

March 2020

THE GOOD SAMARITAN



For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.
HEBREWS 6:10 NASB

Such a work has been carried out over these last 25 years, done out of love for God, serving men who day after day have listened to His word, having the alternative between their old way of life and The Only Way, the only Truth and the only Life.

25

Anniversary

This February 28th, the day of Andalusia*, we celebrated the 25th anniversary of our opening the Good Samaritan Center. With the presence of 160 people, we thanked God for His faithfulness and provision over all these years. [*regional holiday celebrating the 1980 recognition of political autonomy for Andalusia].

The director of the Center, Roland Weinmann, led an act of recognition of the work of the technical team and volunteers, mentioning especially his wife Sabine, Francis and Nathalie Arjona, and the monitors Jesús Gómez and José Javier Rodríguez. Then we heard the testimony of one of the residents, and sang praises led by a group of brethren from the “Christ to the Nations” church of Puente Genil. The residents also sang two songs. Samuel Arjona sent a framed version of a picture he had taken for the Center, a pleasant surprise for all.

That part of the program ended with a talk by psychologist Rene Abrego about standards for and levels of drug abuse prevention.



Needless to say, Manuel Fernández and his helpers delighted us yet again with their various salads and two large paellas. As a new thing this year, we had a sale of wooden objects made by the residents, to raise funds for the new van. We also had some “flea market” tables, and the dessert-making contest was won... by one of the residents!



Finally, to mark this quarter century, we planted 25 olive trees, some of which were adopted by visitors, who left their name on a sign hung on their tree. It was really a nice day, and the good weather was with us all day long.

We want to thank all the people who have helped and allowed it to be possible!

We also give thanks to the people who made the effort of coming from a long distance away to help us—from Murcia, Madrid, Cádiz, Seville, Jaen and Cordoba.

*God has been faithful through all these 25 years, and has allowed us to care for almost 600 men
!To Him be the honor and the glory !*

Drug Abuse Prevention Talks

Salesian School



February 12th and 13th, in the Salesian School of Pozoblanco, we gave drug abuse prevention talks to many young people between 14 and 18 years old. The talks dealt with adolescence and its relationship with drug abuse and dependency, as well as with social, emotional, intellectual and physical factors involved in avoiding drug abuse. The psychologist of the Good Samaritan Association, Rene Abrego, interacted with approximately 60 young people, who asked and answered questions about the topic.

We know that we must be careful to be coherent between our theory and our practice, so one of the residents of the Center who is close to finishing his program of rehabilitation gave his life's testimony. He shared how he started doing drugs and how it affected his life and family, and then shared the progress achieved in our program of whole-person rehabilitation, in the emotional, cognitive, behavioral and spiritual areas.



Acquisition of the van



We want to thank all the donors who have collaborated in the purchase of the new vehicle. We still lack 16% of its price, but due to overwhelming need, we decided to go ahead and buy it, with the hope that the remaining amount will come in. If you have not yet participated, we encourage you to help us get that total to 100% paid.



Again, our thanks to all the people, churches, entities and local businesses who have made this project a reality..



!Thanks!



Testimony of Jesús



23 years ago, at age 28, I put my life at the feet of the Lord Jesus, handing myself over to Him. At the time, I never imagined what would come after that day in November.

Since I was very young, I started to consume drugs, in the neighborhood of Vallecas, in Madrid, and at age 17 I got hooked on heroin. It was soon clear that heroin was a problem in my life, but even though I did programs—both therapeutic communities and walk-in programs—I could never be more than six months without consuming the drug. My life became ungovernable, even to the point of living in the street, and I was rejected by my family, which was fed up with struggling with me.

The truth is, I don't remember how I ended up in a Christian center, in the province of Granada. I remember that the feeling of wanting to die was deep in me, and only the lack of "courage" kept me from killing myself. I went through a withdrawal routine, accompanied by an attendant, and every time I left the room where I slept, there was a picture on the wall with the Bible verse from John 10:10—"I have come that you may have live in abundance," and those words hammered away at my head and heart.

