



Bringing life, hope and opportunity to children in Brazil

UNiViDA is a Registered Charity No. 1136743
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@lifehopeandopportunity

April 2020

Results & Relationship

Newsletter Issue 64 Page 1/3

It Might Be Quiet Here

The University of Life is currently closed because of the Coronavirus outbreak but our caretaker, Erivando is working hard to keep the grounds and maintain security.



But Not Here!

Did you ever imagine that you would be supporting a charity reaching children at risk in the slums through the medium of a mobile phone?

Well here we all are, and as you well know the internet has become a life line for people all around the world.

Even in the favelas, 70% of our students have access to a basic smart phone which they use to make wifi calls as an alternative to expensive monthly contracts.

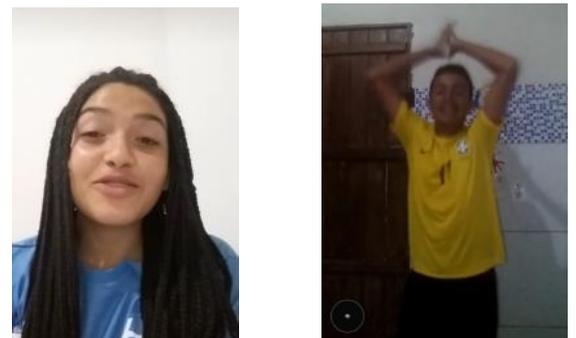
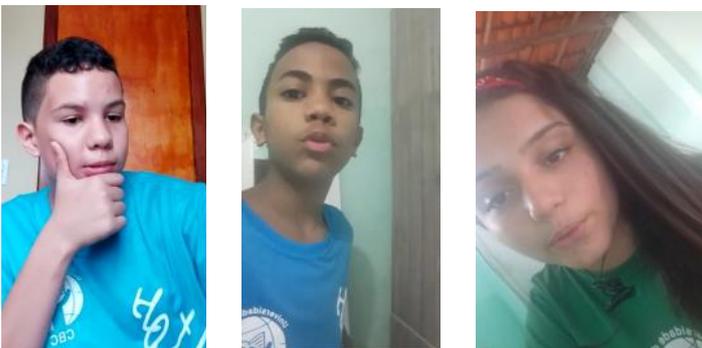
When normal classes stopped, our first priority was to establish contact with as many students as possible using social media. We asked students to help us gather contact details and created groups by class.

We wanted to make sure our students were engaged with us and help them establish a healthy routine whilst at home. We quickly developed a daily schedule of activities whereby the staff could maintain daily contact with their students, pass on essential information and encourage our families during this difficult time.

The University of Life



The University of Life Staff



Students at home responding to daily questions and challenges from their teachers.



Supporting Our Students

Next we established a new school timetable with teachers preparing video messages, reading material, maths challenges and physical exercise.

Each day one of the staff members records an encouraging thought for the day with a Bible passage and time of prayer.

Meanwhile our administration staff have been scrambling to establish new systems to keep up with monthly payments and salaries. Administration in Brazil is usually time consuming and frustrating because of the large amount of bureaucracy.

This month it has been made more complicated because our bank is located inside a shopping mall which is closed and other branches would not help us.

We are delighted to report that after some intense activity and a lot of lateral thinking, we were able to pay the staff at the end of March.



Year 3 student doing PE at home



Students responding to our yoga pose challenges



Students responding to daily questions. Watch Nitasha's video with subtitles on our Facebook Page

Coronavirus In Brazil



Brazil has the highest number of confirmed cases and deaths in South America. However, with the President questioning the impact of the virus and opposing a lockdown, testing is limited and there are fears that the actual death toll is many times higher and will increase rapidly once the virus reaches the favelas.

13 million people live in favelas, with little access to running water to wash their hands, and overcrowded housing which makes social distancing impossible. The public health service is chronically underfunded, and public health and preventative measures are virtually impossible in the crowded favelas with informal economies.

