



BRAZILIAN

CHILDREN'S OUTREACH

February 2021

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New Beginnings

As much as things are crazy and it is hard to understand what is happening around us in these times, life must go on. Sometimes things can even be fun and new. That being said, my son, Ian, got married on the beach on January 2nd. What a way to start out a new year!



Fortunately, southern California weather in January is pleasant. Even though the restaurant venue cancelled due to Covid and the wedding officiant got sick, the wedding happened. My brother, Jim Hart, was in attendance and saved the wedding ceremony by stepping in to officiate. They were also able to find a restaurant that would allow outside dining.

The couple, Cory & Ian, even got a surprise present from a diver, who was walking by as they were taking pictures.



Big Milestones for BCO!

We closed out our year in Brazil much busier than we started. We finished 11 houses, either built from scratch or rehabbed. We went from 120 families to 320 families in our feeding program! We also purchased over 100,000 items including basic foods like rice and beans, to soap and toothpaste.

That meant we were able to serve and minister to over 3,000 families last year!





Cristina



Friends making a difference



Cristina's new kitchen

One of the last houses we finished was Cristina's house. She is a single mother who was trying to build her house without any help.

Since she does not have much money, she would buy materials that were inferior, not use any rebar or in any way reinforce the structure of the walls. To make it go further, she would mix higher amounts of sand in the cement mix. It would go further, but it made it very weak. She did not put in a proper foundation and the walls and the floor were sliding down the hill.

We were not able to save her house, but we were able to build her a new one! Friends from her work came out and did most of the labor.

It is a simple structure, one bedroom and one bath, but it is safe and strong and will last for a very long time. Cristina has been able to fix up the interior and make it hers.

She says thank you to you and thanks to God for this special blessing!

Vera Cruz Project: Vinda a Mim

We have been working in the Vera Cruz neighborhood for the last 5 years, and have seen great growth in the lives of the people there. Most of the families have established themselves in a local church and are experiencing positive changes in their lives. This month we are expanding our work in Vera Cruz with project **Vinde a Mim, Come unto me, Mathew 11:28**. This project will give the families in our feeding program ways of giving back to their community. It will require them to volunteer time in the preparation and distribution of food, help in the church services, and minister to the children.

We are believing that God will raise up the right people to become our partners in this new way of ministering to this community. Hopefully, we will be back to having our evangelism outreaches and make it bigger and better in 2021!