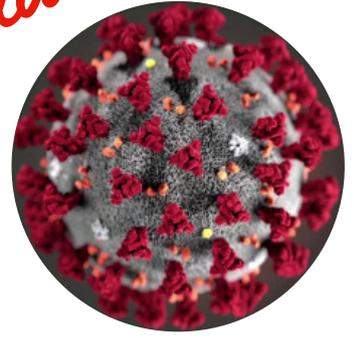
I don't remember the exact moment of my conversion; what I do remember is that in a Sunday worship service, where they let me come in, I spoke to God and told Him, "If You are the true God, either kill me or get me off of drugs!" and I started to cry. Something was removed from me, and it was the weight of the guilt that I had from so many years of doing evil. As the days went on, I started reading a New Testament, which I kept hidden, and reading the letter to the Hebrews, I realized what Jesus did for me, and gave Him my life. It has been 23 years since that time, and I have reconciled with my family, who respect me now, and I have been married for 20 years. The Lord has allowed me to work at the Good Samaritan Center, where I help people with the problem of addiction, with the conviction that real full recovery is possible only in Jesus, who died for us even though we didn't deserve it. He has also allowed me to study towards being a preacher of His Word.

Many thanks for your prayers for my operation, which was a success, thank God, and now I am adapting to another lifestyle, giving the best of myself.

Prayer requests

You all know the situation we are living through in these days of the pandemic. Our income has been reduced. We ask for your prayers so that we might be able to keep caring for our residents, given that the Center is their place of residence, at this moment. We have reduced our technical team in their daily work, we have taken scheduled shifts at the Center, and the rest of the people are following the governmental guidelines. Please pray for the health of all the technical personnel and the residents, so that we might overcome this situation, which is so difficult and complex.

The latest!



**Only 16%
remains**

WE'RE ALMOST THERE !

**We thank all the people and churches
(inside and outside of Spain), private
organizations and local businesses for their
donations.**

We only lack 16 %

Thanks !

PLEASE HELP US GET THE REST !

• YOU CAN SEND YOUR GIFT, SPECIFYING "NEW VAN" TO: "FURGONETA"

• ES21 0237 0054 3091 5377 0772

• BIC: CSURES2CXXX

or

• ES30 2100 2093 9501 0024 0142

• BIC: CAIXESBB

• ONLINE : <http://www.buensam.org/colabora.htm>



You can also support the Good Samaritan ministry :

- Buying our olive oil
- Sending any gift
- Adopting olive trees

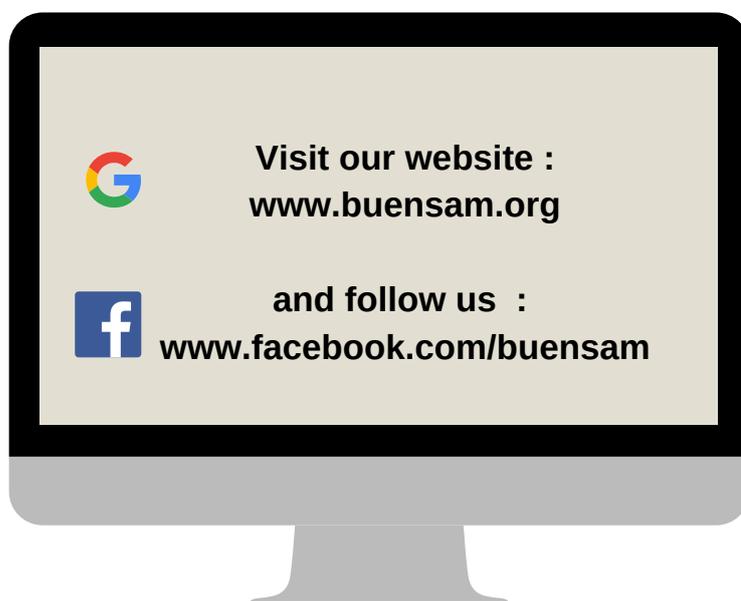


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¡Thank you to those you have already answered!



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