



DOMINICAN VISION INC. (DVI)

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2020



“Let us give glory to the Lord and praise His name in the islands” Isaiah 42:12

Wow, what a year this has been...

After school closed in March, we started feeding the children that go to our school and their families, through Pastor Chalas and his family. At that time, we started giving food for one good meal per day to about 500 people. Well, as the world slid further and further into pandemic mode, that number quickly increased to 800, then 1000, then 1200, and **now 1400+ people**. We have 8 co-worker couples who are purchasing food in bulk and making packages to distribute in different villages/churches where they are active. Partial lockdown of the country is still in effect until mid-October.

They, and we, have all prayed that they would not get infected. As of right now, not one of them, or any of their families, *NOR* any people in our main ministry area of Arroyo Seco, have become ill, despite many people in nearby towns contracting the virus. Thank you Jesus, thank you so much for the covering of your protective blood over our friends.

In an email sent about 2 weeks ago, we asked you to consider helping us with the approximately \$70,000 we will need before the end of this year if we are to continue giving food to the hungry and at the same time taking care of the school and the rest of the ministry in the D.R.

Our neighbour in Arroyo Seco, (to the right when looking at the school), owns the 11 acres of land (incl. prayer mountain) next to our school/church. About 10 years ago, he made us a promise that he would only sell the land to us. He liked what we were doing, and we were quiet/peaceful. He knew that we would use the land well.

The neighbour to the left, a German gentleman, also wants to purchase the land. But he is purchasing so he can sub-divide the property and bring in lots of people. That would be alright except Pastor Chalas is very concerned that a bar would soon open and then there would be noise and potential problems due to drinking. The German is willing to pay 1000 pesos per sq. meter. The landowner is asking us for 600 pesos per sq. meter. Now he is willing to sell parcels of the complete property to us so that we can afford it. He and his daughter, who owns half the land, are financially stressed and therefore need to sell NOW. He told the German man that “I have given my word to Walter – that if he continues to purchase parcels on a regular basis, I will sell to him”. For people to keep their promises is not to be taken for granted in the D.R.

The picture below is not the actual land we purchased. The new land is right behind Pastor Chalas house (yellow house) and goes all the way to the foot of prayer mountain. See survey



Picture above shows the view of the land from prayer mountain toward Pastor Chalas house

