




UNiViDA

Bringing life, hope & opportunity
to children in Brazil

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@lifehopeandopportunity 

Results & Relationship

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Hello All



My name is Becky Hepworth (pictured here with my husband Paul) and I am so excited to be able to serve UNiViDA as its new Social Media Co-ordinator.

UNiViDA has a special place in my heart; since I was 11 years old, the project has impacted my life in so many ways...

In 2000, my parents decided to take me (11) and my sister (14) to Fortaleza, Brazil. My dad had previously been involved in helping Marc, and now he and my mum wanted to take us out as a family to spend a more substantial amount of time in Brazil. It was a huge change in culture, language and our general normal life in the UK.

Whilst in Brazil, we lived in the grounds of The University of Life and therefore were able to really soak up all aspects of the project. We spent nearly every day with the children. We learnt the harrowing stories of poverty, abuse, gang culture and corruption. At the age of 11, I was humbled by these children who had seen and lived through so much, and yet still had beaming

smiles on their faces. Their lives had hope again – that is the impact that the project had on them. With that hope came a better future, not just for the children at the project, but for their families and the wider community. I remember that their faith in God was nurtured and encouraged (and still is), and it was an amazing experience to grow my faith in God alongside the other children. The University of Life is where I first heard God's voice. It is a haven of love and hope. The children's faces are imprinted in my mind – God never lets me forget them.



From Left: My mum, dad, me, and my sister in 2000.

I returned to the project at age 16 for a summer and again God lead this time in incredible ways. One day, Marc took some of the team and I to visit a child in their home. As we walked through the slum, the reality of their living conditions really hit us.

When we got to the door of the home Marc knocked, but with no reply, he peered through the breeze-block open window. He must have seen the family sleeping, because he told us that some families in the slums sleep through their lunchtime so they can't feel the pain of hunger. There wasn't a dry eye in the team – we cried out of sorrow for these kids who had to endure such hardship. The anger of injustice and

sorrow for these children spurs me on to try and help the project in any way I can.

Every time I see Marc and Ruth, I jump on their vision for UNiViDA – I love to hear their passion for the future of the project. This time round, I knew Marc and Ruth were in the UK and it prompted me to pray again. I heard God say: “ask them if they need any help with the project from the UK.” I messaged Ruth and asked if they needed help, possibly with the social media side of things. Ruth rung me and told me that before they came to the UK, they were praying for someone to help them with this. Wow. God is amazing.

Here is where you come in...

Starting with the UNiViDA Facebook page, I believe we can positively help the project – financially, spiritually and practically. It is a great platform to share stories, to update followers and allow the project to grow.

Do you have a story to share like mine? What are your memories of visiting The University of Life? How has the experienced impacted who you are, and what you do today?

You can message the [UNiViDA Facebook page](#)
Or email me becky.hepworth@univida.org

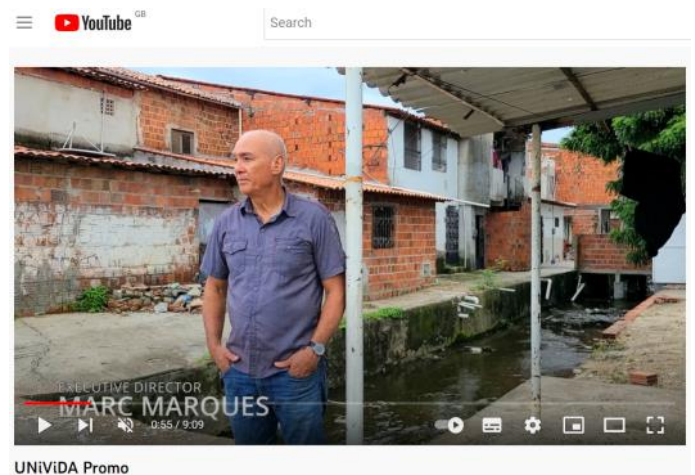
Look out for more updates and if you have a chance over the summer, send us your story. I have complete hope in God for the future of UNiViDA – God is always faithful.



Thank you



Marc and Ruth would like to extend their thanks to everyone who offered them a bed, a meal, a speaking engagement or a cup of tea, during their recent visit to the UK.



A Reminder To Watch Our Video

If you haven't yet had a chance, please take a look at our new 9 minute video with up to date information about The University of Life and the situation in the slums. It's a great tool to share with friends or groups who you think might also like to support UNiViDA.

You can find the video at...

www.youtube.com/unividacharity



More Answered Prayers

Here are our happy bunch of teachers celebrating the last day of term! We are also happy because we have candidates for 3 new positions beginning after the summer break.

We look forward to updating you as we seek to fill these positions in August and September.

With the children on holiday, we have made a start on the last phase of our kitchen update.

This area will be incorporated into the new kitchen making an overall larger space with more storage and better ventilation.

Watch this space for more pictures of the transformation this autumn.



We have come a long way this term. Here is one of our new dance teams!

Thank you for your support.



Is It Time To Update Your Details?

Please update your details and gift aid status / or use this form to make a new pledge to support a child by becoming a Dreambuilder. We will keep your details in accordance with our privacy policy. You can also fill out a gift a declaration at www.univida.org/giftaid

I will give £ _____ per month / one time gift (please circle)

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UNiViDA Donations

CAF Bank

Sort code: 40-52-40

Account No: 00035001

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate. Gift Aid is reclaimed by UNiViDA from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your **address*** is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer and you **must tick** the box below.

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I want to Gift Aid my donation of £ _____ and any donations 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 responsibility 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.

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