



NEWS FROM CHAIN OF LOVE HOMES

January/February/March 2026 Newsletter

Dear Chain of Love friends,

In this first newsletter of 2026, we would like to share both the blessings and the challenges we have experienced so far this year. We are truly thankful for the support you so generously gave us last year, either in prayers or financially (or both). We cherish you and hope you will continue to walk this journey with us.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

This summer (December through March in Brazil) was filled with delightful activities. In January, most of our children and teenagers attended Acamp Serra Bible Camp—the highlight of their summer! By the end of each camp season, they are already looking forward to the next one. This opportunity brings them closer to the Gospel as they interact with other young people who have experienced salvation. Many of our children accept Christ as their Lord and Savior at camp and ask our chaplain to be baptized later. **Praise the Lord for this!**



Every summer, we also take our children to a local water park. It is a refreshing time of joy and fellowship just before the school year begins in Brazil. We can offer this special day to our children and the COL community thanks to the support of local businesspeople. **We thank the Lord for them.**

RICK AND JEAN DUNBAR

In our last newsletter, we asked you to pray for Rick and Jean Dunbar, our missionaries in Canada, who were in a serious car accident when coming back from a conference in Southern Alberta. We are overjoyed to share that they have fully recovered! We praise the Lord for this! **Please pray for them and for Robbyn Hanstad as they promote COL in Canada and the US, respectively. Pray for safety, good health, and fruitful results as they promote the ministry.**

TEAMS AND INDIVIDUALS VISITING COL

This summer, we had the privilege of welcoming two individuals and two teams from North America who came to serve our children.

In early January, Joe Roever, a farmer from Zion Baptist Church in Okeene, Oklahoma, blessed us with his presence and servant's heart. He worked on our compost bin, taught COL youth how to maintain it, led Bible studies and counseling sessions, introduced them to American cooking, and even stepped in to replace the houseparents in our Young Adults' Home while they were on vacation.



In late January, a team (mostly made up of youth) from Whitecourt Baptist Church in Whitecourt, Alberta, Canada, came to us. They were preceded by our dear friends who are members of that church, the awesome Alex and Laura Hekkert. In addition to serving and spending time with the children, the team led an entire worship service. The adult members also shared valuable experiences with our multidisciplinary staff.

In February, we again had the honor and privilege of welcoming Andrew Buikema from the Grove Church in Langley, British Columbia, Canada. Andrew painted the interior walls of several homes, brightening the environment for both children and staff. He also



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spent meaningful time with the children and connected warmly with our houseparents. He was so kind that our children asked him to bring his wife next time—we would love that!

In March, a team from FOMO 10/40 Creamery (“Focused On Missions Overseas”) came to COL. This organization is dedicated to evangelism, and the team accomplished many meaningful things—and will be returning later this year.

They spent time evangelizing, playing with the children, leading Bible studies, and participating in daily activities. Like the Whitecourt team, they also led an entire worship service. One of our interns, the son of a local pastor, accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior. He shared that although he was raised in a Christian home, it was at COL—through witnessing the love of both our staff and the visiting team—that decided to follow Christ. **Praise the Lord!**



If you would like to serve at COL—whether as an individual, family, group of friends, or church group—please let us know. It would be our great privilege to host you, and it will be an experience you won’t soon forget. You can contact us at robbynhanstad@gmail.com (if you live in the US) or jrdunbar58@gmail.com (if you live in Canada) for more information. Our children and staff are eagerly waiting for you!

OUR SECOND CAMPUS

At the beginning of this year, we entered a planning phase in collaboration with engineering and architectural professionals. We are currently selecting the company that will move the project forward, including administrative procedures with the authorities of Novo Hamburgo (where the future campus will be located), as well as land surveying, foundation work, and construction. The initial plan includes building two homes, followed by two more. We thank the Lord for moving hearts to help us pay for the construction of at least one house. However, we needed additional resources to begin preparing the land—leveling the ground, installing utilities (water, electricity), and constructing a surrounding wall. Because of this, and the urgency of this project, we decided to withdraw funds from CIF (Church Investors Fund) to begin land preparation as soon as possible.

Our goal is to have at least one home completed by the end of 2026. With the funds available, we can now begin the first phase, build one home, and start a second. We will keep you updated about this and how much we will need to build the second house (estimates keep changing due to the complexity of the work: the new campus is on the side of a hill). We thank our partner, the North American Baptist Conference, for helping us in this project.

OUR HOUSEPARENTS AT A COUPLE’S RETREAT

Every year, we send our housemothers to a women’s retreat. This year, we thought of something different: a couple’s retreat for our houseparents. Each couple cares for around 10 children from diverse backgrounds and ages—not an easy task. We would love to provide them with a time of rest, renewal, and strengthening in their marriages and ministry.

We are planning to send them to a lovely retreat in mid-September in the highlands of our state and would like to invite you to consider contributing toward this opportunity. The total cost is approximately \$4,120 USD or \$5,700 CAD.

Thank you for being part of this ministry.

God bless you all!

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