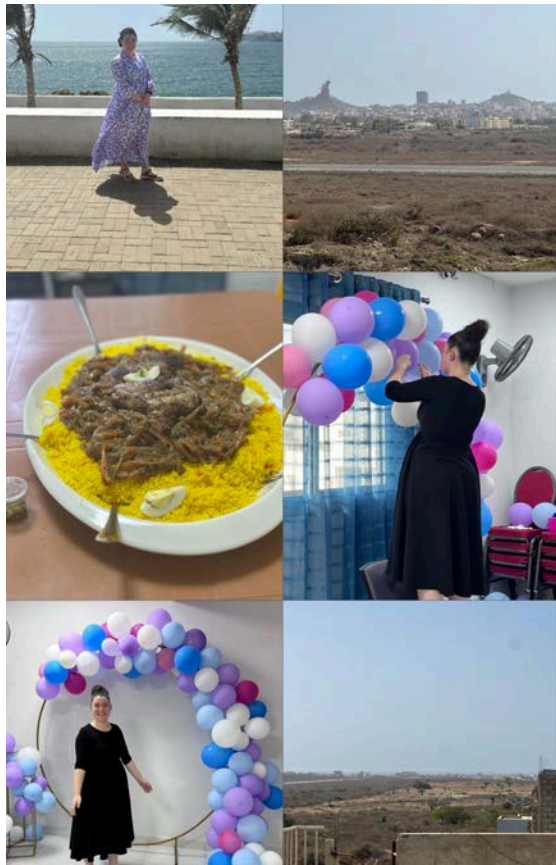


May Newsletter

Settling In...



This month has mostly been settling in. While I've helped out in every way I can, I'm still learning the language and getting comfortable living here. This is my first time in West Africa, and I'm adjusting well.

Ministry

I've been working in Today's Christian Girl for years, and I've been working for a year and a half with the older girls of TCG. I'm excited to say that I was asked to start that same ministry here.

A first, however, was assembling a balloon arch for the Senegalese Mother's Day. It was harder than I anticipated, but I think I did good. This balloon arch was then used as a photo op.

Cultural Experiences

Before getting here, I knew that French was the official language. I didn't know that Wolof was also very commonly spoken. I'm doing my best to get comfortable in French, however, the security guard at the apartment I am living in has decided I can learn Wolof too. He's been teaching my roommate and me new phrases and basic conversations.

Another new experience can be seen in one of the pictures: the plate with chicken, couscous, onions, and eggs. The meal was great, and I thoroughly enjoyed it. However, I am *not* used to sharing one plate with an entire table. I was told that while they provided spoons for this meal, it's more common to just eat with your hands.

Final thoughts

Thank you for supporting my mission to get here. I cannot emphasize enough how impactful this trip has already been. This is just the beginning and I'm looking forward to what lies ahead.