



EMERALD'S JEWELS NIAMEY, NIGER



WE PRESS TOWARD THE GOAL

Yolanda Zimmerman - Directress of Joseph's Place

AUGUST 2020

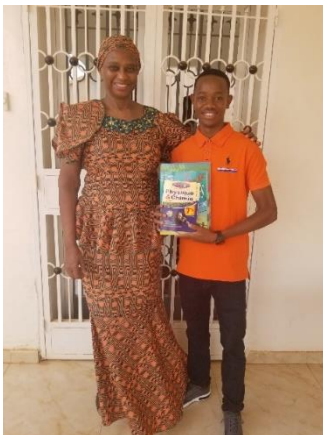
JOSEPH'S PLACE CHILDREN'S RESIDENCE

Children

The school year ended for the 6th graders, our middle school student and our high school student on July 15th. House father Pastor Omar, his family, and the remaining children returned to their villages a couple of days later.

Education

We had an overall successful school year and only missed the mark in a few cases. We have plans for adjustments next school year.



First, our high schooler finished 3rd in his class and was awarded math and science books for his final year of school. This is the first time he has attended a private school and the first time he has ever had all the books, supplies and equipment (e.g. calculator, laptop, cell phone) he needed for school. He did an outstanding job with a curriculum that is heavy in math and science.

We are very proud of him!



All our 6th graders (CM2) passed the comprehensive exams! One student placed 1st in a class of 23, another placed 9th.





16 of our 24 primary school children placed in the top 10 in their classes! After school tutoring and studying together on their own really paid off.

We plan to adjust the tutoring program next school year for the few that did not do as well. We will provide more individual attention to children just learning to read, write, and speak the French language. We will place children in tutoring groups based on language proficiency rather than grade level.

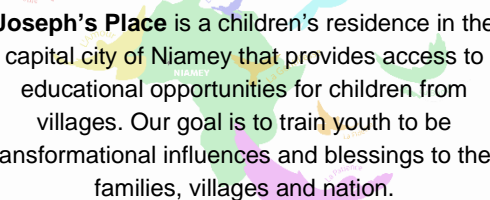
We are also looking for apprenticeships and technical schools for those students who are gifted with working with their hands, e.g., welding, auto mechanics, tailoring, etc.

Health

We are in good health overall. The coronavirus infection rate remains very low here. We are praying for protection against this disease. **Joseph's Place also continues to pray for the United States and for all who are suffering from this pandemic.**

Housing

Several pastors have asked if they can send their children to Joseph's Place. I would love to accept more children, but we do not have the space. Although we want to accommodate as many children as possible, we want to follow the leading and provision of God foremost. I believe that if God wants us to expand now, He will provide. **Please join us in praying that God will provide a suitable facility at the right time and send more people with pastors' hearts to love and care for our children.**



Joseph's Place is a children's residence in the capital city of Niamey that provides access to educational opportunities for children from villages. Our goal is to train youth to be transformational influences and blessings to their families, villages and nation.

PARTNERSHIP WITH VIE ABONDANTE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Activities

After final exams, and athletic tests using sports equipment supplied by Emerald's Jewels, we treated the 6th graders to fresh milk and bakery cookies. Thank you to everyone who contributed to taking our 6th graders to the next level!



OTHER PROJECTS

Bounteloungou Relief Project

It always amazes me when God hears the prayers of people, often unknown to each other, and orchestrates the meeting of these people so that the answer to their prayers are found in each other. On my initial mission trip to Niger, Neal and Danette Childs took us to minister at a village called Bounteloungou. I saw malnutrition in children for the first time as I held a baby whose body was thin and stomach was swollen. This affected me greatly and was one of the reasons I wanted to return to Niger and make some impact with the resources God had given me.



Church in Bounteloungou January 2018

A few weeks ago, every day, I kept thinking of the name “Bounteloungou”. I wanted to do something for that village that had contributed to my life redirection to Niger. I asked God what I should do. I reached out to Reverend Hachimou, president of Vie Abondante, and he told me that Pastor Daniel is the pastor of the Bounteloungou church. Our house father, Pastor Omar, found his phone number and called him, and recommended that we speak with him in person to hear what the needs of his church were. We invited him to Niamey and he told us that they needed food and that they were suffering.

We found out that Pastor Daniel had 9 families and 4 individuals in his church, so we had Pastor Omar meet him in Makalondi to purchase 2 bags of millet and 2 bags of rice for each family (~550 pounds of food per family), and 1 bag of millet and 1 bag of rice for each individual (~330 pounds per individual). Because of the terrain, the food had to be transported to Bounteloungou by donkey carts instead of truck or van. Heavy rains delayed the delivery, but the food reached the village a couple of days later.



Because our goal is to equip whenever possible, not just support, we asked Pastor Daniel if there was something we could do to help him provide an additional source of income for his family. He said that he had experience in trading animals in the marketplace, so we donated money for him to purchase 10 animals for trading and breeding.

With God's help, the food will last until the harvest in September. I thank God for being able to share my resources with people who shared their faith with me while they were suffering.

Please join me in praying that the food will last, and that God will give them fruitful animals and a bountiful harvest.

Emerald's Jewels becomes an NGO in Niger

I am happy to announce that we have successfully submitted paperwork to create an Emerald's Jewels Niger NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) and have temporary permission to operate as a non-profit organization while awaiting final approval! This status will allow us to obtain more resources for the children and adults in Niger!

Thank you to everyone who has helped us provide educational opportunities for the Joseph's Place children, support the primary school, and equip our children's parents and village pastors.

If you would like to participate in this ministry, we welcome your prayers and your donations to ejewels.org.

