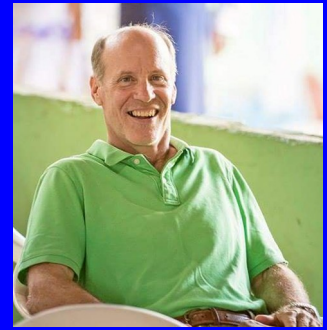




Bob Leshner

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2022



Hello friends, thanks for taking the time to read the letter. I appreciate the connection as well as your prayers and financial support.

This month I want to give some details of a project I mentioned last month that I'm evolved with.

Two member of our church , which happen to be brother and sister, Anthony and Amanda have been in wheel chairs since they were children. They were born with a spinal birth defect which has impaired their growth. A diagnosis of "SMA" with in the first 3 months of life insures a short life, not more that 5 years. Anthony and Amanda are now in their early 20's. What a testimony to The Lord sustaining power!

So, a little bit of their recent history. Anthony and Amanda have had support from mostly family and friends because they are about 98% dependent on others to do everything for them. Although life is difficult for them, they have had a good support structure, until recently. Tragedy has visited them several times in the past few years. Their older step brother, who was a great help for them, suddenly committed suicide. Their mother, due to covid complications, passed away in 2021. This has been a huge strain on this family as you can imagine. It has cause a relational strain between Anthony, Amanda and the father. To take care of them, is both time demanding as well as physically demanding. The father works as a police officer. So, with that type of stress and with his family situation, his life is really difficult.

Anthony had the idea to start a fund raising campaign to raise money to obtain motorized wheel chairs for the both of them which would give them a measure of independence.

I became aware of the project and wanted to help. So, through the help of my Pastor Michael Hansen, I was put in contact with Samaritan's Purse. They in turn put me in contact with a ministry that provides wheel Chairs to people in South America, "Friends of the Disabled Latin America (FRIDLA) , but unfortunately not to Brazil. This country has very strict import regulations and heavy taxes on items. It is very difficult to import to Brazil. We have spent many hours researching the import process. The difficulties basically lies in the structure in which Brazil processes imports. They use private companies to do the processing. Because Macapa is not a port of entry there are no companies here. The computer system is the other problem ranging from data entry by the companies to coded items within the system. We have also spent time investigating ways to circumvent the process which would leave us having to something we can't do. The Lord put me in contact with someone in the south of Brazil whose company exports to the U.S. So, with his knowledge he could helps us, although he has no experience importing. But, we are hopeful that this person could help us get the chairs from FIDLA even though this is also unclear how this will get done. We have recently experienced delays in the process due to FIDLA personnel unable to work. So, this has been a long road. We've been working on this since before Christmas.



There are significant obstacles in front of us. But we are still, trusting and believing Jesus will helps get the chairs. Please engage with us in prayer to overcome these difficulties.

If your are interested in receiving more information about Amanda and Anthony's project please respond to the newsletter. Please Pray for Anthony and Amanda!

Thanks so much for your support!

God Bless you all!

Bob Leshner