



NEWS FROM CHAIN OF LOVE HOMES

January/February/March 2021 Newsletter

Dear Chain of Love Friends,

2021 has begun! I'm certain we all share a deep hope that this new year will not be a repeat of 2020 and will hold many blessings. We pray to the Lord for new mercies and thank Him for how He has consistently walked before and beside us, on both the hard and good days. In this newsletter, which will focus on the first three months of 2021, we'd like to share with you some things that occurred in this first semester and some of the exciting projects that have happened so far this year.

COVID-19 AT CHAIN OF LOVE

Unfortunately, the virus has hit with an increased strength so far this year in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, where Chain of Love is located. The new variant (known as P1) has been causing a great number of infected people, hospital admissions, and deaths not only here in this state, but also in many parts of Brazil.

To better fight COVID, the state where Chain of Love is located was divided into 21 regions. Every week, each region is placed under one of four color zones, ranging from yellow to black according to the number of cases and spots available at hospitals. The darker the color, the more restrictions in the region. Today, all 21 regions are in the black zone. It is estimated that the situation will start to improve only in May.



Enaldir and Nair

Houseparents Enaldir and Nair caught COVID-19 in March. Besides them, four teenagers (who work part-time) were infected too. We suspect they were infected in their workplaces and brought the virus to Chain of Love. Some staff had to work from their homes. We praise the Lord that everybody has recovered now and we also thank Him that the virus didn't spread even more at COL. As of the date

this newsletter is being written, these were the only COVID cases reported among houseparents, teenagers, and children at Chain of Love. However, sadly, another case has hit very close to our hearts. Pastor Elder Guimaraes, who helped Chain of Love for some time when we didn't have a chaplain, died from COVID-19 complications. He was a pastor at Igrejas Batista Boas Novas (Good News Baptist Church) in Novo Hamburgo. We ask you to please pray for his family. He left a wife and two sons.



Pastor Elder Guimaraes

LETTERS FROM SPONSORED CHILDREN

During this time when there were staff working from home, many children wrote letters to their sponsors. These letters are being translated and sent to them. While it was caused by a situation out of our control, we wholeheartedly apologize for the delay.

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NEW HOUSPARENTS



Janaina and Gelson

In the month of March, houseparents Gelson and Janaína left Chain of Love to start new personal projects. The time we shared together was a blessed period. We would like to thank the Lord for the time they spent with us. Gelson and Janaina did such a very good job and the doors are open for them to come back to Chain of Love in the future if they wish. To look after House 1, we have a new couple: Francisco and Fátima. The children who live in House 1 have adjusted very well to them and their biological daughter, Vitória. We are very happy to have them as houseparents.



Francisco, Fátima and their daughter Vitória

CHANGES IN THE COL STRUCTURE

We've already started work on the new fence around our campus. This became necessary because of two burglaries that took place last year and small thefts earlier this year. For the safety of our children, teenagers, houseparents and staff, we realized we urgently needed to build a newer and stronger fence. We thank everyone who already contributed to and prayed for this project.



Another project that was started was the transformation of one of four dorms in the technical center into a doctor's and dentist's office. This project has been concluded. It was so high a necessity that we had to make it happen as soon as possible. However, to do so, we needed to use money from our general fund. (The money in the general fund is used for ordinary expenses, not for projects). We had to make this decision and implement this as it is a crucial matter of health. We understand our children must be well cared for, especially in a time of pandemic. The medical office will be used by the nurse, volunteer dentists, a pediatrician, and the psychiatrist who already works with us to serve our children and teenagers. Because of the new use for the dorms, now our visitors from North America will have a guest house to stay in when they come to COL:

House 6, on our campus.

OTHER PRAYER REQUESTS

- For the COVID situation to improve in Brazil and all over the world
- For our children, teenagers, houseparents, and staff not to be infected again
- For the good health of our supporters, sponsors, representatives, and their families
- Praise the Lord for looking after us

Telmo Camargo

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