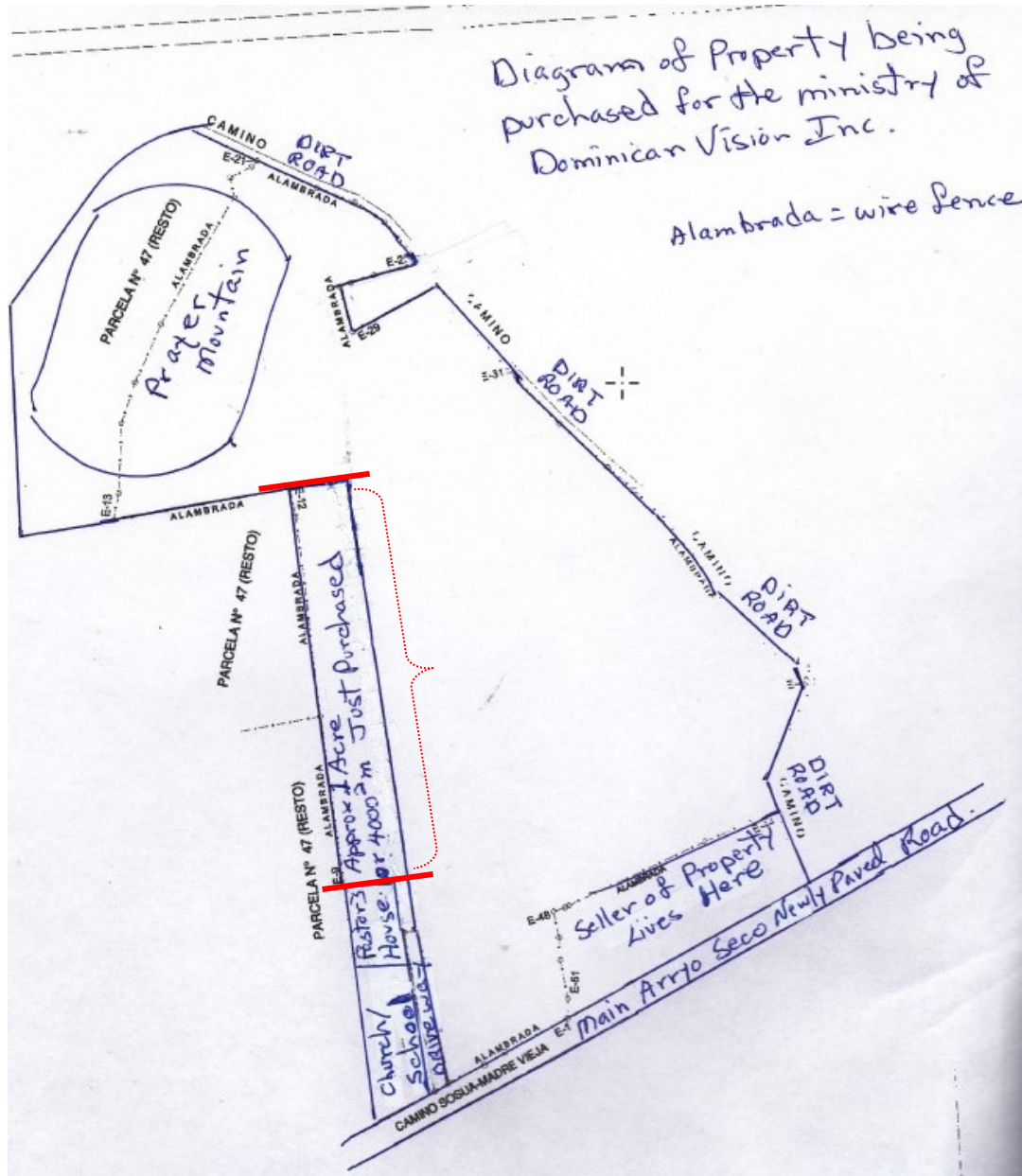
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Anyways, all this is to tell you that 2 weeks ago, we needed \$60,000 for the land. We approached about a dozen couples with respect to this opportunity and a number of them were able to help us with the entire \$60,000. We have therefore made the down-payment and have agreed to pay the rest in December. I must confess, I knew that we would get the money, but did not expect God to move so quickly. To us, this is another sign that what we prayed for is God's will. And when He is behind it, He can make things happen quickly. **We trust that the rest of the finances that we need to operate the ministry to the end of this year, \$70, 000, will also come.** The donations we have already received toward this are greatly appreciated. We realize many of you have already dug deep to support Dominican Vision, and we are so grateful. Perhaps, there are still some that are able to continue helping us take care of the hungry and educate our children in Arroyo Seco.

And the land - Why it is so important to us? We have been telling the people in Arroyo Seco that it is time for us to help them become self-sustainable. That cannot be done unless they see the value in it. After all, they have survived so far, with tourism being the main economic driver. The more important reason is: what if another pandemic hits? And it will according to the Bible. What will happen if the Canadians (whom they truly appreciate) will suddenly not be around to help them out? We do not know how much time we have. **Now is the time to act. Now they can understand why self-sustainability is so important!!**



LAND PURCHASED

To donate by credit card: Dominican Vision <http://dominicanvision.org/donations/> OR
by cheque made out to Dominican Vision & mailed to 307 Oakland Ave. Winnipeg, MB R2G 0B2
For info contact Walter Warkentin by e-mail: walterw@mymts.net or by phone: 204-298-1297