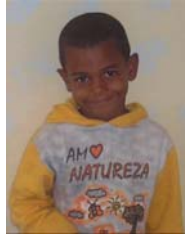




Working with the children of
Southern Brazil -
**Building now to change
the future!**

Registered Charity No: 1087066

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"I was left alone when my mother disappeared, I was about six years old. I have a photograph of her, but I can't remember much about her now, and I don't know if I will ever see her again. I would like to see her again, if possible."



"I was abused by my stepfather, who used to hit me if I did not want to do some sexual things for him every week. I normally did it, to escape from being beaten."



"I lived in fear most days, never knowing who I would be able to trust, and I ended up crying a lot, wetting the bed, unable to concentrate and learn things at school, and I found it really difficult to make friends. I did not want to go home, and when I was out, I was bullied. I wanted to find someone to love me."



Voice for Change provides homes where the children feel safe and cared for.

They are able to attend school regularly, learning to make friends, play games and get an education. The children sleep well at night in clean beds, sit around a table to eat regular good food, and play sport and games in a family environment.

Voice for Change works with each individual to provide help and support for their emotional, educational, spiritual and physical needs, helping them to grow up free from fear and deprivation in a loving and secure environment.



Jhonatan, aged 9 and Tais (12), who are brother and sister and recently come to live at *casa Branca*, lost their mother from AIDS in the summer. Tais had looked after her for some years, and has brought up her brother since his early years. She is struggling to come to terms with the loss of her mum and how to be a child again. These children really need our daily help and support.

We have another new girl at casa Dourada, Isis, who is 8 years of age. She has been neglected and abandoned by her mother, leaving her alone and afraid, which has resulted in the authorities taking her into care. and now asking us to look after her. Isis' rehabilitation may be long and difficult.



Our Quick Hit teams are breaking new ground!

November 2008 - the first time that a team from the UK runs in the Curitiba Marathon! Runners in the full marathon and also the 10km spend a Sunday morning slogging up and down the hills of the city for a great cause - supporting Vfc!

You can see what they got up to on our blog, on the Vfc website, and you can sponsor them online too, at any time. You can also book in to run in the 2009 or 2010 marathon yourself, as we will be taking teams every year from now on! If you are not a runner, you can still visit Brasil with us! We plan a special World Cup trip in 2014 too! Ask us for details now!

Please look out for Voice for Change Golf Days in 2009, and if you love playing golf, please let us know and we will send you an invitation!



Meet the Voice for Change Team members!

Luiz-Claudio and Darci started babysitting at weekends in 2003 and were looking after our children one Saturday evening when thirteen armed robbers 'visited' one of our houses and took everything in it. With his life being threatened, Luiz-Claudio defended the children, and kept them safe. They soon became full-time house-parents, and today look after five children in *casa Dourada*, which was bought after the robbery. They have seen nine children through the house over the past five years. They are two true heroes of this work.

Christmas Shopping!

A massive choice of quality cards and gifts are on offer - goats, chickens, a trip to the beach, Sunday lunch, underwear, DVDs, trees, to name but a few - there's something for everyone in our easy-to-use online shop, open all year round, on **www.voiceforchange.org** You will really enjoy your visit, and all you buy will help the children more than we can say ...

Recycle your inkjet cartridges

and raise money for Voice for Change. Please use the freepost envelope with this newsletter. Most cartridges are worth at least £1, for more details please contact our office.

Congratulations and thanks to
Alcester High School Stevenage Vineyard
Uppingham Methodist Church, Meadow Way Concert
The Norwich Rotary Walkers
all our regular child sponsors
and to everyone else who has given to us!

This newsletter is produced twice a year. If you would like more copies please let us know, or download it from our website. Please spread the word about Voice for Change to your colleagues, friends and family, and if you would like to do a fundraising event for Vfc, please let us know and we will provide as much support as possible.

Please keep up to date with events in Brasil by reading the blog on our website at www.voiceforchange.org

All money raised goes direct to Brazil to help the children, no money is spent on administration in the UK.