

PRESS RELEASE

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Federico Guigliola

SHRO President Donates Funds to Aid Casa di Riposo Italiana in Uruguay



Residents of Casa di Riposo with Italian journalist, Federica Guiglia.

There is a place in South America where old people live their long and never useless days with quiet and love. The place is an Italian place. It's called Casa di Riposo, and you can find it in Uruguay, right in the capital of Uruguay: Montevideo.

Of course nothing is as sweet and easy as it seems. We are talking about men and women who are poor or ill, or without the kind hand of somebody near to them. Old people alone, I mean, and loneliness is often worse than a prison. You think you are free but you need to

find real freedom: that is, to be sure that you are important to somebody. And that somebody is important to you too.

The Casa di Riposo Italiana is a little big dream where between twenty and forty Italian citizens of Uruguay--or their sons or daughters--have something to eat every day, and a bed to sleep in, and one or more friends to share. They are not alone. They have medical service as well, and they can do some work, if they want to and can--for example, take care of the garden around the house.

We are trying to help them. We have bought them something: a special bed, three special canes and some other, very little things. Very little for a very big need. And when I say "we", I mean Antonio Giordano, President of the Sbarro Health Research Organization, Inc. (SHRO), and myself, an Italian born in Uruguay, who loves both his countries and would like to give everybody the same possibility of discovering this America: the America that didn't find America, but is as proud and strong and nice as America. Perhaps this is because of the many changes that Italy, the ancient Italy, brought to her for two centuries. Latin America is the perfect/imperfect result of the United States and Europe, particularly Spain and Italy. The Spanish language, Italian passion, the American dream: mix them together and you get an explosion that is Latin America.



S.H.R.O.

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So the Casa di Riposo Italiana of Montevideo is a symbol: sometimes the mix can be unfortunate, but people deserve the same, or better, but even more so to live their last years well and with God. If you want to and have the opportunity, you can help them too. By writing to SHRO (www.shro.org), you can get the address and find out everything you need to know about it.

As Frank Sinatra remembers in one of his most beautiful songs, "I did what I had to do... Yes, it was my way".



Plaque at Casa di Riposo honoring contributions of Dr. Antonio Giordano of SHRO.