



“Morning Star” Children’s Home News Bulletin

September 23, 2007

As we approach the 1 year anniversary of “Morning Star” we are first of all overwhelmed with gratitude to the Lord for

all He has done during this year, as well as to everyone who has taken part far and near in making this year possible. We have learned a lot during this first year and there is yet so much more to learn. Let us share with you some of what we’ve learned thus far:

INFRASTRUCTURE - For the day to day operations to work smoothly and not cause undue stress, the facilities need to be functionally adequate. The existing house which we knew was provisional, although it has served us well, has demonstrated that a proper layout design is essential to facilitate the difficult task of caring for many small children at the same time. Work has begun to build a new house which will, Lord willing, be a better environment in which to continue this labor of love.

For Prayer – The Lord’s provision in His time to complete this project.

LEGAL ISSUES – These past couple of weeks have been very revealing on this front. Mateo, Nicole & Araceli have all been cleared for adoption. In discussing their cases with the authorities we’ve learned that there is a continuing effort on the part of the government entities involved in this process to accelerate the abandonment/adoption process. This leads us to re-evaluate our role as temporary caretakers, realizing that as long as this tendency continues, what that means for us is that the likelihood of children remaining in our facility for their entire developmental process is diminished. While the need to house more children remains overwhelming, the amount of time they’ll spend with us appears to be shortening which then leads to mid-course adjustments on our intake policies as well as the time frame in which we strive to make a positive spiritual impact in their lives while they are with us. We also have an express interest in being able to broaden our role from being simply a holding facility to actually being able to recruit Christian families to adopt the children. These are untested waters, and we’ve just begin to investigate if this would be an actual possibility allowed by the government and what would be required of us to represent couples who wanted to adopt the children in our facility, which becomes an especially tricky area when international adoptions are the topic.

For Prayer – Wisdom to know which avenues the Lord would have us pursue to better serve the needs of children abandoned by their parents and what adjustments to make in our long term goals as well as the immediate impact these will have on our current intake policies and philosophy of ministry.



PERSONNEL – Jorge & Margarita have given us their decision to stay on as house parents, beyond their original two year commitment which was to conclude this December. They have done a marvelous job of coping with a sudden onslaught of toddlers. We've also learned some of the topics which need to be incorporated into a House Parent Training Manual, as we've worked through first hand the various concepts that we might take for granted in the areas of nutrition, hygiene, discipline, etc, but have realized that not everyone does and therefore need to be specifically trained.

For Prayer – Wisdom as we continue the training as well as strength for the house parents as they have to deal with departures and new arrivals which are an integral part of this type of ministry.

EDUCATION – The integration of our own educational facility, “STRONG TOWER CHRISTIAN SCHOOL”, has been one of the foundational premises of this project. We've learned that with the reorientation of the legal procedures involving just how long the children of “Morning Star” will be with us, the greatest spiritual influence the school will most likely exert will be shifting more towards the community around us and not so directly to the children living in the facility, although they of course will continue to be ministered to by it. If the new house is finished before the next school year begins then the existing house will become school rooms, which it is definitely better suited for, and will allow us to separate the kinder garden into specific age groups.

For Prayer – There is still a very real need for English speaking volunteers or long term staff to teach the children as well as Peruvian certified teachers, especially at least one spiritually & administratively qualified to develop our long term curriculum. The Lord's clear direction regarding developmental decisions.

THANK YOU so much for standing with us in prayer and by your financial support of this ministry.

By His grace alone,

Tom, Carol & the Morning Star Staff