



St Michael's Church
Stoke Gifford



UNiViDA

Bringing life, hope & opportunity
to children in Brazil

**Mission Partner of the Month
June 2025**

“In parts of North-Eastern Brazil, 90% of children and young people live in poverty...”

Univida provides Christian education for around 260 children aged between 7 and 14 in the slums of Fortaleza, where children go to state school for only 4 hours a day; Univida offers 4 additional hours of education covering all subjects, including art, music, drama, sport and IT, as well as arranging family events.



Marc & Ruth Marques who lead UniVida say, “Our focus is on restoring hope for children who often fail to believe they can achieve anything in life because of the conditions they live in, and our purpose is to provide the daily support that children living in the slums need, to find their way out of poverty.”

The children enjoy nutritional food, clean water, and classroom education. Every day begins with worship and prayer because Univida wants each child to know Jesus as their personal Saviour and the source of hope, love and joy. They recently took a whole day to teach their students about prayer and invited them to participate in times of prayer. “We prayed for each other, the teachers and the project - it was a beautiful time”.



Antônio's Story

The team at Univida love to see lives changed through attending the University of Life. Antônio is an orphan who came to Univida in 2022. Previously, he used to spend long periods in his room and was unwilling to socialize with other children. During his first year at the project, the teachers noticed Antônio's difficulties; he was troubled, sad, and angry with God. However, after a few months, we saw positive signs of change. Antônio started to smile more and made friends with his classmates. He has since written, "The University of Life is where I found my happiness." Pray for Antonio as he continues his journey of faith and discovery at the project.



Prayer Requests for Univida:

- For children facing hunger, violence and abuse in the slums.
- That staff will be able to show the love of Jesus to the students.
- That students' fathers will spend time with their children & encourage them.
- For a teaching assistant, Silvia, recovering after a major operation.
- For plans for a St Michael's team to visit UniVida next summer!



More information: www.univida.org facebook: @lifehopeandopportunity

St Michael's Link person: Claire Jessop

Other St Michael's Mission News

- We cry out for mercy and a ceasefire in Gaza and especially for those at Al Ahli Hospital, run by the Anglican church, that was bombed recently.
- Give thanks for the thirteen 3rd years who graduated from El Shaddai Bible College two weeks ago now starting the next stage of their ministries.
- Pray for those children in Gotesti and Tiganca hearing about Jesus through their Taekwondo classes and for those preparing to go from St Michael's on the September Moldova Mission Trip.
- Continue to pray for Alice's recovery and for Kassim & Anne leading SIITA Nest.
- Give thanks for the money provided that will enable most of the re-building of the school in Morobo, S Sudan.