

## Manos de Dios, Hands of God Ministries

### January/February 2020 Newsletter

Facilitating education for Native youth and advocating for LIFE











### Many celebrate and bless Naomi as she turns 17-vears-old!

Naomi's host mom, Cora, sent out the invitation: "Naomi is turning 17! Please join us, as women and teens who love her, in blessing and encouraging her! Of course, we'll serve Naomi's favorites: coffee and cheesecake!" Past host moms/host sisters and friends, plus Naomi's mom, sister Tiera, niece Delilah, and grandma Bernie from the Reservation, gathered to share special words, cards and prayers. Naomi delighted in the love and gracefully received the

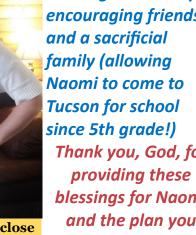


Rachel, Naomi, Anna, Sarah, Lily and Dayna join together as current and past host sisters plus her BFF to celebrate Naomi!

complements and encouragement. Grandma Bernie shared the significance of Naomi's middle name Pillar. She is named after a special friend Bernie met on a trip to Israel. Emily, the mother of Naomi's boyfriend Isaiah, shared her difficult past as a foster kid and the

> strength she received from God's Word, principles and prayer. We prayed for Naomi, entrusting her to Yahweh. What a blessing to have a praying, Holy Spirit-led host family,

encouraging friends and a sacrificial Naomi to come to **Tucson for school** since 5th grade!) Thank you, God, for providing these blessings for Naomi and the plan you have for her life!





Naomi with her mom, Yosh (left), niece Delilah and Grandma Bernie



Naomi has an unusually close relationship with her boyfriend's mom, Emily!

# Pro-Love Tucson team speaks hope and help to those in an unexpected pregnancy....by Lucy



Pro-Love Tucson sidewalk advocate volunteers display some of our gift bags and educational resources. Rebecca, Maya, Jeannelle and Christian

"Good morning, I'm a volunteer with Pro-Love Tucson. We're offering great lifeaffirming healthcare resources! What brings you in today so I can give you what might be the most helpful?"

Pro-Love Tucson volunteers stand on the public sidewalk outside of Planned Parenthood (PP), the only abortion clinic in Pima County. We don't have signs or camera or microphone. We don't yell. Grace, love and kindness are our M-O. Our caring voice and words are intended to communicate that we care and are there to help...especially those who are making a pregnancy decision. We know many women who find they are pregnant when they are not

wanting to be....are driven to consider an abortion by fear. They may not realize there are other choices and so much help available for them. They come to PP to check out their options and are given only one option: abortion. Former abortion facility workers (like Abby and Mayra) report that the abortion staff tell many young ladies that they CAN'T continue this pregnancy AND reach their goals including finish school, pursue their career, have the relationship they desire, etc.

Pro-Love Tucson speaks a different message. "You CAN do this. You can "Be Brave"\*! God will strengthen and provide for you as you turn to Him in faith. He is the God who moves mountains!"

He <Jesus> said to them, "... truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you." Matthew 17:20

Pro-Love Tucson volunteers pray, speak words of encouragement, challenge beliefs and seek to walk clients to the faith-based pregnancy clinic, Hands of Hope, around the corner from PP. There they receive

free services including pregnancy test, ultrasound and options counseling all in a loving, professional clinic environment. Hands of Hope reports that 87% of those women who view the ultrasound image of their baby choose to continue their pregnancy! Some choose to parent. Some choose the loving option of making a plan for adoption. These women choose LIFE for themselves as well

as their pre-born child.

For more info go to <a href="ProLoveTucson.com">ProLoveTucson.com</a> or find us on social media <a href="MoreoveTucson">@ ProLoveTucson</a>.

Hands of Hope can be found at

<u>GiveHopeTucson.com</u> . Adoption info can be found at: <u>AdoptionSolutionsofAZ</u> .

VOTE PRO-LIFE! .....Lucy



Pro-Love Tucson sidewalk advocates pray and display our \* "Be Brave" hoodies

### March for Life in Arizona



Pro-Love Tucson team (and Naomi) joined the Pro-Life March in Phoenix January 18th



Rebecca, Mayra Rodriguez\*, and Lucy after Mayra spoke at the Rally following the Arizona March for Life

