Juan was the most special. Juan and I always got along and while he did not always understand my broken Spanish, he always respected me. If I asked him to do something, he did it, and that was not something others could get Juan to do. He is one of the brightest children I have ever met, and he never ceased to impress me with his ability to learn. I miss many of the children we worked with, but I especially miss Juan.

Oaxaca had so much natural beauty. From massive mountain ranges to beaches to the plants and the architecture, there was never a lack of beauty. The picture on the left was taken in the botanical garden near the church in the center of the city. The picture above was taken in the central Plaza of the city.