

CALL TO PRAYER

MARCH 2024



STUDENT CENTER IN ASIA NEEDS YOUR PRAYERS

On the morning of January 29, a student center run by Silver Lining Missions, which partners with the C&MA's marketplace ministries, found itself in a war zone when fighting broke out between the government and opposition forces. The center's mission is to break the cycle of poverty and exploitation among orphans and vulnerable youth. The teachers acted swiftly to evacuate the children. However, during the evacuation, the military captured the staff and students, detained them for 10 hours, and made them watch the fighting. By God's grace, they were safely released, although deeply traumatized. They found shelter at the home of a staff's relative that evening.

"Our former center is on a hill and is a strategic vantage point for fighting, so we've been advised that returning there would be dangerous," says Josh, a representative of Silver Lining Missions. "We found a new building for the center, which our local staff say should be much safer than the previous one. We are looking to finalize the rental contract process. This building is also bigger and can house up to 60 children.

We humbly ask the Alliance family to join us in prayer."

Please pray that the children will be able to transition well with their daily activities and for their emotional and psychological healing after witnessing the horrors of war. There is also a need to hire one to two staff members who have a heart for God's work and these children. Pray also that the situation does not escalate and that the center can continue to operate in peace. Pray that in their new location, the staff can provide more opportunities for the children to grow and flourish.

Also, pray that the center can accept more children soon. "We are realizing that the need is becoming greater with the conflict in the area increasing daily," Josh says. "Pray, too, that we can safely send the children to the local public school. Due to the tension between the two forces, this has not been an option since the inception of the center."

Let us unite in faith, knowing that God hears our prayers. Together, let us create a mighty wave of intercession for the well-being and safety of the youth and staff at the student center.

GAS CRISIS IN GUINEA

Imagine waking up to discover there's no fuel available anywhere in the country. The gas remaining in your car is all you'll have for the foreseeable future. Maybe you rush to a gas station only to find dozens of other vehicles waiting at closed pumps. You wonder how you'll get to work or take your kids to school. As the days drag on, there are fewer and fewer cars on the road as tanks go dry.

That was the reality in Guinea following the December 18 explosion of its only fuel depot, which killed 24 people and injured over 450. It took nine days to extinguish the flames. Hundreds became homeless as they fled the surrounding area. Farmers feared losing their crops because they couldn't run their generators to pump water and irrigate their fields. This crisis is a poignant example of what daily life is like here. The things you rely on could very well be gone tomorrow.

A month later, the situation began to improve. CAMA Services and Envision have partnered with two local C&MA churches to provide help for some whose lives were devastated by the fire. We are confident that God will provide and that this challenge will grant opportunities to demonstrate His love to people who don't yet know Him. Please join us in praying for the people we serve as they navigate the aftermath of this crisis.

based on an update from an Alliance international worker serving with aXcess in Guinea

GOSPEL SEEDS IN PARAGUAY

My wife, Donna, and I have an open door into the public schools here through bullying workshops with leaders from the church we attend and support. This initiative is the product of mothers in the public schools who contacted the principals about a talk we gave in our local church. This has helped make our church known in the community. Hundreds of elementary and middle school students now know us and our church! We explain that we are pastors and that our talks will be based on Scripture. We have also given bullying talks in schools in tandem with our neighborhood's child-welfare agency.

Another opportunity to create gospel access has been through friendship evangelism at our fitness center. This family-owned gym has a close circle of friends who work out with us daily. Whenever one of us has a birthday, everyone brings food to celebrate. I told the group I'm a pastor and offered to pray for the birthday person. Now, whenever we celebrate a birthday, the guest of honor asks me to pray, and I take the opportunity to share a Scripture or the gospel. Before our departure for home assignment, our friends had a farewell breakfast for us. I passed out the list of Bible verses from the Navigator's memorization plan. Everyone wanted a copy, and we explained how to use it. Pray for lasting impact from the seed we have sown.

by Dean and Donna, Alliance international workers serving with aXcess in Paraguay

Thank you for praying for Alliance workers and for the people with whom they share the gospel. To receive the *Call to Prayer* and weekly prayer requests via email, subscribe at cmalliance.org/pray. Alliance ministries are supported by gifts to the Great Commission Fund and CAMA.