



CBC University of Life

Mission Champion: Avril Shipton

Our Mission partners are Marc Marques, who founded the project, and his wife Ruth (who is Avril's daughter). Univida is the UK charity supporting CBC, Crianças do Brasil para Cristo, Children of Brazil for Christ. CBC founded an after school project "University of Life" in 1985 in one of the slum favelas of Fortaleza. Two working teams from Christ Church have been to CBC and three past students and a teacher have visited Christ Church. Univida emails a bi monthly newsletter on request and paper copies are at the back of church.

With help from Univida, CBC provides:

- A safe place for 260 children each day from the adjacent favela
- A way out of poverty through education with a staff team of 20
- Homework assistance, plus music, dance, drama, PE, art and IT
- Hot food and clean water
- Health, environmental and citizenship training
- Christian principles & values
- Family counselling and special needs support
- Family and Community events

2020 UPDATE:

In 2019 there were 15 graduates and record pass rates from students in their state school exams. The art students performed a spectacular Christmas musical, The Mysteries of Christmas, for their families and friends.

Christ Church supported the "Oven Fund" raising £1,575 to replace the failing oven. At Christmas a selfie Angel with flip flop wings was made, the flip flops will be going to the project for the children.

For 2020 some staff have changed roles and new recruits are being trained. Ruth writes "We are excited to see our young teachers growing into a strong professional team." Extra support for 11-14 year olds is being revised as new social challenges in the favela need to be addressed.

There is an urgent need to plant trees for shade because the average day time temperature is rising and also for privacy because the adjacent favela construction is now above the height of the perimeter wall. A fund called the "Environmental Treasure Campaign" will be launched soon.

An extract from a recent Newsletter:

Marcia and Fernanda (not their real names) are twins in Year 7 and when asked what their expectations were for their studies.

Marcia replied: A successful future. We've spent three years waiting for an opportunity to come to CBC and now our dream has come true! Everything here is perfect, and I know I am going to learn a lot!

Fernanda said: This is a great opportunity for me to discover who I am and what I want for my life.

Fernanda is already in the dance team and we are so pleased that these beautiful dedicated young students will be with us at such a critical time in their young lives. Our grateful thanks to you for making this possible.

Thank you to Christ Church and to all individuals who make donations to support this project. Please surround the staff and children with your prayers that they may know God's love in their lives.

www.univida.org

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