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A look back, A look ahead, financial report, Items for donation, Buenos Aires school, Churches and communities, A Message from Rivas', Temporary relocation, Church visits, Hope Mission DuBois, , Praises & Opportunities, Contributions

## Christian Dominican Evangelistic Mission

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Striving to reach  
Monte Cristi and  
the surrounding  
areas with the  
saving message of  
Jesus Christ.

Website: [CDEMDR.org](http://CDEMDR.org)

### Christian Dominican Evangelistic Mission

c/o Rhonda DeBuhr  
2922 West 4th St.  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

### Rivas family

Alberto, Abigail, Jonathan  
Rivas  
439 N. Division St.  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
319-248-9511



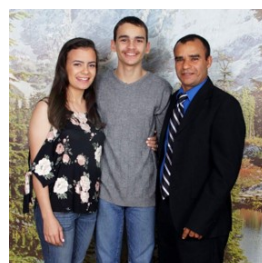
### A look back--2018

We reflect with praise and awe at the work of our great Father, how He continues to orchestrate His divine plan and demonstrate His faithful promises to the people of the DR. Challenges and trials in 2018 tested our faith and proved again how He provides resources



### Buenos Aires school

Alberto facilitated evaluation of the school in Buenos Aires with regard to it's leadership, financial stability, and compliance with the Department of Education. Consultation



### A Message from the Rivas family

Abigail, Jonathan and Alberto wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope God will fill you with many blessings. Receive greetings from church

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to reach Monte Cristi and the surrounding areas with the saving message of Jesus Christ. This is accomplished by establishing churches and discipleship of individuals to live and lead in a manner that exemplifies the teachings of the Holy Bible. The school in Buenos Aires supports our vision through the opportunity to reach children and families with education and God's Word.



## A look ahead--2019

With much prayer for God's leading, we look for continued growth and blessing in the school, churches, and communities served. As the Lord provides we will strive toward the goals:

### School

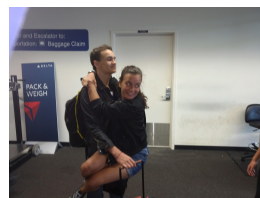
- \*Increase in number of students in grades preK-3rd grade
- \*Make the school more comfortable for the students
- \*Complete the playground to meet Department of Education requirements
- \*Help parents to give more help to students at home
- \*Provide more activities with the children and parents
- \*Prepare to expand to all day school and eventually add grades 4-6

### Churches

- \*Leaders from all churches to collaborate and plan more activities together
- \*Encourage more fellowship and friendship with the members, pastors, and leaders
- \*Host activities and invite community members
- \*Facilitate activities to increase resources for self-sustaining churches (ie play dominoes with men--when you bring fathers in you bring families in; potlucks, beach activities)

establishing and operating a school in the DR helped to identify opportunities for improved efficiency and standards for the school. Efforts to implement the identified changes resulted in a change of leadership, changes in curriculum and changes to meet governmental standards. The outcome reflects overall improved efficiency, governmental compliance, and service to the student.

- After evaluation of financial feasibility to meet all requirements and support the students, 4th--6th grades were eliminated for the 2018-2019 year. Currently, 88 students are enrolled in PreK (3 year old) through 3rd grades.
- Finances were more manageable with the support received from donors, although a financial deficit remains. CDEM is collaborating with Hope Mission DuBois to increase student sponsorship. They have been long-term supporters and workers in the school and church communities.
- Curriculum changes to meet government requirements have resulted in positive reports from the Department of



## Rivas' temporary relocation

We are thankful that Jonathan and Abigail are thriving and doing well here in the US. Abigail is visiting colleges as she is set to graduate this year. Alberto is encouraged and happy about their being settled in and doing so well. He will also share that his heart is with the people of the DR and desires to return there as the Lord leads. He continues to fulfill his leadership role with the mission through constant communications with the church pastors and leaders, as well as the school leaders. Alberto was back in the DR in November and plans to be there for the month of February while mission teams are scheduled there. His leadership role and oversight of the mission has not changed, with the exception that he is not physically there. Interestingly, CDEM had been advising Alberto to delegate more to the church pastors and leaders, which he had been working towards. We see this as part of God's plan and a good opportunity for the national DR leaders. Alberto plans to return to the DR for the summer months, and Jonathan plans to stay with family in the US. Abigail will graduate in May 2019 and

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## Financial report

God consistently provides and meets our needs as He has promised. While the financial health of CDEM has gained some stability with improved efficiency of the school, there is opportunity for 2019. CDEM is in the process of collaborating with Hope Mission DuBois and their child sponsorship program

The mission, including the churches and school in the DR, are 100% funded by our supporters. Giving from church members supports the individual churches with expenses such as utilities, supplies and some church maintenance. This giving also helps with community needs such as people with sickness.

2019 projected budget reflects a monthly deficit of \$972 and annual deficit of \$19650

- Projected total annual expenses- \$100,050
- Projected monthly operational expenses= \$7,672
  - Mission expenses- \$4,756 monthly
  - School expenses- \$2,916 monthly
- 2019 Projected total annual support= \$ 80,400
- Projected monthly support= \$ 6700 (Based on last 6 months of 2018)

**A full itemized budget is available upon request.**

## Items for donations

We are often asked if there are specific items that individuals can provide to help support CDEM. Here are some needs that you

meeting their standards.

- New Director of the school is very organized and has improved processes, especially in the areas of record keeping for the students and reporting to the Department of Education.



