

**STATESIDE OFFICE**

P.O. Box 41351

Long Beach, CA 90853

Phone: (562) 505-2764

[www.brazilianchildren.org](http://www.brazilianchildren.org)*November 2012*

We made it back from another whirlwind trip to Brazil. We hit the ground running & didn't stop till we hit the ground back in the States. We arrived on Children's day and went straight from the airport to an event at a church that is a new partner with us. Since this was our first time with them we could just observe and watch the children enjoy the day.

**(Fun & Games)**

They had games, a play, food and most of all they were feed with the word of God. We are looking forward to doing many works with them and expecting great things together with God.

We are currently identifying projects that we can do together. Kesia & Cristiano Nunes our contacts, our families have known each other for over 30 years. Kesia was raised at Maanaim and she and Cristiano were married at the school. Keisha's father was Galdino, my parent's faithful and loyal friend; our caretaker at Maanaim for 20 years. So I can safely say that we know and trust these people and know that they have a heart for Christ and for the children.

We have already identified one project, to help a family improve their house. When I say house, it is actually a poster board shack. The family attends Keisa & Cristiano's church and their 5 children are active in many church activities. They are in the middle of the jungle off a dirt road with more holes than flat ground.

A picturesque location, but not a friendly place when you have nothing. Dona Julia is striving to make changes in her life and we see that she is someone who could benefit and appreciate any thing we can do for them.

**(Our House)**

The "house" is 2 rooms, no bathroom, no water and literally cardboard walls.

**(House)**

I really don't know how it holds up the metal sheeting that serves as a roof. Dona Julia, the mother, keeps the house very clean and the children are as clean as they can be living under these circumstances.

**Jer. 29:11 (NIV)**

"For I know the plans that I have for you," Declares the Lord, "Plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."



They wash at the grandmother's house, which is not much better, but does have a bathroom. The kids have very little, but keep what they have neat and clean. We are currently working on an estimate to see what it would take to give her real walls and add a bathroom. We have gotten a commitment from her family that they will help with the labor; so that will help keep costs down.



(Kitchen)

The day we, Kesia, Jodi, Libby and I went to visit the home we took some items to leave with the family. On the way we stopped to buy food at the grocery store bought and a hot meal for the family. The kids were



(Jodi & Beautiful child)

very excited to see us and a little confused as to why we were bringing them things. They are not accustomed to people being kind just for the reason that God said this is something to do. The mother told Kesia that they were down to a little bit of rice and nothing else; so the food was very welcome. The kids, who are normally shy, warmed up immediately and let us hold and hug them freely.

What we thought would be the biggest hit with them, the toys; they ignored and were ecstatic about the tooth brushes.



(Libby & kids)

They immediately opened them and started to brush, showing us how they know the proper technique. Only after they had thoroughly brushed and flossed did they even look at the other items. The pens, paper and school supplies were a big hit. The girls were especially happy that they had "girl" pencil cases and their brother had a "boy" case.



(Our Crew) Being able to go into these people homes and in some small measure make their better is a blessing to us. We see first hand how they struggle, work hard and still live in misery. The ones who have made a commitment with Christ and are striving to live a Godly life, deserve help from other Christians. This is missionary work, taking God's love and delivering it to their door step

(Beautiful Family)



Maybe not thousands at a time, but with that one life will be multiplied throughout that neighborhood. They will see that God cared enough to send someone from far away to the middle of the forest in Brazil to save that one person. What a wonderful testimony. When these beautiful children, who maybe aren't the cleanest or smell the nicest, smile and say thank you with all their hearts; it makes it all worth the effort.

This trip had many highlights and one of the biggest was the way the people thank us. Thanked us with not only words but showered us with love and appreciation. They tell us that with our help they can take Jesus into these people's homes and share His love.

If you ever thought that other countries don't still see us as a good place; I was showed how these people think of the USA. We were watching the devastation of hurricane Sandy and the Brazilians were shocked at the devastation. They said if anything ever happened like that in Brazil, it would be the end of their economy. But they all agreed that if any country could surpass this devastation and come out of it in a positive fashion the US was the place. Never forget that we are a blessed nation and that others still see us as such and we are blessed because we bless others. When we sit down and Thank God for all our blessing this Thanksgiving, let's remember those whom are not as fortunate as us but are worthy because they are part of God's family.