

2016

Annual Report



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 Building Living Stones

 /BuildingLivingStones

 BuildingLS

BuildingLivingStones.org

ANNUAL

REPORT

2016

Living Stones LENDs through Local Leaders (Love, Educate, Nurish, and Direct to Jesus)



Living Stones Partnerships



Partners with:
World Help(worldhelp.net)
Brandywine Community Church
Glory Sports
International School of Carpina

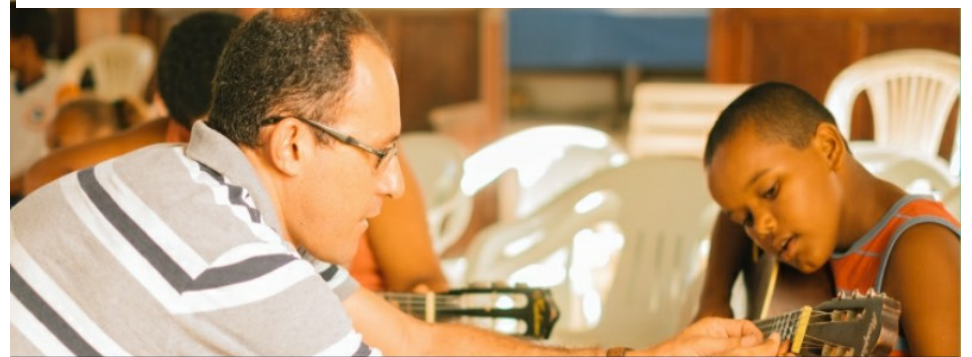


Partners with:
Shelbyville Community Church
International School of Carpina



Partners with:
The children from Community Church of Greenwood
Glory Sports
International School of Carpina

Note: Our goal is to have a church partnership with each Living Stones program, to form long-term, reciprocal relationships that will transform both partners: especially the children in the churches.



Get More Involved: BuildingLivingStones.org



Pray



Give



Go

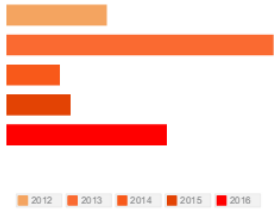


Trek



Represent

Birthdays Celebrated



Birthdays are a chance to remember God made you special, and gave you a gift: time.

We have Living Stones programs in three communities, and do regular outreaches in three others

150 children in our full-time program



3,500 complete meals served



15,000 filling snacks



300 kids reached in outreaches

Kids in our program are doing better in school, and participating more in their local church. They are receiving opportunities they never had before.

The Biggest Needs for Living Stones



God's transforming hand in the lives of these children. Only He can make the heart change that will last.



More passionate local leaders and volunteers that will step up and make a difference in their community and church.



Long-term partnerships with individuals, groups, and churches that will come alongside a community and a church in Brazil and make a difference. We call them Foundation Builders.

Note: Find out how to become a Foundation Builder: wribrazil.com/foundationbuilder



Caid and Rachel Ferguson

Hello! We are so excited to report an amazing year for Living Stones. Our vision as coordinators continues to grow and be challenged as we work to form deeper reciprocal relationships with the local leaders, children, and supporters, as well as work ourselves out of a job: successfully training and assisting the Living Stones workers.

2017 will be a year to reflect and see how things are going on their own, as we will be in the USA, and hope to connect with you personally. We will be receiving more training and working with World Renew International in Public Relations.

For updates and information about us: FiveMinutesOffFergie.com

How you can Pray for Living Stones



Pray for the children in the program. Each one has a story and great needs. Find out more on our blog: buildinglivingstones.org/blog



