March 21, 2011

Dear Friends,

Hello, I hope this letter finds all of you in good health and making it through this broken economy. You might be surprised to receive an updated letter instead of a regular newsletter, but like everyone else we needed to make some cuts because of the economy, however we are continuing the mission of helping single expectant woman and mothers with children.

Our newest mother, Jessica says: I am 23yrs old and have made many wrong choices in my life including becoming a prostitute. Then I became involved in a relationship with a man, which after 5 months with him, I found I was pregnant. When I told him, he started abusing me, denying the child was his and resenting me. He also told me to get an abortion, which I refused to do. From that point, things only got worse and he asked me to leave. I had nowhere to go, and then I found out about Bethany House. They were so eager to help me, and I was placed into a loving Sponsor Family



where I learned about a loving God. I attended church every Sunday with the family and got involved in the Gathering with other young adults. I learned how to cook simpler, healthier meals and embraced many other life skills. On Feb. 22nd I had a cesarean, giving birth to my 9lb 14oz baby girl but quickly found out not all was well. I came home and after a few days I got really sick, and starting throwing up, and then had to be admitted to the hospital. I was diagnosed with severe anemia and postpartum preeclampsia. I was on a ventilator for several days, but then was able to breathe on my own, however, my kidneys shut down and I had surgery to put a semi-permanent catheter in my neck where they were able to hook me up to dialysis 3x per week. The doctors were hopeful that my kidneys would come back because I am young and Praise God I am off dialysis and my kidneys are working great. I now have a part time job at home and am enjoying my little girl.

I want to thank my Sponsor Family, Bethany House, and my parents who were so helpful and my relationship with my mom and dad has grown leaps and bounds. Thank you for supporting such just a great ministry, so I could get the help I needed and a new life!!

From Maria:

Most of you have seen me in the 2010 summer newsletter where I shared my story with you and introduced my beautiful daughter, Ziya. She is now 10 months old and the joy of my life. I could not have done anything without Bethany House; they have been the foundation of my life the last several years. Beth has been there for me all the way, encouraging me in my schooling and life, and now I have great news: I finished school and I will be able to do my externship in Mexico at The Dream House. It's sudden but we will be moving to San Pancho, Mexico at the end of the month, in fact by the time you get this letter I will be moved.

I want to <u>Thank All of You</u> for all the help you have given me to be able to accomplish becoming a successful mother and finishing school. You mean so much to me and my daughter! I plan on staying in touch and sending pictures of how well we are doing and what everything is like there.

I am very excited to have this door open me. It will lead to a new and wonderful chapter

in our lives and it has been a dream of mine to live in another country again. It's just part of who I am. I felt so at home when I went to visit last month. I am excited for my future and I could not have done any of this without Bethany House and all of you for your support. This is such a worthwhile ministry to support, so please continue, and if you are not please consider becoming a supporter so more young women like me can get the help they need to have a successful life. Thank you!



Friends and partners, we are helping nine young women right now with diapers, wipes, clothing, food etc., but most of all encouragement and prayer. You are making that possible.

If you would like to become a part of this ministry you can give on our secure online giving site or the envelope enclosed. If you would like to become a Sponsor Family and take a young girl into your home contact us at bethanyhouse1@gmail.com. Website: www.bethanyhousenet.org Email: bethanyhouse1@gmail.com or 503-667-8409.

Sincerely,

Beth E. Rhinehart

Beth E. Rhinehart Founder & Executive Director Bethany House, Inc.