



Project Restoration
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***The Nancy Cole Women's Home
of Lima, Peru***

History, Goals and Status
(Updated March 25, 2007)

After participating in a Missions Team Trip to Peru in the summer of 2005, various individuals from Ebony Assembly of God felt led to begin a campaign to raise funds for the Nancy Cole Women's Home in Lima, Peru. The physical conditions of the building were appalling and there was a great need for monthly operational support. Currently, there are 39 residents at the home (plus seven children) literally living by faith from day to day for food and the basics of life. This number changes on a day-to-day basis.

The women at the home are all victims of drug or alcohol addictions and many have been physically and sexually abused. Most of them come directly from the streets to the home, seeking shelter, acceptance and love. Most have been rejected or abandoned by their families. Some are placed there by the courts.

Pastor Lilliam Cossios founded the home in 2001. She and her entire family are trophies of God's grace and mercy, having been delivered from a life of drug addiction over 20 years ago. She is now a fully-licensed minister, working under the covering of the Camino de Vida Church in Lima. She has completed the coursework for her Master's Degree in the Psychology of Addictions. With the assistance of local churches, she visited the Southside Virginia area on three occasions during the past two years.

Her vision is to see the home as a lighthouse to first bring restoration from the spiritual perspective, followed by vocational and family-life training to restore these ladies to their proper role in their families. Some of the women have children and over 80% of the residents are teenagers.

While the Camino de Vida Church provides some monthly support, their resources are extremely limited due to the overwhelming poverty that exists in Peru. They have established hundreds of outreach ministries in the city of Lima and throughout the country of Peru, which included an old donated building known as the Nancy Cole Women's Home. That building has been demolished and the new construction project is underway.

When this project began, only one church in the United States provided monthly financial support for the home: The Gathering Place in Lake Mary, Florida (which this church has been doing for several years). Therefore, one of the five goals of Project Restoration is to present the need to churches with a request to include the home in their monthly mission's budget. These funds will be wired on a regular basis to assist with the regular operational expenses.

The second goal is to raise \$150,000+ to rebuild the original home. It is located in the most dangerous area of Lima; however, it stands as a lighthouse in the midst of darkness. Pastor Lilliam is concerned that, if the location was moved, the women who most desperately need the help would not be able to contact the home. The old home has been demolished and a new multi-story building is being constructed to house over 60 women. Even though the entire building is not complete, the dedication celebration was held on February 3, 2007. We need to raise the remaining funds to complete the construction project so that the women can move into the new home. As of March 25, 2007, we still needed to raise approximately \$40,000, not including the cost of equipment and furniture. The cost has increased due to construction problems and security issues. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

We received a wonderful anonymous matching grant in the amount of \$35,000. All funds raised from August 1, 2006 until August of 2007 were matched up to \$35,000. Since the construction progress depends on the availability of funds, the urgency to raise the remaining funds has increased. We need your help to ensure that the construction is completed by the end of July, 2007. As of March 25, 2007, we have raised \$110,000, including the full \$35,000 of the matching grant. PTL!

The third goal of Project Restoration is to send ministry teams to Lima on a regular basis to assist with building maintenance and ministry programs. Three teams have been sent in the past two years as well as several small groups. The date for the 2007 summer trip has been set for August 4-12, 2007. Each person is responsible for raising their own funds and the cost is projected to be app. \$2,200 per person (depending on available air fares). For an application and more information, contact us.

The fourth goal involves furnishing and equipping the home. We need churches, groups, civic organizations, business and individuals to adopt a "Daughters of the King" Project" to equip the home. This will include small and large projects, such as kitchen appliances and equipment, books for the library, beds and accessories, computers for literacy training, chairs, tables, PA system, furniture, etc. If you or your group would be interested in raising funds for a specific project, please contact us for a list of needs. The fifth goal involves providing a prayer and encouragement covering for Pastor Lilliam, the residents of the home, and the related ministries. These "Daughters of the King" need our support and prayers.

Dale and Sheryl Baird have agreed to coordinate Project Restoration. An Advisory Board has been established to provide financial accountability through regular audits of the records, provide a spiritual prayer covering for the project, offer suggestions and help for the project, and network with other churches to provide exposure of the needs of the Nancy Cole Women's Home. The Advisory Board, representing eleven churches and ministries, is a volunteer group that meets three or four times each year, with a smaller Auditing Committee appointed by the Board to regularly review the financial records. Arrangements are also being made to provide a regular CPA audit of the financial records.

The account for Project Restoration has been established at First Citizen's Bank in Lawrenceville. Any income for operations or construction will be wired on a periodic basis, depending on the amount. First Citizen's Bank has reimbursed Project Restoration for all wiring fees to date. Separate accounts have been established at the Camino de Vida Church and monthly reports are emailed to Project Restoration with documentation of expenditures.

Since we do not have a tax identification number, Ebony Assembly of God agreed to serve as the host church so that their numbers could be used to establish the accounts. However, the accounts are separate and are not included in the accounting system for the church. Strong Tower Ministries has agreed to serve as the 501(c)(3) funding organization, with no assessed fees. However, we are in the process of establishing our own independent tax-exempt status.

We covet your prayers for this project. Project Restoration now includes many different churches and ministries. Any questions or ideas should be directed to Dale and Sheryl Baird at P.O. Box 31, Ebony, Virginia 23845. The email address is dalebaird@hotmail.com and the phone numbers are (434) 636-2808 or C-(434) 637-2345. Please check our web site for new updates and newsletters: www.projectrestoration.net. Thank you for your interest and support.