Hundreds gathered to walk for LIFE in the 2020 March for Life Arizona: declaring the VALUE OF ALL HUMAN LIFE from conception to the grave. After the walk, all gathered to hear great speakers including Arizona Governor Doug Ducey, Ryan Bomberger, speaker and author of Not Equal: Civil Rights Gone Wrong, and Abby Johnson, former Planned Parenthood Clinic Director, best-selling author of <u>Unplanned</u> as the keynote speaker. They all reiterated Pro-Love Tucson's and Hands of Hope's mantra: That through avenues of love and grace women, children and families will thrive during and after an unplanned pregnancy! A notably special event was when Mayra Rodriguez\*, former Phoenix PP clinic director introduced Abby. Mayra recently won a lawsuit against Arizona PP for unlawful termination. The trial exposed a local PP abortionist's\*\* unethical medical practices, which Mayra was trying to report when she was terminated. Mayra is now adamantly PRO-LIFE and a spokeswoman for 40 Days for Life & And Then There Were None (For details on helping workers get out of abortion facilities go to: AbortionWorker.com.)

> \*Follow her on FaceBook at "TheRealMayraRodriguez"

\*\* Note: this is the doctor who performs most of the abortions at the Southern Arizona PP facility where Pro-Love Tucson sidewalk advocates pray & interact with clients!

### I know it's gotta be hard! ... by Dennis

As a teenager, did you ever feel you were out of place, that you didn't belong, that you were in a strange place, that you were extremely different than your surroundings, or that you were totally alone? And how did you feel when your mind, heart, and emotions were totally out of control and you just could not get along or get things straight?

If so, were you able to handle it without freaking out? Did you unknowingly do something stupid in order to try and resolve the feelings or at least cover them up so no one would suspect anything? Did you cope or did you flee?

The questions in the first paragraphs are just a sample of the emotions and feelings that our Apache students faced (and are somewhat still facing) when they left the White Mountain Apache Reservation and started attending Desert Christian School in Tucson. Some students started as freshmen in high school and the others started in 5th, 6th and 8th grade!

Things were radically different; more so than we can ever imagine. They come from a culture that is only 200 miles away yet one that many of us don't know about or understand. I have been acquainted with these girls for about 8 years and I am still learning and growing almost

daily in the knowledge of who they are and what they

stand for.

Our Apache students have struggles. Some are just trying to fit into our culture and trying to understand us. Some struggles are brought on by our insensitivity, rudeness, arrogance, and our fear of things that are different. With that said, I give all our girls praise and admiration for how they have handled themselves in the face of adversity at such a young age, working at fitting into a different culture! I don't think many of us could have handled ourselves that well if the roles were reversed.

What takeaway do I desire from this article? It is that readers will make it a point to have patience, compassion, and empathy for people from different cultures that are trying to fit in and comply with our ways.

If you are a Christian, Jesus commands us to love our neighbor as ourselves (Mark 12:31) — even if they are different.

Blessings, Dennis Dennis@ManosdeDios.org

To read articles about current Christian topics check out Dennis' blogs at

https://ManosdeDios.org/dennis-blog/



19-year-old Drelyn (shown here with her god-daughter, Ruth Delilah) attended Desert Christian High School for 4 years and graduated in 2018. She is now working at the Sunrise Hotel restaurant on the Reservation and taking classes at Northland Pioneer Community College in the White Mountains. She hopes to begin classes online at ASU in the summer and eventually transfer to ASU's downtown Phoenix campus. Manos de Dios continues to encourage and pray with Drelyn as well as contribute to Drelyn's education.



Supporters Mark & Rhonda and Stacy & Joe accompanied Dennis & Lucy at the celebration

"And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all He has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind He will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship Him."

*Romans* 12:1 (NLT)

Lucy & Dennis volunteered at this year's Southwest Pastors & Leaders Conference held at Calvary Tucson. They also benefited from the outstanding teaching! You can, too! The theme was: "20/20, Vision Through the Life of Moses." Follow this link: https:// <u>calvarytucson.com/</u> teaching-archives/

#### **Arizona Income Tax Credit:**

You can receive a dollar-for-dollar private school tax credit on your AZ state income taxes (AZ form 140, line #48). Simply make your donation through **IBEScholarships** naming Naomi Benally, a student attending Desert Christian School. **Contact IBE at 520-512-5438 or your** tax preparer for more information. Thank you for providing for the final of five (5) White Mountain Apache young ladies receiving a rigorously academic, Biblical worldview

education! Dennis and Lucy

Contact us! 520.404.5045 (Lucy) 520.245.2039 (Dennis)

To learn about this ministry go to:

GetInvolved@ManosdeDios.org Lucy4ProLove@gmail.com

Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to:

Manos de Dios, NFP 2914 N Indian Ruins Road, Tucson, AZ 85715



or made on either website: **ManosdeDios.org ProLoveTucson.com** Like us on Facebook!