

We provide quality education and training for children living
in poverty in the slums of Brazil.

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MORE THAN A 'GYM'

THE NEED

To complete the construction of this multi-purpose community building, releasing it's potential to serve the residents of the community and bring them the good news of Jesus.

HOW ?

1) COMPLETION OF BATHROOMS

Located at the back left hand side of the building, the next task is to install the following.

- Septic Tank
- Water Tank
- Plumbing & Electrical Fittings
- Two Main Entrances

The approximate cost of the above is \$30,000.

Following these installations, a further \$15,000 will be needed for ceramic tiles, fittings, cubicles and doors.

**TOTAL COST TO COMPLETE
BATHROOMS \$45,000**

Background

The University of Life is on a 3.5-acre plot located in the favela (Brazilian slum) of Aqua Fria, a densely populated, poverty stricken settlement approximately 6 miles from the city center of Fortaleza in northeastern Brazil.

In the favelas, basic utilities are inadequate and at best, malfunctioning. 80% of sewage is untreated and more than 65% of rubbish is deposited in open spaces or thrown in waterways. The high prevalence of gang violence, drug and alcohol abuse, and physical and sexual abuse makes favelas unsafe places for children to play. Additionally, the roads are unpaved, which means that during the rainy season, roadways become foul smelling stagnant pools, quickly spreading disease.

The University of Life is a physical, emotional and spiritual oasis from the chaos of the favela. On a daily basis it is a second home to over 250 children who receive 4 hours of quality Christian care and education within it's walls.

The Story So Far

In 2005, The University of Life began construction of a multi-purpose building which would compliment the existing classroom buildings on the site, by providing a safe, covered area for sports and recreation. However, the vision for this building is far greater than sports alone. In a place with no communal facilities or safe place to meet, what is affectionately call 'the gym' is really a community center at the heart of the favela. There is simply nothing else like it.

Built in phases, 'the gym' has already been used for evangelistic crusades, Christian music concerts, children's fun days and theatre presentations in addition to it's daily recreation use. It has the potential to be used for much more once the final stages of construction are complete.

These are the final phases...

- 1) Completion of bathrooms
- 2) Construction of an independent and secure entrance which will enable us to safely hold regular events.
- 3) Completion of two upstairs rooms, a training/resource room and a studio room with the potential to hold a community radio station.
- 4) Creation of a running track around the building for athletics training.