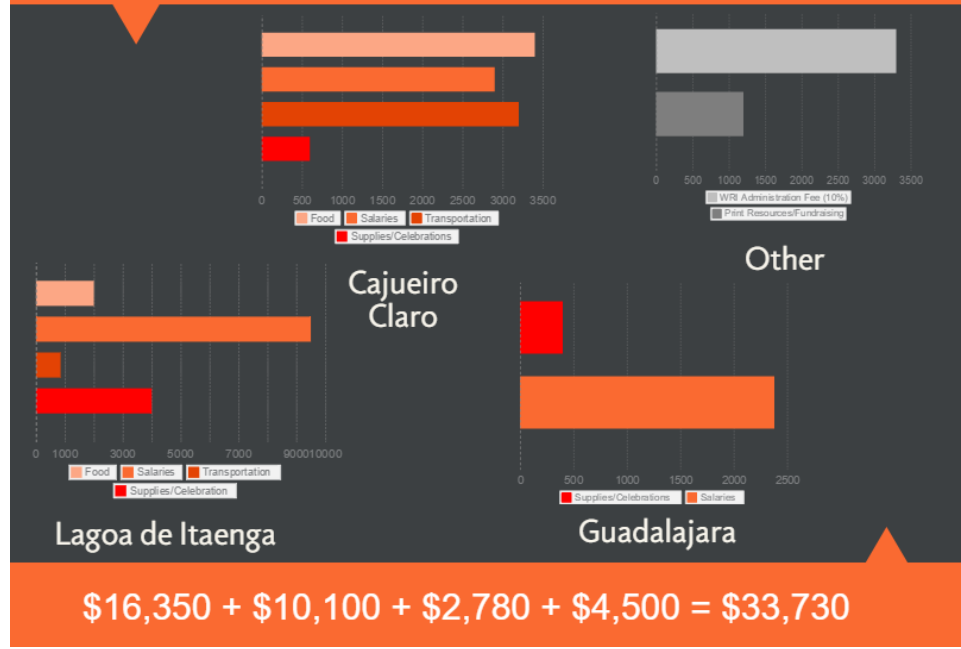
Pray for the local leaders. These are passionate Christians who have given their lives to serve these kids, and have their own needs as well.



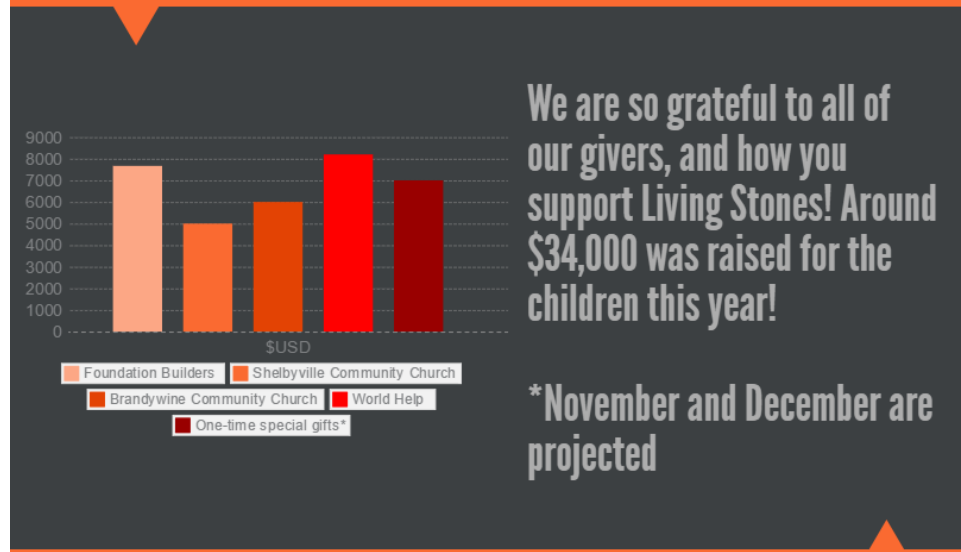
Pray for our partnerships, that they would truly be reciprocal and bring glory to God. Donors need to receive, and the communities have so much to give!

Note: To keep up with current prayer needs, sign up for our e-newsletter, at the bottom of our website: BuildingLivingStones.org

YEARLY EXPENSES



YEARLY DONATIONS



If you have any further financial questions, write amobrasil99@hotmail.com



What Does a Child Receive

When Sponsored?



Tutoring (basic reading, writing, and math, and more, depending on location).



Character and life skills training, and gets to know the local church leadership.



Access to a program that meets four times a week, connected with a church.

Note: Each location makes sure that the nutritional needs are met

Missions Statement

Living Stones LENDs through local leaders (Love, Educate, Nurish, and Direct to Jesus).

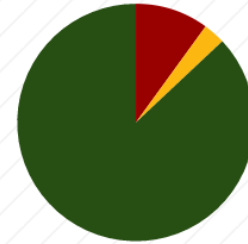
We build a new future for children in needy communities. Through local and international sponsors, we end the cycle of poverty and create lasting relationships through local churches.

This is based on 1 Peter 2:5 and Matthew 19:14



Cammilly Won a Scholarship!

