

Translated by María Dolores Muñoz, csj

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It is with joy and gratitude that we take this opportunity to share with you our life and mission during the month of September,

VICEPROVINCIAL HOUSE SAN JOSÉ (Lima)

By Maritza, csj

On September 18th, we had a meeting of the Leadership Team with the community. There was time for profound sharing about our life and mission.

Our sisters of the Gran Amor de Dios Community (CANTO CHICO) shared with us their donations so we could help the most vulnerable families in our sector of Las Brisas, Sisters María Inés and Maritza distributed the donations (pots for cooking) with two Peruvian families and two Venezuelan families. It was a good opportunity to get in contact with the people, especially those women who are the only economic support for their families. They all shared their stories about working two and three jobs just to make ends meet and they were delighted to get this donation. Sra. Eva commented: "Oh, what beautiful pots these are, mine are so old, and these are a great gift, Thank you so much". We are very grateful to ACNUR, the organization who made this donation possible



Recipients of the donation of pots and pans

GRAN AMOR DE DIOS COMMUNITY (Canto Chico, Lima) By Yolanda, csj

Our friendships are moments that energize the spirit of the presence of God in our lives.

The Good News for some of our dear neighbors will always be an experience of hope; hope that will always be vibrant and lasting. This month we thank the Christian Brothers Community, especially, Brother Stephen, who organized the building of a little prefabricated "Casita" for one of our neighbors who lived in a dilapidated house that when it rained, it would leak right on to the beds. The children complained "in our house it is very cold. When we sleep, sometimes the rain would fall right on top of us." Now, the family, has a house with two bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen and a dining room. As religious, we are grateful that we can share our lives and work together with our neighbors so that we can help some of them to live with a little more human dignity.



This month, several Venezuelan families living in extreme poverty can continue to receive the food donations sent by the organization ACNUR. Much of our service at present is to identify the most vulnerable families so that they can receive the donations of: blankets, kitchen kits, electric stoves, towels and food, always to those families who need it most.



Our "Salón San José" Project continues to advance with joy and dedication so that the children will be able to reason, to understand and to feel the joy of learning and desire to learn. .



The young adults who come to help the children with their homework, were, in years past, also students in "Salón San José". They are happy to help out because it motivates their desire to continue their own university studies because they receive a symbolic pay for their work which helps them defray some of the costs of their studies, such as transportation. In a small way, this keeps their dream of continuing their studies alive. Periodically, they have a meeting of evaluation of their mission with the sisters in charge of the program.



Since March, the sisters have had a workshop, "Mental Health", together with Caritas Lima. This permitted not only the offering of a professional service but also, it put people in touch with other social support groups who offer help to migrants and others. Because of this, vulnerable persons can receive psychological help to help them with: stress, mourning, sexual violence, gender, physical health, etc.

As we all know, recreation and fraternal sharing are important factors for our wellbeing, mental health and spirituality. That's why we welcomed the Sacramentino and the Calasenses Brothers and the Sisters, Servidoras del Evangelio for a reflection and breakfast meeting in our house. We had a beautiful Eucharistic celebration to start, then a delicious breakfast where we also shared our joy and generosity..



From the 3rd to the 5th of September, Sister Zaida Perez, the psychology department, and Elva Neira, an "Amiga de San Jose", directed a retreat for the 5th year high school students at the school Fe y Alegria No. 40. It was a good experience for our students because they participated actively in all the activities that were proposed. The topic of reconciliation was developed using different activities, one of which was through a letter that each parent wrote to their child expressing their love and telling them of their hopes for them in the future. After reading their parent's letter, the students responded by writing them a letter. These activities helped them to live a beautiful experience during the retreat.



On September 23rd, Spring Day and Student's Day was celebrated at the school Fe y Alegría 40. It was a gran Fiesta for all the students who enjoyed the music and the dancing. The fiesta was celebrated in the central patio (playground) and you could feel the vibrant life and energy of Youth and Spring.



CONFER of Tacna, (includes both men and women religious) dedicated the month participating in activities of vocational promotion visiting several parishes to meet with the youth: the catechists and the candidates preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. We know, it is important to meet them where they are to talk to them about religious life. There was an openness on the part of the adolescents and young adults. It is a wonderful opportunity to share our charism together with other religious congregations.

During the month of October, we plan to visit different national and private schools to continue sharing our experience of the following of Jesus. We ask God to continue giving us much enthusiasm and joy to share our experiences of God with our people.



UNITED IN PRAYER

- ❖ We ask that there be the testimony of religious life in places of violence, oppression and abandonment.
- ❖ We ask that families in all our countries who suffer as a result of political and social unrest may find relief in their situations soon.