

NEWS FROM CHAIN OF LOVE HOMES, BRAZIL

January/February 2009

Dear praying partners of Chain of Love

Everyone was celebrating New Year's at the church and we were set to have a midnight meal of chicken and watermelon. Enaldir, the father from House 8, left to get some chicken but the meal was long finished. Strange: he was nowhere to be found. Naturally, his wife, Nair, was getting upset. Her mood was not helped when she was handed his van keys by a stranger in the church parking lot. Nothing was said as to his whereabouts. More perplexed than ever and while arranging for transportation back to Chain of Love for her family of 10, (a 20 min ride) Nair *finally* received a phone call from Enaldir; he had been in an accident. He was fine, but the motorcyclist suffered a broken ankle. As is all too common here, the motorcyclist had no insurance. Kept at the scene until 3:00 a.m. an exhausted Enaldir finally got back to the church where Nair was still trying to negotiate rides to Chain of Love for their large family. The next day, since his van was in the shop, Enaldir was using his motorcycle to make a delivery. However, a robber put a gun to his head and stole the motorcycle, leaving Enaldir vehicleless.

The next day, word circulated of a red motorcycle for sale. Enaldir's motorcycle was quite rare and easily recognizable, so friends notified him. For \$1,000 US, Enaldir bought his bike back. While this was going on, they were supposed to be going to the beach.

Why do we tell you this? To let you know what our brave houseparents face. The evil one knew their family needed a break from the Chain of Love campus, and did everything he could to stop them. Not only that, a few days later, houseparents Cesar and Marli were preparing to leave for the lake when their car died. Please remember to pray for our houseparents, that they and their families have rejuvenating and fun times away from the campus. Pray for safety—the events I described happen all too frequently.



Enaldir and COL daughter Bruninha

Housekeeping —A new year is upon us, and with it come a few changes to help us serve you better and make office tasks more efficient. The changes apply mainly to those who receive these newsletters via snail mail. The change: instead of receiving every second or third newsletter from Chain of Love, you will now receive every newsletter (two per envelope every 4 months). Also, to save money, we will send newsletters in good quality black and white, rather than poor quality colour. The photo updates of the children will continue to be sent in colour.

We also need your help to make payment processing easier. Please:

- *include* the name of the child/ren you sponsor on your payment;
- *ensure* that you are up-to-date in your payments;
- *ensure* that your sponsorship payment is a multiple of \$30, the monthly sponsorship fee;
- *include* a group name (WMF, Sunday School etc.) on the payment if a group is sponsoring; we need more than the church name

Thank you for your assistance with these items.

Family news—Our family joined Cesar and Marli (House 9) at the beach for a few days. Here's how it works: they rent a two-bedroom house—guys sleep in one room and girls use the other. Parents sleep in the doorway or in a tent and visiting relatives and friends get a room or are asked to bring a tent. Children sleep on the patio or in the rear cooking area. Did they complain that the two-bedroom, one-bathroom house was too small for around 20 people? Not once!

Thank you for your Christmas gifts to your sponsored children. Many have taken off to the beach for January, and 58 of our adolescents head to Bible camp at the beginning of February. Thanks *so much* for your generosity in making this happen.

Christmas photos of the COL families are available on the gallery section of our website.

Rev. Christopher and Ingrid Kidd

Gabriela, Elizabeth and
Adriana at the beach

