

Annual Report for Mount Moriah (Missao Crianca, Uberlandia, Brazil)

The year 2010 ended with us feeling satisfied with what we had achieved, and at the same time a little sad because all that we dreamed of doing has yet to be realised.

Anyway, we can report in the first place that the construction of the Vocational Centre at Mount Moriah was started successfully with the completion of the first two classrooms; the cookery room and a room for woodwork, pottery and arts and crafts. These two rooms have great importance for the final project, as now we can look for local managers, not only with a promise but with something definite and already in full progress.

During the course of 2011, we will be in line to attract the greatest number of helpers and we will have success. We believe in this affirmation because God is with us and with his help nothing can fail.

Our Visitors

Each day that goes by, Missao Crianca attracts more and more respect and admiration from the population of Uberlandia, which results in many visits and donations, as you can see from the statistics below:

Visits from students of various Faculties, with the aim of study and recreation	19
Birthday parties for children outside of the Mission, whose mothers are resolved to celebrate in our company.....	11
Festive lunches for all the children promoted by various friends.....	12
Various events involving players, shows, refreshments, etc.....	68
Total events.....	110

As you can see, there were 110 events that represent an average of 9.16 per month which demonstrates well how highly the Mission is regarded and respected by our community.

Adoptions

In the year 2010, no less than 11 of our children were adopted by Brazilian families - practically one adoption per month. They were the following:

- **Ingrid Rafaela Mota Alcântara**, adopted by Mrs Rose, her maternal aunt;
- **Emanuel Augusto dos Reis**, adopted by aunt and uncle Jose and Dilmair;
- **Luís Humberto da Silva Júnior**, adopted by couple Renato and Risoneide;
- **Camila and Karoline Cardoso**, adopted by couple Olney and Ivonete;
- **Késsia Lúcia Pereira Silva**, adopted by couple Neilton and Liliana;
- **Michele Cristina de Lacerda**, adopted by her own sister Celio;
- **Marcelly Rayssa** adopted by maternal aunt and uncle Antônio Pedro dos Santos and Maria José;
- **Aryágata Antônia Campos da Silva and Rony Wender**, adopted by Mrs. Simone Aparecida da Silva; and
- **Michael Silva** adopted by couple Daniel and Lamia.

We are delighted with these adoptions and ask that God may protect these families and that they will be able to find full happiness.

The Vocational Centre

Returning to the Vocational Centre, it is necessary to register in this end-of-year report what we intend to achieve with it:

In the first place, we recognise that in our experience of 18 years, directing Missao Crianca and living close to the problems of these children from unstructured homes, we are well able to understand how great the cultural difference is between a child born in such a home, and a child coming from a home where there is a mother and a father who are responsible and interested in their education.

The children from the first group, born and raised without direction, are like a ship lost in the middle of the ocean, with the sails torn and the rudder damaged. They follow any course, and what is worse, often they are going to fall into the hands of traffick-ing and prostitution. The injustice for the children born into circumstances like this is very sad and naturally God would not have wished that we remain indifferent to such injustice.

The Vocational Centre is a force to change the course of the lives of these children. Through it we intend to present to these children the greatest number of professionals that exist in the market, giving them a perspective for the future, and a greater preparation for it.

It will not yet be a professional school, but only a Professional Vocational Centre working with children in the 10 to 15 age range. We hope that will we will be able to deter them, at this critical age, from looking to other alternatives for their lives. The children will study in the mornings in the neighbourhood schools and in the afternoons at the end of the classes they will come to the Mission, where they will remain until 5 o'clock involved in more diverse activities.

We are starting to work with our own children; soon the first classmates from the local (council-run) school will come to augment our group, chosen from the most deprived, and while the construction of new classrooms is still progressing, the pupils from outside will be added until there are 400 pupils within 2 years.

It is a daring plan that aims for those 400 pupils. In our experience, we will have to function like a laboratory, where a new proposition will be tested and approved so that afterwards it will be possible for it to be copied by legislators of goodwill.

May God not allow us to become discouraged.

Carlos Mercadante (Project Manager)
Translated from the Portuguese by Andrea Thomas



A selection of Mount Moriah photos sent to us recently. The Vocational Centre is above, with Carlos Mercadante (founder of Mount Moriah) and his assistant at top left.