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Issue 11: July / Aug 2012 Results and Relationship A bi-monthly insight into the work of UNiViDA

UNiViDA

Bringing life, hope and opportunity to children

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Calculating The Cost Of Life & Poverty In The Slums

A message from UNiViDA's Board of Directors

Of course we can't put a £ value on a human life, but let's just imagine for a moment, that we could calculate the cost of violence, poverty and missed opportunity in the slums of Brazil. Add. Subtract. Multiply. Divide. And like us, you'll be utterly amazed at the magnitude of difference that doing good can make!

Murder = £ ?

Lifetime Disability = £?

Life in jail = £?

Living in Fear = £?

Lost education = £?

Security Costs = £?

Poor Health = £?

Malnourishment = £?

SCENARIO 1

Five young people grow up together. They are addicted to crack cocaine and frequently steal to fund their addiction. Terrified neighbors lock themselves behind gates and businesses move to other areas. Two of the five are gang leaders and fight over their territories. They bribe police to keep control of drug trafficking and keep

them busy with a drug related death rate close to that of a war zone. They rob local women who work intensely, just trying to bring home money for rent and food. Children are tired, malnourished and too frightened to go to school. The other three young people have given up all hope and decide to rob a bank. They kill a young law graduate and injure a security guard with a young family who is now permanently disabled. One robber dies, the other two are imprisoned for life.

SCENARIO 2

Five young people grow up together. Two are brothers, they see each other through hunger, illness and despair. One decides to sacrifice school, get a job and pay for the other to go to college. He is a local store owner and his brother is now a self-employed photographer. The third was abandoned by her family and informally adopted by neighbors. She loved to play 'shop' and dreamed of owning her own business. Today she does and it's growing fast. The remaining two young people grew up dodging bullets. They witnessed cold blooded murders while hiding in the shadows. Instead of joining gangs they discovered their potential in dance and athletics. Today they are married professionals and their lives an inspiration to local teenagers. He wants to start a business to fund a social project that she wants to run for children at risk.

Love of Community = \$?

Determination = £?

Access to credit = £?

Education = £?

Loyalty = £?

Strong Families = £?

Good Leadership = £?

Good Character = £?

Continued... >>>

Both of these scenarios reflect real events in the slums of Fortaleza, Brazil. All the young people in scenario 2 are graduates of The University of Life and most of them can tell you the names of their friends who were caught up in scenario 1.

In the last couple of months we have seen more violence in our slums and have been keeping a close eye on the impact of this on our students and their families. We are thankful



Vincent's Story *Changing Lives, One Day At A Time*

Vincent is 13 years old and in year 8. He lives with his parents and his two brothers in a house in the slums. His mother is currently the only income earner in the family and she works as a maid. Vincent's father has recently returned home after spending time in a drug rehabilitation centre and is unemployed.

Vincent is a conscientious young man and apprehensive about his father. He knows that any involvement in drugs in the slums can quickly lead to great danger for his whole family.

Like many teenagers around him, Vincent is also under pressure to find a job to help his family. If he does, his education will most likely come to an end. However, if Vincent stays in school another 4 years and manages to finish secondary school, his earning potential will be much greater.

Vincent is faced with some difficult choices. However, that's where UNiViDA can step in and offer support to him and his family. By meeting daily needs and helping Vincent study and access vocational training, we can help him through this time of anxiety.

There is no magic solution and it's one day at a time, but with daily support Vincent can receive the variety of support that he needs. studying and support his family.



that with your help we are making a positive difference everyday and even though there is much more we would like to be able to do, every gesture of kindness and every day of provision is making a difference for the people living in these extremely difficult communities.

On behalf of all the staff and students in Brazil and our team here in the UK. Thank you for changing the maths!

THE UNIVIDA TEAM

wwwUNiViDA.org

Share Your Experience of the Olympics with Brazil's Children

On 12th August 2012, the Olympic Flag will be entrusted to the Major of Rio de Janeiro, host of the 2016 Games. The Olympic Flame will be extinguished during the closing ceremony and then begin its long journey to Brazil.

Also in August, the students at The University of Life will be undertaking a project about the Olympics and watching some of the events in our new media classroom.

We'd like you to share the excitement and experience of being a host nation with them as they learn and grow in expectation of 2016.

**Please send us your stories, photos,
newspaper cuttings etc.. Help us pass on
the baton to Brazil!**

Please email: ruth.marques@univida.org



Prayer Calendar >>>

SUNDAY JOHN 17:20-26

Pray for the transformation of individuals in the community where UNiViDA operates. We want to see families restored, people released from addictions and crime reduced.

We believe that by sharing the Gospel, we can see these changes, one life, one house, one street at a time!



MONDAY PROVERBS 29

Pick a verse from this Proverb and pray for the nation of Brazil. Pray for wisdom, justice, opportunity and good governance.



WEDNESDAY PSALM 32

Pray for an end to the despair and hopelessness that causes so much pain and destruction in the slums.



FRIDAY ISAIAH 52:7

Pray for the University of Life teachers to be...

- Safe
- Effective in the classroom
- A great and inspiring team.

THURSDAY MATTHEW 25:40

Thank God for UNiViDA's network of friends, schools and churches in the UK, committed to giving financially support, time and energy in fundraising.

SATURDAY 1CHRON 28:20

Pray for the Trustees of UNiViDA to have good health, a strong partnership and effectively steer the charity into the future.



TUESDAY ISAIAH 42:9-10

Pray for children growing up in poverty, who are hungry, sick, burdened with responsibility and consumed by worry.



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I want to help UNiViDA

Title & Full Name _____
Address _____
Post Code _____ Tel _____
Email _____
(please make cheque payable to UNiViDA)

- Here's a gift of £ _____ to General Funds
- Here's a gift of £ _____ towards _____
(Please specify project)
- I would like to set up a **Monthly Standing Order** for £ _____



THANK YOU: We would like to keep you informed about how your donation is **making a difference**. However, if you would prefer not to hear from us please tick this box.

Don't forget to...

giftaid it

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

(tick box) I want **UNiViDA** to treat all donations that I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid donations.

You must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the appropriate tax year. (currently 25p for each £1 you give).

Please remove me from the mailing list.