





# UNiViDA

Bringing life, hope & opportunity  
to children in Brazil

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@lifehopeandopportunity 

## Results & Relationship

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### Just Trying To Get To School

Our students continue to show tremendous resilience despite ongoing disruption to their lives. At this time of the year, a typical morning involves walking to school in a torrential downpour, with no pavements, negotiating puddles of mud and sewage, sometimes up to their knees. In addition to environmental hazards, movements are also limited by the activity of gangs restricting access to alleyways.

The other day I went out to chat to students at play-time. As I got closer to one group, I was shocked about the discussion I heard. While climbing up and down the ladders and ropes, they were casually sharing about who they knew in the community who had been injured or killed by gunfire.

Of course it is terrifying to hear such young children talking this way. It makes me realize just how important it is that these 7, 8 & 9 year old's have somewhere they feel safe.

How thankful we can be that the evil and unrest so many children in the world are experiencing right now, does not have to dictate their future or be their master. Romans 6:11 reminds us that we are alive to God in Jesus Christ. It is by grace that we are able to offer safety, hope and salvation to these children.

### Progress In The Kitchen

As you most likely know, the logistics of a kitchen upgrade are complicated, even for the smallest of projects. However, we are delighted to say that after a lot of planning and even more hard work, the kitchen at the University of Life is taking shape.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to this project. We've been so encouraged with the way you have identified with our needs and offered your support.

The new plumbing and electrics are in place along with new flooring and tiles on the walls. We have painted, and are in the process of installing the final cupboards.

Marc and Ruth are planning to bring photos of the completed phase 1 with them on their trip to the UK in May. Meanwhile, we are preparing for the second phase of the process which is a 24m<sup>2</sup> extension at the back of the kitchen for additional freezers and a laundry area.





## Introducing Adner

Photo: Ruth and Adner

We're so excited to introduce you to Adner, our new year 7 teacher. Adner graduated from college in 2019 and has two years experience teaching children with autism in Rio Grande do Norte, the state adjacent to Ceará. In 2021 Adner got married and moved to Fortaleza.

Adner is a talented teacher with a big heart. She is a great fit in our team of staff and also loves to sing. When we asked her to tell us a bit more of her story we were moved to tears.

Adner was born prematurely and was the second child of her mother, whose first pregnancy ended in a miscarriage. When she was just 9 months old she pulled an oven over on top of herself and nearly died. When she was 5, she had another accident which temporarily paralyzed her legs. She remembers praying one night that she would be able to walk again and the next day, she got the feeling back in her legs.

When Adner went to college, she had a strong desire that her profession and her faith in God would overlap heavily in her workplace. When we offered her the position as year 7 teacher, Adner accepted straight away because she understood that The University of Life was the place where this would be fulfilled.



## UK Visit

Marc and Ruth Marques will be in the UK this May and June. If you would like to get in touch with them to organize an event or update, please email [ruth.k.marques@univida.org](mailto:ruth.k.marques@univida.org)

Bristol Area 7th-15th May  
Chelmsford Area 10th-15th June  
London Area 17th-30th June

During this time their focus will be on raising Dream-builders, monthly givers who provide the funds for all the daily activities of the project. If you would like to update, re-start or begin supporting UNiViDA, please visit [www.univida.org/donate](http://www.univida.org/donate).

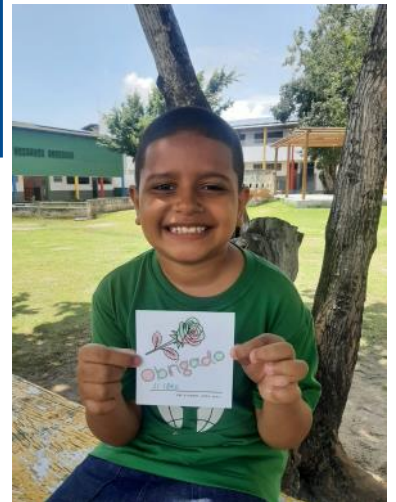
### UNiViDA Donations

Sort code: 40-38-11

Account No: 41435434

[www.univida.org](http://www.univida.org)

## Jerónimo



Jerónimo is 8 years old and in the 4<sup>th</sup> year at The university of Life. He lives with his parents and is an only child.

Their small home is an extension of his grandparent's house, which is a very common situation for young couples in the slums.

At playtime Jerónimo races straight to the football-pitch with his friends so that they don't miss a second enjoying the game they love.

Jerónimo also likes computer classes at the project. He pays close attention to his teachers and even though we often see him struggling to concentrate, he does his best to be obedient and attentive. When he grows up Jerónimo says that he wants to become a fireman.