Food Parcels

Our thoughts have now turned back to the needs of our children and their families as the economic implications of the Coronavirus hit the poorest, the hardest.

Most of our families rely on daily or weekly pay to survive and most of their income from domestic work and informal employment has dried up because of stay home restrictions and closures. There is no state support and children are not getting the meal at the project that they would normally receive. Families who have always lived hand-to-mouth are now facing real hunger, desperate need, and making the stark choice between feeding their family and risking their health by working.

For this reason, we have been working with a local supermarket to supply the families of each of our 260 students with a monthly food parcel.

This will consist of non-perishable staple foods such as oil, rice, beans, spaghetti, biscuits, flour, sugar, coffee, and salt. A parcel should provide enough for a family for at least 2 weeks (depending on the size of the family!) and costs around £20.

We know that this is a difficult and uncertain time for many of us. However, we are asking that, if you are able, you could support us in providing food parcels to our kids' families.



“And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. 2 In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. 3 For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, 4 they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord’s people. 5 And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.” 2 Corinthians 8: 1-5

We were reminded the other week of how the early church operated – they were poor, they suffered trials, but they were generous, and God met their needs. We believe He will meet our needs at the University of Life, and will meet your needs at home. If you could provide a gift on a one-off basis, that would be fantastic.

If you are able to provide a monthly gift for the next 2 or 3 months, that would enable us to support our families through the crisis.

We've set up a campaign page on Virgin Money Giving so that we can monitor our progress with this campaign. You can find it at <http://virginmoneygiving.com/fund/unividafoodparcels>

Thanks for your support



UNiViDA

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Standing Order Mandate

Send This Section To Your Bank

To: Manager of _____ (name of your bank)

Address of your Bank _____

Please pay: UNiViDA, HSBC Bank, 31 Carolgate, Retford, Notts
DN22 6DA Sort Code 40-38-11 Account No. 41435434 the
sum of £ _____ commencing on: ____/____/____
and continuing monthly until further notice.

Name (on account to be debited): _____

Account No.: _____ Sort Code: _____

Your Address: _____

Your Signature: _____ Date: _____

Send This Section To Your Bank



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UNiViDA Office 55 High Street, Staple Hill, Bristol BS 16 5HD

Email: office@univida.org

Send To UNiViDA

Reg. Charity in England
and Wales No. 1136743

Title _____ Name _____

Full Address _____

Tel/Mobile _____

Email _____

I will set up a monthly standing order for £ _____
to support a child at The University of Life in Fortaleza.

I enclose a cheque/cash payable to UNiViDA for £ _____
YOU CAN ALSO GIVE ONLINE - Virgin Money Giving

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every
£1 you donate. Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity
from the tax you pay for the current tax year. **Your
address is needed to identify you as a current UK
taxpayer.** In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the
box below, fill in the date & give your full name & address



Date: _____

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £ _____ and any dona-
tions I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to
UNiViDA. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less
Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift
Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my re-
sponsibility to pay any difference.

Please notify UNiViDA if you: want to cancel this declaration, change
your name or home address or no longer pay sufficient tax on your
income and/or capital gains. If you pay Income Tax at the higher or
additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to
you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-
Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your
tax code.

Return to:

UNiViDA Office 55 High St, Staple Hill, Bristol BS16 5HD

Email: office@univida.org

Ways To Give

We invite you to help us transform the lives of more
children in the favelas by becoming a Dreambuilder.

The best way to give is to set up a **Standing Order** with
your bank. You can also give **online through**
Virgin Money Giving or by cash or cheque (payable to
UNiViDA). You may also make donations through your
Stewardship account or using CAF vouchers.

We Provide...

Services to 260 children, 5 days a week

- Hot food & clean water
- Homework Assistance
- 4 hours extra hours of education per day (to compliment 4 hours of state schooling)
- Music, dance, drama, PE, art and IT
- Projects and special events
- Christian education
- Family counselling



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