

Newsletter May 20 2007

Things are happening here at Gabriel House and we are excited. We have stepped out in faith believing that God would have us own the property we are currently occupying and expand our therapies to the children. To that end we have signed an agreement to buy the presently occupied brick house in Maneadero for the children.

We have known for some time now that the landowners wanted us to either buy the property or move out. The landowners have now hired a lawyer and will pursue eviction. We really do not blame them. We have rented from them for several years (almost 9 years) and they have been very patient and kind to us. I guess when the Lord wants us to act, He changes our circumstances.

We have put \$5,000 earnest money and need an additional \$25,000 by June 1st to close the deal. If we fail to raise the additional money, our earnest money will be forfeited.

This is only one house on the cul-de-sac. We still need to come up with the \$25,000.00 for the empty lot across the street, \$38,000.00 for the white house at the end of the cul-de-sac and \$35,000.00 for the purple house on the cul-de-sac. A total of \$123,000 is needed to secure the entire cul-de-sac and another \$125,000 to complete the purchase of the house we currently occupy. When we own the entire cul-de-sac, we can gate the opening and use its space for a play area for the children. It would also improve the security around Gabriel House. As it is right now, drug dealers and prostitutes use the rooms on the back of the purple house and pose an element of danger and constant thievery to Gabriel House with people coming and going all hours of day and night.

I have always envisioned a visitors greeting area, a special needs learning center, a media center, four-foot deep heated pool for water therapy and dormitories on the second floor to house visitors. This has been my vision on the empty lot for several years.

We could create an enclosed campus providing more opportunities for our children.

- The white house will house our toddlers with house parents.
- The purple house will become a small infirmary, doctor's consulting area, pharmacy and surgery so that visiting surgeons can collaborate with the Mexican doctors in doing much needed surgical procedures for our kids.

The Lord has blessed us with skilled people who have a heart for our kids. Did you know that we now have four groups of senior students that bless us with their hard work and cutting edge knowledge?

Two groups have been coming for 8 years from University of British Columbia providing occupational and physical therapy; and expertise in adjusting and fitting the donated wheelchairs to our special needs kids.

Two groups of senior students that come to Gabriel House from Utah State University. One group is from their speech therapy and communications department; another group are engineers that will make the needed recommendations for handicapped accessible renovations of the buildings we buy.

As most of you know, we are opening a center in San Vicente 40 miles south of here for an advanced learning center for our more capable boys. Angel Baeza has been hired and will be overseeing that work in conjunction with missionary volunteers and paid Mexican national staff.

Some of the needs for the San Vicente facility are: a large working refrigerator, dining table and chairs, 4 sets of bunk beds, washer and gas dryer, kitchen utensils, silverware, plates, glasses, towels, wash clothes, sheets blankets, pillows, TV with DVD player, stereo, paint, thirteen light fixtures, a cordless telephone set, (we have the line). 60 feet of anchor chain fencing and ten 8 foot metal posts. We have the old kitchen cabinets but we are praying that someone will want to build us new handicapped accessible kitchen cabinets so the boys can learn kitchen skills. We also need a couple of dedicated work teams to finish the bathroom renovation and put up the fence.

Thank you for your continued prayers and standing with us.

I dream big because God is big. He loves these children so very much more than I do.

Love in the mighty name of Jesus,

Ted, Renie and the children and staff of Gabriel House