Cammilly is a hard worker, and wants to be a teacher when she grows up. She lives with her mom, younger brother Joao, and stepfather. Her father left to live with his "other family" (many men have two common-law wives) when she was 5 years old. Because of the Living Stones program, and all the extra tutoring she received, Cammilly won a scholarship to a private school in a near-by town. The only sad part was that she's unable to continue with Living Stones (her new school is an all-day program). Cammilly and her family were excited that her brother Joao was able to take her place at Living Stones: In Lagoa de Itaenga, 150 kids signed up to join Living Stones this year, but there was only room for 60 children. We need you to join our child sponsorship program called Foundation Builders so that we can reach children like Cammilly and Joao. wribrazil.com/foundationbuilder



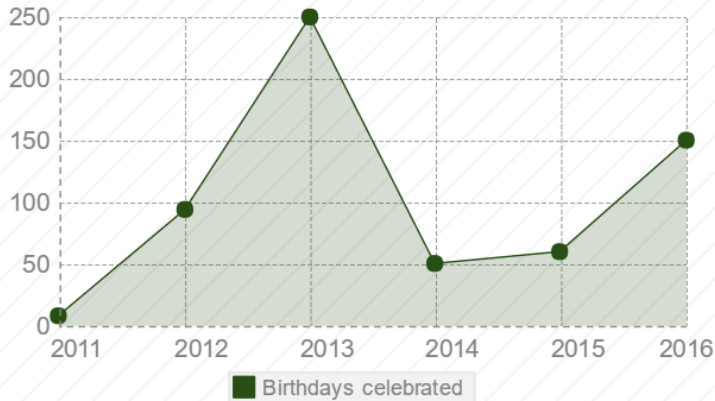
■ WRI Administration costs (10%) ■ Fundraising/Resources (3%)
■ Living Stones Programs (87%)

How Money was Spent



Luan's Full Tummy

Luan's big smile quickly gets him out of trouble, and trouble finds Luan quickly. He lives in Cajueiro Claro, his days filled with Living Stones and running around the community barefoot. Many days his family has enough to eat. But some days they do not—enough days to be a serious problem. Brazil has come a long way in the past 10 years, and children are not starving to death. But many, like Luan, do not have food security. Regularly not having food triggers the brain to go into survival mode, making it harder for the children to learn. Living Stones is the only social program in the area, and we feed them hot, complete meals four times a week: this fills in the gaps and helps Luan's smile to shine. It only costs about \$1 for a meal. This Thanksgiving, let's remember those who don't have: wribrazil.com/5for5

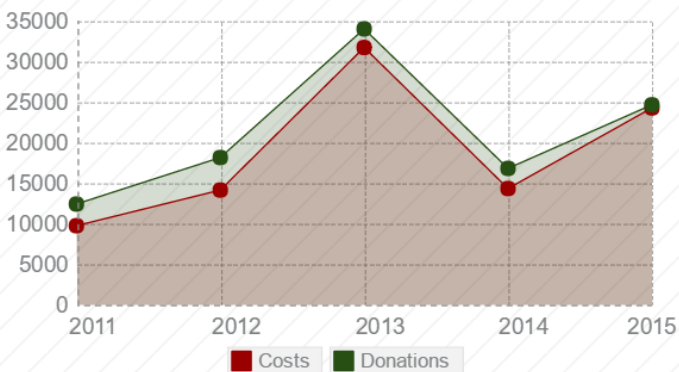


Support at Birthday party for \$10!



Maria Eduarda's Shy Smile

Maria Eduarda lives in Cajueiro Claro, in a small home with dirt floors. There is no running water, and life is not easy. She and her three sisters just moved into the area, and have been able to find friends at Living Stones. As it gets close to October, every child in Brazil is thinking the same thing: Children's Day is coming! When Maria Eduarda was asked about Children's Day, she said, with a shy smile, she hoped there would be a party. She then whispered into my ear: "Children's Day is my birthday! I will be eleven!" Children's day isn't just for kids who can afford it, it is about celebrating that God made each child, and so they are special and valuable and loved. Help us celebrate: wribrazil.com/10forthem



For more financial information, write to amobrasil99@hotmail.com



What do I Receive
When Sponsoring a Child?



Opportunities to visit Brazil alone or with a team
wribrazil@gmail.com



Monthly blog updates and e-newsletters about the church and community you support.



Options to write and form a friendship with an individual child
amobrasil99@hotmail.com

Note: Because all of the money goes directly to the programs (except the 10% WRI Administration Fee and a small yearly amount for fundraising), we do not have the mailings and resources of a large sponsorship program.



Does it make a difference?

Child sponsorship is a great way to get personally involved through prayer and letter writing, and perhaps visiting the child.

Child sponsorship is a proven way (<http://www.compassion.com/does-child-sponsorship-work.htm>) to make lasting changes for children in developing countries.

Your monthly \$30 makes sure that the programs they are in can continue, and the children have a stability that is necessary in ending poverty.



Blog: BuildingLivingStones.org/cajueiro-claro



A small rural town of about 30 families, 4 kilometers off the main road.



