





UNiViDA

Bringing life, hope & opportunity
to children in Brazil

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Results & Relationship

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Restoring Hearts & Minds

Just like other schools all over the world, the return of students to the classroom after so long at home, has been a journey of discovery.

In general, we see that younger students are eager to learn and very keen to get back into a classroom environment. Our new students have only been able to dream about what school is like. They are timid, but wide-eyed and ready to go!



We have learned more about the fear and suffering that COVID-19 itself brought upon our community. One student, Lana in year 4, told us that she had lost both grandparents, two uncles, and a cousin to the virus.



Our older students have struggled the most. They have had less support for their studies and have had to deal with poor quality online classes from the public school, many of which were virtually impossible to follow.

They have felt more of the pressure of the pandemic than their younger brothers and sisters. Many of them appear to be depressed and lacking motivation. Ruth described the situation with older students.

"It's like their internal candles of Brazilian joy and energy have been snuffed out. Our teenagers need to be heard and loved, but also challenged to take a stand for their education and their future. We must re-engage them quickly and effectively."

The pandemic has impacted everybody and if they don't take steps forward now, they will encounter a lack of self confidence and regret. Here in the favela that can all too quickly lead to criminal activity and substance abuse. We have an important opportunity to reach out to these young people at a crucial time."

Hunger In The City

The desperation of the poor in Fortaleza made national headlines recently as a [video of people scavenging for food in a dustbin lorry](#), went viral. There are levels of hunger in Fortaleza that we have not seen for a long time. Our journey of discovery has included increasing the quantity of the food we serve to students because so many of them have been asking for seconds. Inflation and supply issues are making the situation even worse.





UNiViDA has also been investing in the restoration of buildings in the grounds of The University of life. Repairs to the student bathrooms in the side of this yellow building have been completed and the whole building repainted.

We have also hired a building company to make repairs on structural columns of our oldest classroom building. Bad concrete has been removed and the columns have been re-inforced with steel.



We are delighted that all of our painting has been done by Erisvando and his crew. Erisvando is a former student who is now a leader in his church, a small business owner and an outstanding painter and decorator. He tells us that he learned the most important lessons of his life here at the project. He has a wife and three small children and we are thankful for the quality work he has done for us.



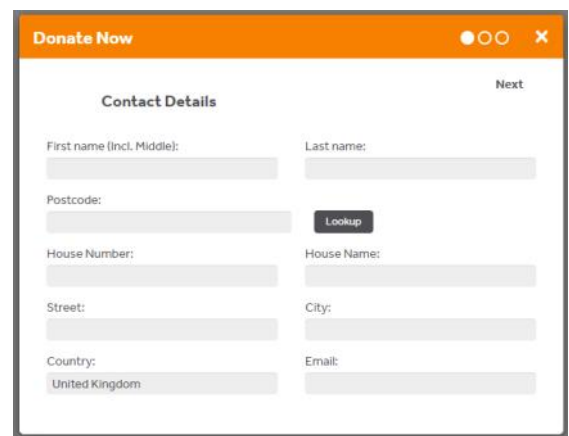
We hope you will agree that the project is starting to look very good. However, there are still lots of things that need to be done. We are still gathering funds for our kitchen renovation and want to start landscaping work for our prayer garden. We want to buy materials now so that we can take advantage of the good prices, before Christmas. If you are able to make a special donation towards these needs we would be very grateful.



The Ways You Give

From the end of November 2021, UNiViDA will no longer receive online donations through Virgin Money Giving. But don't worry! We have a new platform set up which links straight to our donor management software.

If you want to give by credit or debit card, just click the donate button on our website www.univida.org/donate. The form will look like this.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Donate Now" with a "Next" button. The form is labeled "Contact Details" and includes the following fields: First name (incl. Middle), Last name, Postcode, House Number, House Name, Street, City, Country (pre-filled with "United Kingdom"), and Email. There is a "Lookup" button next to the Postcode field.

We also want to encourage you to check the status of your Standing Order and Gift Aid Declaration. Do we have your most up to date information? Please remember that we have to have your address to claim gift aid.

A great way to check in on your gifts to UNiViDA is to download the MyGiving.Online App.



Use the app to update your information, and print statements.

Once you have installed the app, send us an email: office@univida.org, and we will provide you a username and password.

Finally, here is the information you need to set up a standing order. Our bank is HSBC.

UNiViDA Donations

Sort code: 40-38-11

Account No: 41435434

Take a look at both of these pictures. They both speak a thousand words!



As I shared with the children from the stage of our mission bus on Children's day, I was energized and so grateful to be back with them in person. Below is Sara, casually chatting to Ruth with a delightful smile, while eating her meal.

As the children share their stories and experiences, we have all sensed the joy and satisfaction of being reunited in person.



Many children have lost relatives to COVID. In the words of one of the students "walking into The University of Life, we forget all of our problems outside."

Every time I see a happy child I think of people like you who faithfully support UNiViDA through prayer and giving. Sharing these precious photos is another way we can share our heartfelt gratitude. Thank you.

Marc Marques

Brazilian Scooby Doo

This little guy is our newest addition to The University of Life's security team. His favourite hobbies are chewing flip flops and bouncing.

In the future, will be a night guard dog, protecting the compound from unwanted visitors. We are also hoping that with more domestic creatures around, we'll also be able to reduce the amount of unwanted wildlife which has encroached upon The University of Life during the pandemic.



This includes bats in the gymnasium and a horribly venomous flying insect called cavalho do cão. We hope we can encourage them to take up residence far away from us all very soon.



DON'T FORGET

You can support UNiViDA as a charity when you use <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>



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Thanks for your support

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