

TALITA CUMI CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

Taking her by the hand he said to her, "Talitha cumi," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." (Mark 5:41)

On March 19, Talita Cumi celebrated its 20th birthday. The home hosted a special event that included all of the current Talita Cumi team and board members, the children, and special guests like former board members and directors and even children who grew up in the home and have since begun their adult lives.

The anniversary was commemorated with worship songs, a skit, a dance by the little ones (pictured left), a quartet (pictured left), and special words from team members, the children's pastor, and some of the children as well. Former volunteers and missionaries who used to serve at the home sent their greetings by video. A number of Talita Cumi friends joined us live via Zoom from the United States. It was a festive night full of gratitude for all that the Lord has done and for those who have given so much of their lives to the home over the years.

We would like to thank all of the supporters and friends of Talita Cumi for their sacrificial giving through the years and all of their prayers. We are grateful for your partnership, and we look forward to another 20 years, relying entirely on God's good favor, his faithfulness, and his mercies.

Thank you!



If you were to visit Talita Cumi today, it would nearly appear like a completely new home. Earlier this year we painted the boys' living room, hallway, and all three of the bedrooms. Each boys' room has a beautiful verse on the wall. Additionally, a large, new window was added to the youngest boys' room that provides more light and ventilation. We've acquired new workstations for the children to take their school classes via Zoom and we installed an AC unit in the computer room. We converted an unused bedroom into a classroom for the little ones. We also built a new addition for the children to do their serigraphy (silk screen printing). Thank you for all of your donations to make this possible!



The boys painting their living room.



"I can do all things in Christ."

All of the children are taking their core classes like natural science, social studies, and mathematics, and some of the children are also taking English and French. Two of the older girls, Ana and Helen, are taking a tailoring course at a nearby institute. Nicol is taking a course on how to make party decorations for special events. Lider is taking a course at an electrician school. He desires to leave the home in a couple years with his state-approved electrician's certification.

Taking school classes by Zoom presents its technical difficulties and sometimes sending in homework is easier said than done, but all of the aunts and children are adapting well.



Juan Pablo received a certificate in serigraphy from an institute.



Ana, working on a skirt for her tailoring class.

The children are advancing well with respect to their emotional maturity and problem solving skills. This is an update on the children's emotional health from Talita Cumi's psychologist Angela (pictured right):

"In the different spaces where the boys and girls meet, it is observed that they try to find a solution to the small problems they face. There are fewer tantrums among the little ones; this means that they are learning to manage their emotions. They are observed with a greater predisposition to collaborate with their aunts or with a partner on some specific task. They are more reflective when they have to make a decision, which means that they are understanding that every action has its consequence. They are more participatory in social activities. The children have advanced in verbalizing their needs and emotions. It is very gratifying to see these small changes in the lives of our children in Talita Cumi. This is the work of God in the children."



María Fernandez is a new educator at the home (pictured bottom right). Here are her observations about the children's educational progress:

"Regarding education and especially learning processes at Talita Cumi, we know and understand that, due to each child's life story, they have not been able to access adequate stimulation in the early years of their childhood, which is currently reflected in the learning problems observed in their academic performance. However, despite the limitations of their difficulties, they manifest a desire, an interest and a motivation to improve themselves and show that they can perform better. Since the beginning of this year, I have started the psycho-pedagogical support program, in order to be able to intervene and adequately stimulate the children's educational needs at an integral level."



"In these few months of work, we have been able to notice small changes and progress, which cause great joy for the team as the children seek to meet the expectations of their aunts, meet school goals, and maintain proper conduct according to the rules of the home and the word of God. We have a long way to go because we work not only to overcome the educational part, but also for a comprehensive development of quality, which in the long term continues to benefit their lives."



We recently celebrated Father's Day at Talita Cumi. Many of the children honored the uncles who work at the home with special words of gratitude and cards.



Prayer Requests

Please continue to pray for the health and education of the children and the aunties who help them with their homework. The staff need lots of perseverance day in and day out to keep all of the technology going.

Please keep some of the younger children in your prayers (Milagros, Efren, Carmelo, and Freddy) who are experiencing some learning difficulties and are behind in school. They are working with María Fernanda who is our new educational psychologist.

Thank you for the prayers for the health of the team members. A number of them have fallen ill over the past year (some with COVID), but all have recovered.