



The Fellowship Child Sponsorship Newsletter

Fall 2023

When you sponsor a child, you make a long-lasting, holistic impact in the life of a child, providing love for today, and hope for tomorrow.

Updates from The Fellowship Child Sponsorship ministry locations.

For more updates on The Fellowship Child Sponsorship ministries and other FAIR projects, visit the FAIR Blog at fellowship.ca/FAIRBlog



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Casa Hogar [Honduras]

Fellowship International missionaries:
Melodie Francis, Rick and Ena Ward

Casa Hogar is a home for marginalized and vulnerable children and youth rescued from the urban streets of Honduras. You can learn more about the ministry at fellowship.ca/HondurasCasaHogar

Summer for the children at Casa Hogar in Honduras is always different than it is for children in Canada—*unless* you are in the bilingual (English-Spanish) program. The bilingual program runs on the North American school calendar and so only five of our children are off from June to August. All the other kids are in school from February to November and have the Christmas time off. This summer, the kids in the bilingual program had swimming lessons! This was a new, exciting, and yes, even scary experience. We will let them tell you about their experience.



Mera (Age 16): “Summer vacation was amazing. I loved swimming lessons. I felt so relaxed afterwards. I liked that while I was in the water I just forgot about everything else and I focused on swimming.”

Alex (Age 11): “I had fun in my swimming lessons. I learned a lot! My teacher made me feel confident and I was able to swim in the deep water.”

Axel (Age 9): “I liked the swimming lessons because it was a lot of fun. I liked the exercises. I am happy that I am not afraid of the water anymore. I was afraid before.”

Pray that as the children at Casa Hogar grow and encounter new life experiences, they would be equally growing in faith and trust in Jesus.

Cedar Home [Lebanon]

Fellowship International missionaries:
Karim and Rita Anayssi

Cedar Home is a Christian home for abandoned newborns, as well as orphaned and disadvantaged Syrian, Palestinian, and Iraqi refugee and stateless girls in Lebanon. You can learn more about the ministry at fellowship.ca/LebanonCedarHome

March was filled with love, including Mother’s Day and Teachers’ Day. Rita (Cedar Home’s Director of Care), and Najiba (the house mom) got a nice surprise from the girls in recognition of their sacrificial love.

April marked our Easter celebration at Cedar Home. Half of the girls in our care come from Muslim backgrounds, yet they were the first to wake up – full of hope and joy. They love that Jesus is alive!

May was inspiring with the graduation of Desire from high school with honours. She started her undergraduate studies in social work this fall. Desire is a testimony of how Cedar Home and its partners are changing lives by God’s grace.

June marked the beginning of renovation work on the boys’ vocational centre, funded through FAIR’s *Good Bones* fall 2022 special appeal. All of the external paint and roof work was completed and the internal renovations began this fall.

Praise the Lord for the work that has already been completed on the boys’ vocational centre. Pray for the girls as they go about life at Cedar Home and that they would grow into godly young women.



Who do you know who may consider sponsoring a child?

We are so thankful that you choose to support the Fellowship Child Sponsorship program. The influence of the holistic care evidenced in this newsletter is only possible through your generosity.

As we add new ministries and new children join our existing ones, the Fellowship Child Sponsorship program is growing. We are praying for 400 new sponsorships this year to reach our sustainability needs. We encourage you to share this newsletter with anyone you think might consider sponsoring a child.

Clementia Life Centre [Lebanon]

Fellowship International missionaries:
Bechara and Roula Karkafi



CLC is a school and community outreach centre that serves Syrian refugee students and their families in Lebanon. You can learn more about the ministry at: fellowship.ca/LebanonClementiaLifeCentre

The summer break is a disadvantage for refugee students, since they spend it on their mobile phones and inside the house! This year, we gave them summer booklets to practice what they've learned and were so encouraged to see how the children studied "for fun". In July, we visited 39 families and distributed food packages prepared by our staff, including some special treats for our students. During one of the home visits, the father of one eight-year-old learner said: "Ahmad keeps singing the worship songs he learned at CLC!" His favourite song is "My Lord Jesus Loves Me". It amazes us how his parents enjoy hearing him sing to Jesus. We praise God for the favour we have in the eyes of these families.

The staff were very thankful for the opportunity to attend training on stress management, inclusion, and language strategies with local partners. They left equipped with games and activities that will help in class during the 2023-2024 school year, which starts in October.

Please pray for open hearts to the Gospel and healing among the families this year. Also, pray for wisdom, protection, joy, and strength for our staff as they serve.

Joy Foundation [Dominican Republic]

Fellowship International missionary:
Helene Hwang



Joy Foundation is a school that serves the children of undocumented Haitians living in the Dominican Republic. You can learn more about the ministry at fellowship.ca/DominicanRepublic

The weather has been exceptionally hot since March, making life and ministry difficult. Some of the children who attend Joy Foundation live without windows or fans. We pray for cool grace to overflow the hearts of these people every day.

From January to August, a total of 10 mission teams came to Joy Foundation to help with children's and youth ministry, local church events, visiting with sponsored children, medical ministry, and even serving the community by painting houses in the extreme heat.

The youth ministry has been especially fruitful. Currently, 10 teenagers are taking English classes through sponsors. We begin our youth ministry by praying with churches in the United States and Canada, and studying God's Word together. The goal of this ministry is to raise disciple-making disciples from this group so that these young people can grow into leaders in their communities. Witnessing the local teenagers shed tears during praise and prayer times is especially encouraging.

Pray that the teenagers who participate in youth ministry will each desire a relationship with Christ that transforms their lives and impacts their communities.

Love Trust [Sri Lanka]

Fellowship International missionary:
Ronald Jeyaseelan



Love Trust is made up of four preschool programs located in rural Sri Lankan communities where extreme poverty is the norm and social services are inaccessible. You can learn more about the ministry at fellowship.ca/SriLankaLoveTrust

In the early part of 2023, Love Trust celebrated the completion of a new building in Lindula which was funded by FAIR's *Heart of the Village* special appeal. This meant that not only were we able to relaunch the pre-school program and church activities, but also the community outreach vocational trainings, such as English and computer literacy to older children and teens, as well as sewing classes to the women.

Late in the spring, it became apparent that the preschool building in Valathapity was no longer fit for use. Over the years, the roof and rafters had been infested by beetles and become structurally unsound. The preschool has been forced to move to a nearby building, which is a temporary solution. However, because it is an outdoor space shared with other community groups – and sometimes wild animals – this isn't a long-term solution. Love Trust is trusting the Lord to provide the \$35,000 needed to repair and renovate the preschool building. We pray that through FAIR's [Love Trust Building Repairs](#) appeal, the children can once again be cared for in their own devoted space.

Please pray for God to provide the funds needed to repair the school building; demonstrating a tangible picture of the love of Christ in action.