Amistad Prayer Friends Information Sheet 2020

Thank you for being a prayer friend for a child or staff member at Amistad Mission. Your commitment helps unite through Christ your life to theirs and blesses our mission in the U.S. and in Bolivia. It is the expectation of the children that you will take this commitment seriously. They look forward to being in relationship with you, and you have an opportunity not only to be their dependable friend and intercessor but also a witness to the love of Christ.

How does the Prayer Friend program work?

- 1. We are providing you with a picture and a biographical sketch of your new friend.
- 2. Establish the relationship with your prayer friend by mailing a card or letter (in English or Spanish) to him or her, along with a picture of yourself. This should include your name, family connections, hobbies/interests, and perhaps a few words about why you wish to be their "friend." Please also include your email, mailing address, and birthday.

The Bolivian postal service can be slow and unreliable. The best way to send correspondence is with a group visiting Amistad. You may contact Exec. Director Chris King at cking@amistadmission.org to find out when the next group will visit Bolivia and the address to which correspondence should be sent.

- 3. Electronic communication is also a great way to keep in touch with your prayer friend. Emails, ecards, and photos can be sent to your prayer friend through Verónica Vargas, Amistad's Prayer Friends Coordinator in Bolivia. Contact Verónica at: prayforamistad@gmail.com
- 4. Please only send lightweight, small spiritual gifts to your prayer friend (e.g. cross necklaces, prayer bracelets, rosaries, devotionals) and do not send material items like toys and electronics. We want to make sure that there is not disparity in what the children receive materially from prayer friends. You are invited to make a financial donation to Amistad that will be used to purchase resources in Bolivia to meet the children's needs.
- 5. On Easter, Christmas, and the birthday of your prayer friend (in addition to any other time during the year you wish to correspond with them), please send a card, letter, email, or ecard. The children cherish these notes and pictures and keep them in scrapbooks and shoeboxes. If possible, it is best to send the cards well in advance (1-2 months) of these special days, so that coordination arrangements can be made for delivery.

Whenever you find yourself praying, include your prayer friend by name. Thank you for your commitment to be in relationship for years to come. Amistad Mission relies on caring individuals like you to bring a safe and healthy life to God's precious children in Bolivia. You will be blessed!