## Churches and communities

Alberto's prayerful desire to see the churches strengthened with Dominican pastors and workers resulted in thriving churches reaching people for Christ, meeting Biblical standards.

**Barrero--**Pastor Martin and Marta

- Increased community work
- Increased church attendance, with membership at 40. 5 have been baptized in 2018
- Church leaders are active in visiting the sick in the community.
- Services are held in different homes each week in addition to regular church services.

starting college in the fall. Alberto plans to be in the US with Jonathan during the school months, with periodic returns to the DR, through the next three years, including the summer months when school is not in session.. Upon Jonathan's anticipated graduation in spring of 2021, Alberto plans to return to the DR on a full time basis. Please pray for Alberto as he continues to seek guidance from God through this temporary relocation to the US, for the benefit of his children..




## Rivas' church visits

Abigail, Jonathan, and Alberto are excited and eager to visit all our supporting churches, or any church who is interested. They are prepared to share information about the mission, school, their family, and the people of the Dominican Republic. Please contact Alberto or CDEM if you are interested in inviting them to your church to share.



## Hope Missions DuBois, Inc.

Hope Missions DuBois, Inc. has a history of support, investment, and a great heart for the school in Buenos Aires, Dominican Republic. We

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<p>•Copy machine/Printer for the school office--\$347</p> <p>•Sponsor school Christmas party--\$460 (9 employees \$40 each--students \$100 total)</p> <p>•Sponsor school activities--\$600 (Trip=\$350, graduation=\$100, year end activities=\$100)</p> <p>•Coloring books</p> <p>•Learning games for initial level</p> <p>•Pencils</p> <p>•Books in Spanish for students to read</p> <p>•4 metal lockers for the classrooms--\$304 each</p>	<p>activities and increasing help in the community</p> <p><b>Monte Cristi--Pastor Ramon and Rmaida</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased church attendance, baptizing and adding 3 new families in 2018</li> <li>• People coming from surrounding communities with their own transportation--no van transportation.</li> <li>• Increase outreach in the community with church leaders.</li> <li>• 3 weddings are planned in December 2018</li> <li>• 2019--more door to door outreach, more church activities inviting the community in</li> </ul> <p><b>Buenos Aires</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many people in the community receive help from the school leaders and church pastors/leaders from Barrero and Monte Cristi</li> <li>• 2019--hold activities in the church for the community, with goal of church services when a Godly pastor is raised up by God.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mamey &amp; Navas,</b> Haitian churches, located in the province of Porta Platte--Pastor Isaïs and family</p>	<p>the help of other mission groups, classes began with 35 students.</p> <p>Now, the school has over 80 students, Pre-K through 3rd grade. Employees include 6 teachers, 1 Director, 1 security guard and 1 person to prepare meals for the children and help keep the school clean. Hope Missions is coming together with CDEM to help in all ways possible to meet the financial needs of the school. We are asking you to join with us and make a decision to give the opportunity for an education that will guide and direct in spritual growth, along with basic and physical needs. Over the past 7 years we have tried to facilitate sponsorship of individual students. It is difficult for record keeping and communications with sponsored students, due to frequent family relocation for jobs, and family changes. We have changed our sponsorship method to encompass the school. Sponsoring a student is \$35 per month. When you sponsor, we will send you a picture of the students and teachers to pray for. You can send monthly checks of \$35, or a check of \$420 for the year per student sponsored. Your sponsorship will bless these children with books, uniforms, school supplies, daily meals and teacher's salaries. 100% of your support goes directly to the school. We know you will be greatly blessed! We are a 501C3 organization and will give you a tax receipt at the end of each year. Please pray and ask God how you can partner with us to keep this school going for these dear children. Thank you and God bless. David and Lena Ogershok</p>	
 <p><b>Praises and Opportunities</b></p> <p><b>Praises</b></p> <p>For the work and dedication of Alberto, the entire ministry team, their families, and the school teachers and staff.</p> <p>For the people of the Dominican Republic, and the opportunity to share God's great love.</p> <p>For those coming to know Him through the church and school ministries in the DR.</p> <p>For providing resources through contributions and prayer support to continue to reach people in the DR for Christ.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Prayer requests</b></p> <p>Help for Alberto, Abigail and Jonathan to know and follow what God wants them to do.</p> <p>For CDEM leaders &amp; Pastors--we desire to understand how we can obey Him.</p>			

spiritual needs of the parents, students, teachers, and community.

- places each Sunday
- 13 baptized in both churches combined in 2018
  - Isais uses a large motorcycle and trailer that he made to transport Haitians for church function
  - Memey has 48 members that have been meeting in a coffee house. Members go out to pray with people in the community three times each week.
  - Navas fluctuates with 61 members, 9 have been steady, others come and go as they are immigrant and move frequently.

Hope Missions DuBois, 957 2nd Ave, Brockway, PA, 15824.  
Contact us for other available payment options.  
You can also reach us at 814-265-1268.  
[www.hopemissionsdubois.com](http://www.hopemissionsdubois.com)



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Contributions

Please consider donating--one time gifts, student or teacher sponsorships, or participation in a short term mission trip.

Financial contributions may be sent to:

- CDEM, c/o Riverview Conference Center, 439 N. Division Street, Cedar Falls, IA 50613
- Website: [CDEMDR.org](http://CDEMDR.org) website

Short term mission trips may be arranged through Alberto Rivas @ [montecristicdem@yahoo.com](mailto:montecristicdem@yahoo.com) or 319-248-9511.

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