



December 2012 Newsletter

A Family of Seven is United



Amaris Ministries has been ministering to a family for a little over a year now and we are so excited to see what God is doing in their lives. We have been extremely blessed by the way the family of Christ has rallied around them and made a huge difference in their lives – it has really taken a “village,” with God’s help, to get them to where they are today.

Daniel and Loraine Tanori have been together for about 8 years and have 5 children. “Danny” and “Lori” were never married and have had lots of problems over the years including drug use, alcohol, financial problems, evictions, lived in abusive situations, evere health issues (Lori almost died and was life flighted twice to San Diego after giving birth to her youngest child) and more.

Almost 2 years ago Danny went into the New Creations Men’s Home and has since become a hard working and dedicated man of God. Lorraine struggled on her own with

the children while Danny was in the home, and at one point, with CPS now in the mix, she decided to go into New Creations and **asked Amaris Ministries to find safe homes for her children while she got her life on track.** She was there for about 2 months, then went to Teen Challenge for about 2 months, and has since been in the Valley being discipled by various people from the church. The children, who at the time ranged in age from 6 months to 8 years old, were split into three wonderful Christian homes where they were nurtured and discipled. It has been a long and difficult journey, but finally, a little more than a year later, *the family is coming together in a Biblical way.* Danny and Lori were married by Pastor Walt on December 15th at Gateway Church in Brawley. Lori has had her daughters back with her for several months, and as of December 21st, the couple will have their sons back with them as well. Danny has a job now working for a local farmer and they are renting a small house across the street from the church.

Merry Christmas!

With Christmas just a few days away, many of us may have a long list of people to shop for, possibly trying to buy something for someone who has everything. Please remember the orphans out there who will have nothing this Christmas and prayerfully consider ways that you can get your family involved in helping them. Share the true meaning of Christmas with them: Christ’s love and your love.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the families who graciously and sacrificially welcomed these children into their homes and ministered to Daniel and Loraine in the process: Ruth and George Smith of Brawley had Elizette, now age 10. Richard and Liz Lucio had Estrella, now 5 and Corinna, now 4. And Luke and Elizabeth Hamby of Westmoreland have been involved the longest and have had Daniel, now 3, and Michael, now 18 months for a little over a year. At one point, Vicki and Steve Uhri took Lori and her 3 daughters into their home for several months until she was able to rent the little house of her own. Alex and Brandi Cardenas have also been helpful with the children. Maria Whitehead has been a mentor to Lori from the beginning (through Not Forgotten Ministries) and actually led her to the Lord when she first met her in the hospital on her deathbed. Tommie Rogers, Brian Melvin and others from New Creations mentored Danny. Numerous other people have contributed through donations of toys, clothing, beds, etc. and have also been sources of encouragement and counsel. It has been awesome to see the family of Christ come together, from different churches and backgrounds, and we are now seeing the fruits of our labors. It was also wonderful to be able to prevent a CPS intervention and help this family through their crisis the old fashioned way; *with the church instead of the government.*

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER US FOR YOUR YEAR-END DONATIONS.

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