A hard community with a lack of food, jobs, and opportunities. There are no other programs serving there.



Started in 2010, 15 children came to Christ, and many are helping the 30 younger kids who are currently in the program.

Note: The church was started through the Living Stones program: reaching out to the children, then inviting their families to a service.



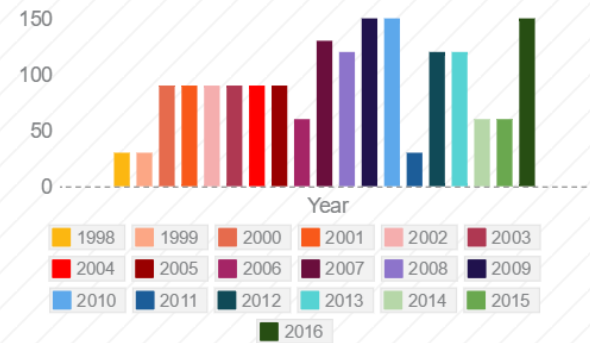
Pastor Flavio Travassos

Pastor Flavio started walking each day to this hard to reach community in 2010. His commitment and ministry has only grown since then, now married to Mercia (also an amazing teacher and leader), with their daughter Heloise.

His vision is to plant 20 churches in the next 20 years, through children's ministries.

In 2017, the focus for Cajueiro Claro is to start an apprenticeship program for the teens, and add an archery program.

LENDing through Local Leaders since 1998



Children served in a full-time program

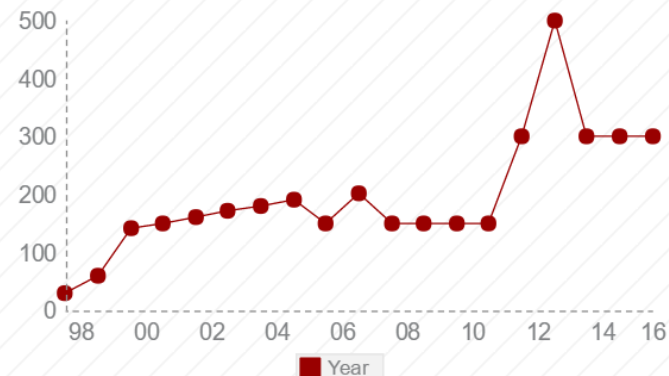


Cezar Finds Jesus

Cezar's family didn't go to church--they made trouble. But Cezar did play sports, and when he was invited to join a basketball team, he didn't care where it met. For three years he came to the sports ministry in Guadalajara, played hard and went home.

In December 2015 something changed. Cezar started listening when they talked about God. He started to fight less. He started to go to church. And there, he gave his life to Jesus. When his family parted, he began to pray. Cezar is now a leader for the other kids (and a very good basketball player). Sports ministries make a difference. In Guadalajara, the local school does not have a gym: there is no other safe place for the kids to play. We need churches and individuals to come along side and support children like Cezar for \$30 a month to keep this program going.

wribrazil.com/foundationbuilder



Children helped through outreaches and events



Neide's Greatest Wish

Neide's greatest wish was always to become a mother. She was raised Catholic, and married the boy next door. But eight years and many miscarriages later, she was so depressed that Christmas came and went without being noticed: what was there to celebrate?

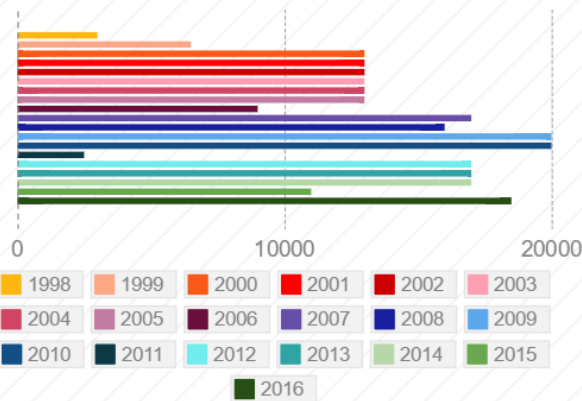
Then Neide found out she was pregnant, to her happiness and horror: would she just lose this baby again? With this new life growing inside her, and so many unanswered questions, she came to Cajueiro Claro church. God got a hold of her heart and she soon gave her life to Jesus.

This was born safe and healthy, and after seeing such a dramatic change in his wife, Neide's husband started attending church. Less than a year later they were both baptized! God used Neide's greatest wish to bring her a whole new life!

