



# DOMINICAN VISION INC. (DVI) CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2021

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



Dear friends,

## WE COULD NEVER HAVE IMAGINED...

### 1. ...THE IMPACT OF OUR FOOD DISTRIBUTION – for 1.5 years!



Pastor Chalas (shown with Pastora Jenny, Carol and Walter) was in charge of the overall program for 7 other leaders in numerous communities who received varying amounts of money. *“The food kept HOPE ALIVE in the Dominicans, they knew that every 2 weeks there was food coming.”* He and his family helped about 240 + people in Arroyo Seco and 2 other villages. Most were unemployed.



Karen C: *“You have no idea of the impact you (DVI) have made with the food”.*

Karen helped over 350 people with food in a number of villages. She works with the poorest of the poor. Many are old + sick, lots of Haitians. Little to no employment.



Pastora Ramona (shown with translator Noemi): *“No one helped us, not the government, not other churches, not rich Dominicans, but you (Canadians) did!”*

No one got covid in their ministry area. They meet 5 days a week to pray at 3 PM – they give the glory to God. They helped 80 people.



Pastor Antonio (Nego) and Elsa Martinez (shown with Carol and Walter). They had 15 people become Christians in their area (2 baptisms in their tiny church).

He tells his people that God loves them and is providing food via the Canadians. They helped 240 + people.



Pastora Morena (Alexandrina Sotnas). During the first lockdown, she started to pray and pray - not for herself or her family, but for the Christian Addiction Centre in Puerto Plata, that she is involved with. With no way to get food, they would have to close. She was so sad that day. Then she got the call from Pastor Chalas that the Canadians had sent food money and chosen her to distribute food in her area. She helped 110 people in her church and area, as well as 40 people at the addiction centre. (shown with Carol and Walter)



Pastor Alejandro: *“The government handed out food - in highly populated areas - 2 or 3 times - and then stopped. God had another plan. (The plan was Dominican Vision).”*

They helped about 150 people.





Pastor Winston and Kathi (shown with Carol and Walter):  
*"We saw the hand of God working in the food distribution".*  
 They drive one hour to end of road, then walk one hour to a remote village. They helped 112 people.

Lully and Yanny (shown with Carol and Walter). They knocked on certain doors of the neediest in their neighbourhood and said:  
*"Come to our house, we have a blessing for you!"*  
 People were overwhelmed to get a big bag of food! They helped 80 people.



## 2. ...THAT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO BUY "PRAYER MOUNTAIN" AND SURROUNDING LAND



The fenced in area is the one acre we purchased last year.

Besides squash and corn, most of it is planted with yucca (green plants on left of fence).

The squash is harvested and our garden is planted with yucca and the plants looked good. (picture on left)



The harvest of corn was small, probably due to insufficient rain (being dried for chicken feed). The new well is very important.



On their recent trip to the DR, Walter and Carol were able to pay down 55% of the asking price of these 7.5 acres. Purchasing Prayer Mountain and the land next at our school/church has always been our goal, but it seemed impossible due to the high price of land near the north coast of the D.R. We did this with donations from 12 businesses and families.  
**Praise God!**

Prayer Mountain and flat land on west side.  
 Prayer Mountain (middle of picture) and flat land on east side.



## 3. ...THAT WE WOULD HAVE 100 CHILDREN IN OUR SCHOOL



This is more kids than we have had for many years.  
**We have 17 children needing sponsors.** Cost is \$40.00/month.  
 Contact Barb Hodgkinson. ([barb@dominicanvision.org](mailto:barb@dominicanvision.org))  
 The children are excited to be in school again, after one year of at home learning. They are fed a hot meal daily – mainly rice and beans.  
**PHOTOS FOR SPONSORS ARE COMING.**

DVI will sponsor a Christmas party with a meal for the kids and the staff.

### OUR SCHOOL NEEDS:

- ✚ A new propane stove. Ours is rusted out. **\$650.00**
- ✚ School supplies. They were all used up in the pandemic. We can buy in the D.R. **\$360.00**
- ✚ 3 laptops minimum (new or gently used). **\$1500.00**  
 Right now, we have only 4 laptops for 100 kids





## NEW TEAM MEMBER!

Our Team is very excited to welcome Kristie Sidwall to our Team (Board of Directors). Kristie is the Senior Ministry Director of Masterworks Dance Studio (YFC) in Winnipeg and has been on a number of D.R. trips with her older dancers (teen girls leadership program). She is married to Kyle and they have 2 junior high age sons.



## FINANCES

In 2019, our operating expenses were about \$150,000.00. This included maintaining our school, the van, church and all other ministries.

In 2020, our operating expenses were about the same, but in addition we gave food daily to an average of 1200 people (\$130,000.00). We also purchased one acre of land for \$60,000.00.

In 2021 (this year), our operating expenses will be as high as 2020. Even though we were unable to do major projects (Covid), all our costs are very high because of massive inflation. The average cost of the food distribution rose to about \$140,000.00. We helped an average of 1,300 people per day (1500 per day for the first 7 months). We were also able to place a 55% deposit (\$190,000.00) on the 7.5 acres of land described on previous page.

**WOW, we can hardly believe how God moved in so many people's hearts to donate to what we firmly believe is our mandate from God to fulfill in the D.R. We continue to need your help to build God's kingdom in the D.R. You can appreciate that with all the expenses, our bank account is depleted. In fact, we still need \$20,000.00 to meet our commitments for this year.**

**We know we have asked a great deal of all of our supporters in the past, but we humbly ask again for your prayer and financial help!**



We are so pleased to announce that we have 2 build teams going to the D.R. at the end of January 2022. They will erect a building to protect our new water well and another small building to house the streaming equipment used by Pastor Chalas, a ladies' and a youth group to broadcast from.



## GOD BLESS YOU AND MERRY CHRISTMAS!

From the Dominican Vision Team

Walter & Carol Warkentin, Betty Giesbrecht, Ted & Esther Wogberg, Deen Kroll, Kristie Sidwall & Pastor Hipolito Chalas

*We are deeply grateful for your continued help and prayers!*



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



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