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## Sorriso do Futuro

We have been working on several projects in Brazil. While some are ongoing, like our food and home building projects, we have some exciting things in progress. One very exciting project is our collaboration with the school, Sorriso do Futuro, Future Smile, in English. It was established by Dona Neite 15 years ago and has blessed many children and their families. She is so popular that the community drew a mural of her on the side of the school.



Dona Neite has fought and sweated every day to keep the doors

open. Covid had a real impact and devastated her work, and children were forbidden to attend. For some the food they received was the only meal they got every day. With the lack of her being able to provide services, most of her support evaporated. She was able to reopen in the beginning of the year, but her landlord doubled her rent and put the building up for sale. She thought it was the nail in the coffin, but God had other plans. He laid it on our hearts to collaborate and help her buy the building. Without giving her any details, I asked her if she didn't have any rent,

what would she do differently.



Without hesitation she said, "double the number of children." She currently has 68 kids. She didn't say redo her office or hire more people, but she only thought of the children who could be blessed. Well, God has made a way, and with generous donations from 2 people we were able to obtain the needed funds and finalized the sale of the property. The title was transferred and now is 100% in the name of Sorriso do Futuro! God is great!





Now to write about one our workers, Edna. She has been with us for 10 years and has developed into a mighty testimony and warrior for Christ: from an unemployed single mother with an 8<sup>th</sup> grade education to a vital and irreplaceable minister, college graduate, wife and mother of a daughter who is in her 3<sup>rd</sup> year of college. I have spoken of her before, but I am so impressed and blessed by her life that I need to talk about her some more. When we go out on the streets everyone wants to get a hug from her. Kids follow her around because she is their refuge from their otherwise terrifying lives.



One such child is Rafael. He lives with his mom, baby sister and stepfather. His stepfather is abusive both physically and mentally. He forces Rafael to go out on the streets to beg for money, and then takes it to buy alcohol. You'd think he would be a sullen, withdrawn boy, but is very kind and loving. He comes to the weekly home meetings with his mom and loves to learn and hear stories of Jesus. This boy and family would not have any chance of life if not for Edna and this ministry. God is working miracles!!! God is saving lives!!!