Help Living Stones celebrate Mother's day: wribrazil.com/momentsformoms



Blog: BuildingLivingStones.org/lagoa-de-itaenga



Meals/filling snacks served to the children and their families



Pop. 35,000, Lagoa is surrounded by sugarcane and is known for its gangs and high violence.



The schools are overcrowded, and there is a desperate need for a safe place for the kids to be educated.



Partnering with World Help and Brandywine Community Church, we now serve 60 children!

Note:

Living Stones began as the church saw the great needs around them, and wanted to make a difference in their community.



We Have no Story

The two boys in the picture, now men, saw their father killed when they were young. They have no story for Father's Day. After talking to every leader and worker in Living Stones, we found there are no stories to share with you about Father's Day: about how lives were changed and families brought together through a father stepping up and becoming a man of God. Children, yes. Teens, yes, mothers, yes. Fathers? No. Perhaps you even felt it yourself this past Father's Day: the ache for what could be; for what should be. In Brazil, Father's Day is the second Sunday in August. Help us provide an outreach to the fathers of the Living Stone's children. We want to change the story--we want to write new stories. wribrazil.com/dayfordad



Pastor Ricardo Silva

Pastor Ricardo grew up in Lagoa, and knew the needs of the community first-hand. As the church began to catch the vision, they began reaching out to 30 children. They now have four teachers working to provide quality education and a safe place to 60 children every day.

Their goal is to have a complete grade school(k-5), and clubs (cooking, art, English, soccer, basketball, etc.) for teens, investing the time for long-term solutions.

In 2017, the focus for Lagoa de Itaenga is to have more teachers to add 30 more children to the program, as well as begin the clubs for teens.



Guadalajara

Living Stones

Blog: BuildingLivingStones.org/guadalajara



Guadalajara is a poor suburb of Paudalho (pop. 30,000), located near the main road, close to the capital of the state, Recife.



There is an influx of drugs and violence from Recife, as well as a poor school system, with no gym in the community.



A sports ministry since 2012, they partner with Living Stones to provide education as well for 60 children.

Note:

Living Stones often partners with Glory Sports, as the children come for sports, but stay for education, character training, and nutrition (as needed).



Lane Assis and Misse Silva

Lane and Misse (both 20 years old), see the needs of their own community, as the kids have no safe place to play, and desperately need tutoring for where the public schools are lacking.

Their vision is to finish seminary and further sports training, and to be missionaries wherever God takes them.

In 2017, the focus for Guadalajara is to build a second classroom (allowing for ministry on Sundays), and have more church volunteers.



Camila Leads Worship

The second week of February is Carnival in Brazil; filled with music, dancing, and danger for at-risk children. Camila lives in the small town of Cajueiro Claro, where most locals spend Carnival drunk or absent. Camila has grown up in the Living Stones program, and now leads the worship team at church. She wants the opportunity to go to church camp and share Jesus through her music.

Camila doesn't have the funds for camp. She is working hard to earn a scholarship by memorizing verses and reading books of the Bible because church camp is the highlight of her year. We have around 20 children, including Camila, who want to earn scholarships for camp. Can you provide a couple? wribrazil.com/carnavalcamp



Cesar's Hunt for Easter

Cesar (the tall one on the middle) is from Belem (Bethlehem, in English). Living Stones doesn't have a church or program in Belem, but any time possible, Pastor Flavio comes and brings the kids to join in at Cajueiro Claro. Cesar has made a decision for Christ, and Living Stones is working hard to grow that relationship.

Cesar and his family are the poorest in their needy community, and his father died tragically when he was young. Each Easter season, Cajueiro Claro has an Easter Egg Hunt, where the Gospel is shared: an opportunity for everyone to hear. Last year was Cesar's first egg hunt ever, and he found so much more than just chocolate!

Help us provide Easter Celebrations for all of the communities that are reaching out to children like Cesar: children who wouldn't get a chance to celebrate Easter otherwise: wribrazil.com/kitsforkids



Flavio's Trek for Transportation

Flavio was once an at-risk kid that some people invested in. At 16, he started teaching at the first Living Stones program. In 2010, he felt called to reach the small, hard, rural community of Cajueiro Claro, so he started walking four kilometers (each way) to build relationships with the children and start a Living Stones program there.

Today, the Living Stones program and church in Cajueiro Claro is going strong, and Pastor Flavio has a vehicle to get there. Each year we have a Trek for Transportation, remembering the dedication and determination that Flavio and other workers have to reach the neediest children in Brazil. We walk or run four kilometers in solidarity and prayer for the children, and we raise the money needed to fuel the Living Stones worker's vehicles. Come join us, or sponsor someone else who is:

<http://buildinglivingstones.org/trek>