
NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL



Leora Legacy, NMI President

April 2019

UCOM Needs and Missions Lobby Display Refresh

UCOM, our food bank partner, needs canned goods, pasta, sauce, rice, cereal and any other non-perishables you can donate. More clients are coming to UCOM for assistance, so continual donations are critical. Bring items to the UCOM bin in the lobby or see Jim and Leora Legacy. Thank you for your help in making sure no one in our Southside area goes hungry.

The **Missions Lobby display** has gotten a refresh thanks to Pastor Walker's great "Global Missions" and "Local Outreach" signs. Leora has added presentation boards to help us visualize how we "do missions" at UBNC. Watch for updates periodically. **Get involved in missions through praying, giving and serving.**

Florida District LINKS Families

David & Tabita Gonzalez (2 children) – Argentina

Beverly Schmelzenbach – Retired/Floral City, FL

Andrew & Hayley Tarrant (2 children) – Texas (*Nazarene Border Initiative & Missionary Kids Care*)

Praise

Alan and Maresa Flood – The Floods have returned to Jacksonville from their two year assignment to Guam. Praise God for their safe return and His help as they adjust to life back "home".

Special Needs Ministry Spreads Across South America – Look of Love, a special needs center in Valparaiso, Chile, opened in 2013 and is led by pastors Lorena and René Noe. Numerous partners have assisted the church in the development and growth of the ministry, and now there are similar ministries in Brazil, Peru, and El Salvador. As this ministry reaches out to children with special needs and their loved ones, those families experience Christ's love firsthand. Give thanks for the Noes and for other Look of Love ministries throughout the Region. Pray for those participating in these ministries.

Prayer

Florida District Advisory Council – This group is the search committee for identify possible candidates for the position of the next Florida District Superintendent. Pray as video interviews continue. A nominee(s) will be presented and voted on by delegates at the Florida District Advance on May 3-4. Pray for the delegates and this vote as well as all the business and workshop sessions at Advance.

Dr. & Mrs. Larry Dennis – Pray for them as they transition into retirement.

Darin and Tonya Kucey – Tonya has returned to Haiti. Pray for Darin. He begins chemo treatments in Nova Scotia. Pray for God's touch on him and for Divine direction in their lives. Pray for Cory as he completes his college work at Olivet on May 11. Prayers for all three children as they deal with concern about their father's health.

Linda Russell – Currently serving in Russia, Linda will begin home assignment soon. Please pray for God to direct as she prepares her presentation, and pray that she might be a blessing as she shares what God is doing on the CIS Field.

Micaela and Ulises Solis – Pray as this couple serves in Guatemala, that God will protect them as they travel to conduct district assemblies. Also, pray for God to raise up a new generation of young people with a call to pastoral ministry so the kingdom of God will grow in El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Guatemala. Additional prayer is needed for spiritual strength of the faculty, staff, and students of the Nazarene Theological Seminary of Guatemala.

“Nazarene Child Sponsorship – Consider This Outreach”

Fascinating Facts

- Nazarene Child Sponsorship began in 1999.
- Nazarene Child Sponsorship is based on a holistic child development model that seeks to simultaneously address all aspects of a child’s life: spiritual, physical, educational, social, and relational.
- More than 18,000 children living in poverty and vulnerability receive care through holistic child development ministries at Nazarene churches around the world.
- Approximately 12,000 children are currently being sponsored through Nazarene Child Sponsorship.
- 236 Nazarene child development centers in 38 countries provide children opportunities to grow into the people God created them to be.
- Children who are sponsored actively participate in their local Nazarene holistic child development center that promotes the healthy development of children spiritually, socially, academically, physically, and, in some contexts, nutritionally.
- 970 volunteers, in addition to staff members, are mobilized to express Christ-like compassion as they care for children through Nazarene child development centers.
- In 2017, 8 million hours were invested in the lives of vulnerable children through Nazarene child development programs.
- **“Child 2020 Initiative” is a new Nazarene Compassionate Ministries (NCM) initiative to mobilize Nazarenes to sponsor 20,000 children by the year 2020.**

Consider Nazarene Child Sponsorship

Followers of Jesus today are taking up the mandate to intervene wherever children are vulnerable and at risk of not reaching their full potential. Nazarene Child Sponsorship is an effective way to help provide a chance for children around the world to thrive and develop.

The Church of the Nazarene exists in more than 160 countries, and approximately 15 percent of Nazarene adherents (members, worshipers, or disciples in a Church of the Nazarene) live in countries where the per capita income is less than US \$5.00 a day. They face the ongoing challenges of unemployment, poor

water and unsanitary conditions, lack of education and opportunities, child labor, and violent conflicts.

Churches of the Nazarene in these world areas have learned to minister to a wide spectrum of the developmental needs of children in addition to the universal human need to know God as their Father, Savior, and Partner.

Since 1985, Nazarene Child Sponsorship has helped tens of thousands of children join a Bible club, get a quality education, learn important life skills, build friendships, eat healthy meals, get leadership training, and feel a part of a supportive and empowering community.

When you sponsor a child, you support not only the child but also the Nazarene Child Development Program reaching out to many children in their community. In areas that experience extreme and chronic poverty, supporting children is an inroad to invest in the development of the broader community. For instance, parents of the children might take part in training to increase their ability to provide basic necessities for their children. In these cases, the catchphrase that Nazarene child development practitioners proclaim is: “it takes a child to raise a village.”

Child Sponsorship also makes a difference in the lives of the sponsors. Many families will sponsor a child, and the children connect with a child far away, sharing interests, stories, and prayer requests. It is heartwarming when language and cultural barriers dissolve and they discover common interests, dreams, values, and beliefs.

Supporting children is like planting seeds. You don’t see growth immediately, and it may take years to see fruit appear. Sponsoring a child takes faith and patience. It can take years to actually see if an investment really paid off. After 19 years of connecting sponsors with children, thousands of children have moved from a Nazarene Child Development Center to the next phase in their lives.

Go to www.NCM.org/sponsor for more information or ask Leora Legacy for a brochure on Child Sponsorship.