



BRAZILIAN CHILDREN'S OUTREACH

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We are running full force into this new year. New projects, finishing on-going projects and expanding our outreach.

The end of the year in Brazil is the end of the school year and their long summer break. It is challenging for us because some of the kids lose their structure, not having to get up go to class, and someone providing a meal each day, so they sort of run wild during this time. So, we give our workers and teachers a small break and then get back on the streets, evangelizing, ministering and teaching the families. Chasing kids requires a lot of stamina and dedication. Please continue to pray over our workers for their health and safety.

One thing we did take advantage of was to fix the electrical at our school, Sorriso. We had wires hanging from the walls and ceilings, and broken and exposed junction boxes. It is a miracle that we never had a fire. Of course, it was more work than we anticipated. It always is, when you start opening walls, but it will soon be finished. Thank God for His protection that nothing happened to any of the kids before we got it all fixed. It will be one less thing we have to worry about, and we can serve these children in a safer environment.



Working on the electrical at Sorriso



This year we are hoping to double the number of kids we can serve at the school. We are praying for provision and guidance regarding this endeavor.

Products

At Christmas we asked some of the pastors to give us names of families that were in the most need. We wanted to give them a special blessing and minister to them. Imagine being in a bad place and an unexpected blessing coming from a complete stranger. They show up and say God led them to their house and all they have to do is accept what He's offering. (the Sadia, in picture, is a full ham)

Let's hear what the families had to say about how this impacted their lives...



Daniela is recovering from a horrible past. She now lives in a small shack in Vargem Grande. Her pastor is Dona Nete, who also runs our Sorriso school. The shack is a step up for her, because she has been on the street and in a shelter for the last 2 years. She once had a house with her children and husband. He was violent and beat her, ripped her teeth out and one day sold the house and all her and the children's belongings, leaving them on the street. She went to a shelter and started selling candy at stop lights to provide for her family. She made enough to move into this house. She is working hard and moving forward day by day. She has been able to raise her head by putting God first, and life has gotten better. Receiving this blessing just made God more real in her and her children's lives. Speechless and grateful was how we left her.



Daniela receiving her blessing

Felipe and Caterina live in the Mossoro neighborhood, and their pastors are Ana and Marcelo of Rendacao church. They are new converts and both are former drug addicts.

They owned a bar and that was their main source of income but felt convicted about their lifestyle. They knew it was a bad testimony for their community and children Gustavo, Douglas and Alice, so they sold it.



Felipe, Caterina, Chris, and Pastor Ana

Daughter Alice

This caused difficulties and they were suffering in their finances. God has provided a good job for Felipe, but they are still recovering. Caterina says that receiving this food made her see God's love in their lives.

Dona Eusenia lost her house in a fire and moved into her daughter's house. Her daughter then abandoned her 4 children and left them with Eusenia. The kids all have behavioral and psychological problems. It has been a tough year for this grandma. Loss and abandonment have hit her and the family hard. Feeling loved was not a part of their life. This experience was like a hug from heaven, showing them that they are not alone, and that God sends hope for those who seek Him.



Eusenia and kids