O n the way to the market the one way to Hady and said, “Salentor Remember me? You used to visit me in jail.” The two embraced. Each week Hady goes to San Sebastian prison to pray with the women and offer emotional support. The woman in the market admitted that now that she was released, she did not know what to do. The transition from life in prison back into society can be difficult, especially for those trapped in a cycle of poverty and debt. Hady invited the woman to Manos Con Libertad (Free Hands), which empowers formerly incarcerated women and their families to have a fresh start at life through meaningful work. The women receive support and training, make handicrafts, and work in a restaurant and bakery. Hady co-teaches life skills classes that cover everything from health, confidence building, and job preparation. Once a month she co-teaches lifeskills classes that cover everything from health, confidence building, and job preparation. Once a month she

ST. JOSEPH PARISH
Savanna-la-Mar, Jamaica

In order to address the physical needs of those experiencing deep poverty, missionaries Brandon Newland and Patrick Montina arrived in February and now serve in the low-salaried soup kitchen. To support the soup kitchen, they started a farm to produce chicken and vegetables. They also work with children on basic literacy and Bible study.

EQUIPO PASTORAL DE LA MADRE TIERRA
Cochabamba, Bolivia

This parish garden ministry where Annemarie Barrett serves has expanded to include more migrant women who come together to share how to grow gardens to sustain their families in an area where resources are scarce.

A BREEZE OF HOPE
Cochabamba, Bolivia

Missioner Valerie Ellis contributes to the comprehensive services offered to survivors of sexual abuse as well as helps to educate the community to prevent further abuse. In May, a salon opened to employ adolescent survivors, helps to educate the community to prevent further abuse. In May, a salon opened to employ adolescent survivors, who come together to share how to grow gardens to sustain their families in an area where resources are scarce.

IN A CHANGING WORLD
Valletta, Malta

In April, we joined Instagram (@franmissionserv), adding another avenue where we share Franciscan mission values.

LOOKING AHEAD

Our Board of Directors and staff laid out an exciting vision for the next three years in which our robust pathway to mission invite more lay people to experience Franciscanism and to serve alongside those on the margins. This vision includes:

» Strong partnerships and collaborations within the Franciscan family
» Solid organizational and financial health to support our growth
» Participation in national and global conversations that advance lay faith-based service that addresses poverty

PRISON MINISTRY
Cochabamba, Bolivia

Missioner Jeff Sved sells wares at the market made by people in prison and then returns the money, enabling the inmates to afford their basic needs such as food and paying for their cell. Friendships affirm the dignity of the people.

UNIDAD ACADÉMICA CAMPESINA CARMEN PAMPA
Carrasco, Bolivia

Serving first-generation college students from indigenous families, missioners Tom Little and Mary and Nate Mortenson contribute to the academic and extracurricular life of the school. This includes leading the English department, teaching math, running the butcher shop, working in the garden, organizing the children’s library, and helping with campus ministry.

ONLINE MINISTRY

For Lent we collaborated with Catholics in Alliance for the Common Good to offer “Millennial Lenten Reflections,” a blog series featuring thoughts on the daily Gospel readings by young adults. In April, we joined Instagram (@franmissionserv), adding another avenue where we share Franciscan mission values.

NONPROFIT SERVANT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
Washington, DC

This year we prepared six young adult Catholics for lives of service and faith through hands-on experience in a faith-based nonprofit combined with simple and prayerful living in an intentional community. Once a week they volunteered in local ministries with men and women experiencing homelessness, children of immigrants, and the elderly.

MISSIONER IN FOCUS: Hady M en dez in Cochabamba, Bolivia

“Working with the women at Manos has taught me a lot about never giving up. The women I work with are fighters and have reminded me that nothing in life comes easy,” says Hady. “I am grateful for the opportunity to work alongside them and to have had the opportunity to know them. Their stories have inspired me to have gratitude for the many blessings in my own life.”

The boarding school creates a loving family environment for children who have been orphaned, abandoned, or come from impoverished, gang-ridden neighborhoods. This is FMS’ first year at Finca El Pulte, serving 13 boarding students and 30 day visitors. The students live together as a community, with each student learning how to take care of themselves and contribute to the family. The Boarding School offers a safe and supportive environment for students to learn and grow. The school provides academic instruction, life skills education, and opportunities for extracurricular activities. Students participate in sports, music, and arts programs, in addition to learning new skills and developing their talents. The Boarding School also partners with community organizations to provide students with opportunities to give back to their communities. With the help of sisters, province of friars, Franciscan parish, and Franciscan-hearted organization to prayerfully give as a special donation and blessing for our 25th anniversary. While the response has been positive, we have not yet made our goal of 100 participants – please join today: franciscanmissionserv.org/franciscan100
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF LAY MISSION IN THE FRANCISCAN TRADITION

Franciscan Mission Service was founded on the idea that laity have an important role to play in the Church and have their own call to mission.

In addition, our founder Fr. Anselm Moons, OFM, believed that the Catholic Church has a missionary task to not only address issues of justice in impoverished areas but to evangelize places of power, affluence, and privilege.

When you add it all up, our missionaries and volunteers have given over 350 years of service in 19 countries and Washington, DC.

In Evangelii Gaudium, Pope Francis tells missioners to be creative and bold, and to rely on each other for support.

Aware of the changing needs of our church and world, Franciscan Mission Service has courageously grown to offer new ways in which lay people can live out their Gospel call to mission in the tradition of Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi.

Because of your support, we’ve undergone creative and bold expansions. Our programs are healthy and vibrant opportunities for lay Catholics to address issues of poverty by serving in a way that is relational, reconciling, radical, and relevant.

Thank you for joining us as we build on this momentum and continue to dream new ways to live out the Franciscan mission call for another 25 years.