You no longer have to be an oil executive to benefit from Venezuela's oil wealth.



Just ask Yasmeli Espinoza.

Something remarkable is happening in Venezuela. New opportunities are everywhere and the lives of millions of Venezuelans are improving in ways that were never before thought possible. ◆ "I'm so proud and hopeful for the future of Venezuela," says Yasmeli Espinoza, a business student at the new Bolivarian University of Venezuela. In the past, poor Venezuelans were financially barred from higher education. But thanks to a new government program, Ms. Espinoza and thousands of students like her now have the opportunity to attend university and work their way out of poverty. ◆ You see, as the world's fifth-largest oil producer, Venezuela has long been a country of contrasts. Despite Venezuela's great oil wealth, 80% of its people live in poverty. To expand opportunity for all, the Venezuelan government has increased annual oil revenue spending on social programs from 40 million to 1.7 billion dollars. This means that millions of Venezuelans like Ms. Espinoza have access not only to education but also to essentials such as food, housing, and health care. ◆ These social investments, along with continued investments in infrastructure, are bringing to life the motto Venezuela, ahora es de todos—Now, Venezuela is for all. ◆ Paid for by the Venezuelan Embassy

