



Hello, my name is Spencer Hacker, but Guadalpeña knows me as Rafi. Living the past eight months in Arcos and working as a language assistance at Guadalpeña has been a wonderful experience I'll never forget. Not only have the staff been welcoming and easy to work with, but the students are incredibly friendly. Arcos is a mid-sized town, and that allows for a real sense of community. You will see students out on the town, and it's always fun to run into them and say hello. I wanted to live in Granada, but all of the big city placements had been taken, so I searched for the most beautiful towns in Andalucía and Arcos was the first result. That turned out to truly be a blessing in disguise. I now believe Guadalpeña is the best place I could have ended up.

Living in Arcos and being at Guadalpeña has been the greatest sense of community I have felt in years, and maybe my whole life. Although I was nervous and unsure about things when I arrived, the teachers gave me a very warm welcome at Feria, which is at the end of September, and the students quickly warmed up to me after a few weeks. Now I can't go down the hall or enter a classroom without people calling, or even chanting my name! Being an auxiliar at Guadalpeña has been a fun, enriching experience and leaving is bittersweet. Arcos is a uniquely beautiful town, and Guadalpeña will always be in my heart!