



Summer is over for us and fall is here. I'm sure many are longing for some cooler weather; we did have a long hot season. While we are going into winter, in Brazil, our summer will soon start. This is a difficult season for most of our people. The rain will soon start and make a muddy mess of the streets and in some homes. Many live in cramped and sweltering dwellings, some without electricity to even run a fan. It's not pleasant, but we are helping families, one at a time, transforming their world into something different than where they started.

Yara and her family are one of our families. She is single with 4 children: Evelin 18, Tainara 15, Gabriel 9 & Ezequiel 8 with special needs. When she was presented with this opportunity, it was something she had a hard time comprehending. No one had ever offered her help; they never saw her heart and that she just wanted a better life for her family. Even her husband, the children's father, abandoned them when their special needs son was born. She has always found a way to survive, but it has been especially hard. Her pastor, Dona Nete, one of our partners, presented her case and we said we would help. She had a plot of land, inherited from her mother. Unfortunately she had no experience in construction and no family who could help, but she promised that she would get it built some way. She even went to the local "Home Depot" and convinced them to give her some material and that she would pay when she could. She went to work on other plans. She bought candy and made snacks and sold them. She had a raffle to raise money for a carpenter. I am still not sure what they won, but people participated, and she was able to raise the money. Her energy was infectious; her neighbors saw her struggle and her attitude and some of the men pitched in to help with the construction. She determined to never pay rent again and said she'd even put up a cloth with sticks, but she was going to live on the property. We had the pleasure of being with her and her family on moving day. We met the whole family and saw the gratitude and appreciation for this blessing. We saw some things that need to be finished and we will help with these things. No, the house was not perfect, but it is her house and she thinks it is the most beautiful thing she has ever seen. She says she knows that it is a miracle that she has a house and that God has been wonderful to them.

Yara with friends and family



Yara in her new home





Sometimes I think I have seen everything and nothing surprises me anymore in Brazil. This time we had a supernatural surprise. We planned to have a neighborhood outreach with food and music, and went door to door handing out invites. We did have a good crowd, but mostly people who already attended the church. The exciting thing was that there was a large group of new kids, ages 8-12. One boy came up for prayer for his mom who was in the hospital. As the pastor prayed over him, the rest of the kids started crying and weeping, hugging and praying for each other. All we could do was just be with them in that moment. It was a perfect moment that did not need us because God was well in control. Thank you, Lord, for revealing yourself to your children. I love this ministry!!

