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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Quality education** and **training** for **children** living in **poverty** in the **slums of Brazil**.



[www.THECHANNEL.org](http://www.THECHANNEL.org)

**May 2020, We are praying for you!**



**This month we take an in-depth look at CBC's response to COVID 19.**

**Find out how we are supporting children in the slums as they spend time at home.**

**Find us on Facebook @channeltobrazil**

## **Spring Fundraising - Matching Grant Extended Into May**

It's been a tough few weeks of adjustment for all of us but even more so for children like Nitalia pictured above (watch her video on our Facebook Page), who is trying to work out why she can't go to school or CBC. Instead her mother's small income has dried up and the family are depending on handouts and food parcels.

We believe that Christians all over the world have the strength and resourcefulness to help their global community and shine the light of Christ into peoples lives at this difficult time. Join with us as we serve our children and their families in Fortaleza. We need your prayers, creative ideas, fundraising passion and financial support. Thanks!



**Give online [www.thechannel.org](http://www.thechannel.org) or send a check in the envelope enclosed**

**Please help us reach our \$10,000 goal.**

## It Might Be Quiet Here

CBC is currently closed because of the Coronavirus outbreak but our caretaker, Erivando is working hard to keep the grounds and maintain security.

## But Not Here!

Did you ever imagine that you would be supporting a non-profit reaching children at risk in the slums through the medium of a mobile phone?

Well here we all are, and as you well know the internet has become a life line for people all around the world. Even in the favelas, 70% of our students have access to a basic smart phone which they use to make wifi calls as an alternative to expensive monthly contracts.

When normal classes stopped, our first priority was to establish contact with as many students as possible using social media. We asked students to help us gather contact details and created groups by class.

We wanted to make sure our students were engaged with us and help them establish a healthy routine whilst at home. We quickly developed a daily schedule of activities whereby the staff could maintain daily contact with their students, pass on essential information and encourage our families during this difficult time.

Next we established a new school timetable with teachers preparing video messages, reading material, math challenges and physical exercise.

Each day one of the staff members records an encouraging thought for the day with a Bible passage and time of prayer.

Meanwhile our administration staff have been scrambling to establish new systems to keep up with monthly payments and salaries. Administration in Brazil is usually time consuming and frustrating because of the large amount of bureaucracy.

This month it has been made more complicated because our bank is located inside a shopping mall which is closed and other branches would not help us.

We are delighted to report that after 5 days of intense activity a lot of lateral thinking, we were able to pay the staff at the end of the month.

Our thoughts have now turned back to the needs of our children and their families as the economic implications of the coronavirus hit the poorest, the hardest. We want to help with food parcels and are studying how we can do this safely.

Most of our families rely on daily or weekly pay to survive and most of their income from domestic work and informal employment has dried up because of stay home restrictions and closures.

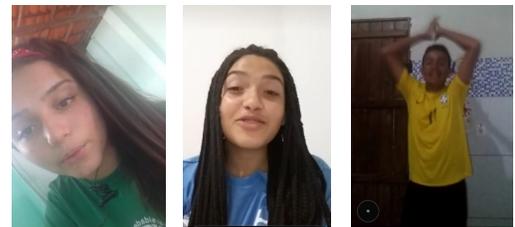
Overall, the coronavirus situation in Brazil is still very unclear. Stay up to date on our Facebook page with video messages from Marc and Ruth.



The grounds of CBC



CBC Staff Working Online



Students at home responding to daily questions and challenges from their teachers.

