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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

May 2015



www.THECHANNEL.org

Our vision is to form the next generation of Christian leaders, ready to transform their communities and nation. We are an organization with 30 years of experience and success helping children at risk.



Well Well Well

Thank you so much to everyone who has helped us kick off this campaign.

We're delighted to report that we've already raised **\$1090** towards our goal of **\$9750**.

We are excited about the prospect of providing a sustainable and clean source of water for the ministry of CBC.

Please, please participate in this campaign and help us reach our goal quickly so that just like the computer classroom, we can make this vision into a reality as soon as possible. **Just use the slip enclosed, every little helps together we can do it!**

Thanks for your support! **Marcondes Marques**



A Word From Oseias

Thanks to everyone who attended our Spring Banquet in Virginia and all those who made Oseias feel so welcome during his recent trip to America. This is what he had to say about his trip.



During my many years working at CBC in Brazil, there was something that I was always curious about. *Who were the people from America that helped us?* How did they live, what did they do, what were their families, schools, churches and work places like?

I had great admiration for these people who, without knowing the children we work with, or personally knowing the staff or their families, believed in the vision of CBC. They understood that these children from the slums are unfortunately not valued by many people here in Brazil, but, despite being far away, they concerned themselves with our people and understood that their help could make a difference.

Today, fifteen years later, I can say that I know more about 'these' people. (Compared with Brazil), **YOU** come from a nation filled with values and principles based on family. These values cannot be bought or sold but are built over the course of lifetimes. I also see that you have a deep relationship with God and that helping others all over the world is a part of your culture. I believe that this culture of giving has contributed to human and spiritual development all over the world.

I hope and desire greatly that my nation can develop some of these principles. Personally I feel called to be someone who lives and teaches these values, that I have seen by example in your lives in America.



This is my reflection on my trip but so far I haven't even mentioned how much I've enjoyed being in a developed nation with so much access to technology and services which for my nation are still a dream. I see God's love and faithfulness to me as I think about the opportunity I have had to see and do things here that even a person with lots of money might not be able to experience.

I am thankful to God for CBC and for special people like Marcondes and Ruth and everyone who is part of the CBC family who have made this trip possible for me. May God abundantly bless your lives.

Flavio's Story

If you didn't have the opportunity to hear Oseias talking about the story of Flavio, here's a powerful example of the way CBC has not just changed the future of a young person in the slums, but set them on a path above and beyond what they could ever imagine.



This is Flavio at the age of 9. He grew up in the slums just a few steps from CBC. Like many children his father abandoned the family early on in his life, leaving his mother with no income and 3 young boys to care for.

Flavio is the youngest of 3 brothers and all three were helped by CBC which at the time was still just starting out as an after school program. Flavio has beautiful memories of CBC as a place where he was fed well and had space to play and feel loved.

However, Flavio's life was about to get even more difficult. Without regular income poverty and hardship became overwhelming for his mother and she decided to leave the slums. At this point the boys were 12, 15 and 16 and they were heartbroken at the prospect of leaving CBC and moving back to the rural interior where there was very little for them. The 3 boys made the brave decision to stay by themselves with the oldest two taking on responsibility for Flavio and laying aside their education temporarily so they could work. At this point all three of them knew that a better future depended on opportunities to study.

Flavio was one of the first CBC students to go to college. He graduated in physical education and pursued with confidence an interest in photography which had been sparked by an American on a short term mission trip to CBC who had taught a course on photography and identified Flavio's artistic flare and eye for photography.

Today Flavio is a professional photographer specializing in 3 Dimensional photography. The sacrifice and determina-



tion of his brothers has also paid off. Today all three brothers are married, have completed their education and are working in good jobs.

Flavio and his brothers have most certainly found a pathway out of poverty and though it hasn't been easy, the character and determination is exemplary.