





# UNiViDA

Bringing life, hope & opportunity  
to children in Brazil

UNiViDA is a Registered Charity No. 1136743  
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## Results & Relationship

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### Latest News

There has been a dramatic decrease in COVID cases in Fortaleza in the last two months and the vaccination process has been steadily moving forward. The pressure on hospitals and particularly intensive care units has been reduced.



However, the Delta variant is arriving in Fortaleza and the situation is being monitored by authorities. We know that The University of Life will face more COVID related challenges but we are moving forward. The state schools have been authorized to begin classes in person with years 2-4 at 30% capacity, year 5 & 6 at 50% capacity and year 7-9, at 100%. Despite this authorization, the ability of the system to deliver remains to be seen.

With teachers getting priority in the vaccination rollout, we too are planning on receiving students into the project on a regular basis. Our objectives will be to re-establish relationships with all our students and prepare them for a full return to the classroom learning in 2022.

Students have been out of school for almost 2 years. We will be creating a special timetable for this period to help children adjust to their return both to public school and the project. Online activities will continue for all classes and students will be able to attend activities at the project twice a week.

We are all looking forward to being face to face again. Thank you for your support.

Ruth Marques, UNiViDA Field Director

### Pedro

We have 262 students registered with us this September. Most are returning students but all of our year 2, 3 & 4 students are new. Pedro is one of them.

Pedro is 9 years old and yet to discover what The University of Life is like. He doesn't know what a school timetable is and he has never had a playtime. He has never been in a classroom and can't yet read.

Pedro's parents are no longer together and neither has been able to raise Pedro because of their addictions to drugs.

Pedro is raised by his stepmother and step-grandfather. He appears to be a very lonely and sad child.



Pedro has expressed to us an interest in learning the guitar. He says that when he listens to music, he forgets all his problems.

For the last year and a half Pedro has participated in our online classes using his neighbor's wife. When Pedro came to collect this food package, his stepmother told us that the University of Life feels like a place of joy and peace.

Pedro needs community. We hope that The University of Life will be a family of caring teachers and friends to support him as he comes to school for the very first time.

## How Have UNiViDA Funds been used during the pandemic?

As a UK charity, UNiViDA makes discretionary grants to our Brazilian partner Crianças do Brasil para Cristo, which is a registered charitable organization under Brazilian law. This is done in the form of an international money transfer. CBC receipts us for the funds and UNiViDA allocates each grant towards either general funds or a specific project.

During the pandemic the Brazilian government has provided some assistance to CBC in Brazil to pay staff salaries. Although this came with several strings attached, CBC decided to accept the help. The benefit has been that less UNiViDA funds have been needed to pay staff salaries and more could be applied to helping our students through the crisis.

As the pandemic continued, we determined that the greatest need among students and their families' was for food. Almost all of them had their source of income disrupted in some way.

UNiViDA has continued to send general funds for utilities and running costs of the programme. The Brazilian government has not paid 100% of salary costs but their contribution did help a lot.

In addition to our desire to renovate the kitchen which we shared with you in our last newsletter, there are also several specific areas of maintenance that are needed.

The UNiViDA trustees are responsible for applying your generous donations to the charitable purposes outlined in our governing documents. We are constantly reviewing our grants and making sure they are applied to bring the most benefit to the children we serve.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. Email us: [office@univida.org](mailto:office@univida.org)

## Staff Update

This month we are sad to say goodbye to Larissa, our PE teacher and Esther our 8th grade teacher. Larissa is leaving for another position and another step towards her ambitious career goals. We wish her all the best and thank her for her 5 years of service and dedication to The University of Life.


Esther is leaving us to return to her family to look after her father who needs care at this time. We will miss both of them dearly.

This is a photo of our team taken at a baby shower which we held for Luzilene and Adalberto. Luzilene has since given birth to their second child, a boy called Gabriel, who is now 3 months old.



### DON'T FORGET


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