

# University of Life The Foundation for Life Higher Education Program

## Mission

To support and mentor University of Life high school graduates through the college or vocational training of their choice, launch them into careers and guide them into positions of leadership in their communities.

## Background

Only 9% of children in Brazil finish high school and 6% go to college. With the poor state of the public school system, even those who do graduate public high school only obtain the equivalent of a seventh grade education. Ironically, government funded universities in Brazil (with free, but limited places), are most accessible to the rich and highly educated who pass the difficult entrance exams with the highest grades—virtually impossible without private tutoring. In most cases the only choice for the majority is private college, expensive



for the middle class and completely inaccessible to the poor. Without access to higher education or vocational training, young people are unable to compete in the job market and unable to break the cycle of poverty.

## The Foundation for Life, Higher Education Program

The University of Life is a reputable organization in the city of Fortaleza and we maintain strong relations with both public and private educational institutions. The Foundation for Life Program will enable us to expand our role as an advocate for underprivileged students, working with professional educators to help students access good courses with the best possible rates of tuition.

Surviving the pressure of a college course is a challenge for most, whether as a young person or a working adult. For our graduates the challenge is even greater. These young people live in a poverty-stricken community, travel long distances to college, work part time to provide family income and are often dealing with difficult family situations. We are committed to providing a safe place for study, consistent academic guidance, and mentorship and moral support. The special support and encouragement we offer are essential to the ultimate success of these young people.

The Foundation for Life is designed to meet the needs of our graduates facing the harsh realities and injustices of their society. We currently have 8 students enrolled in college and several more in technical or trade schools and are committed to walking step by step alongside these students, offering daily support. Many of these young people have already demonstrated great character in the face of trials and we are confident in the commitment and dedication of each one supported by the program.

To learn more about program activities, please contact:

### The Channel, Inc

501(c)(3)

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The Channel is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 1995. We are a Christian developmental organization with over 25 years of experience working with impoverished children and communities in Brazil.

Our vision is to train and equip the future leaders of Brazil by creating a pathway out of poverty for children through quality education and training. Our project in Fortaleza is CBC (Channel to Brazil for Christ) University of Life and is a non-sectarian institution open to children of any color, race or religion.

The Channel is funded by contributions from individuals and groups who passionately believe that by working together we can improve the lives of children living in poverty, one child at a time.



## Program Activities

Each child supported by the Foundation for Life Program receives

- Help from their former teachers to identify appropriate courses of study
- Additional classes to help them pass the necessary college entrance exams
- Regular mentoring and review sessions to help them manage their course of study, family responsibilities and part time work
- Access to the University of Life programs, resources, library, computers and the Internet
- A scholarship to pay for tuition fees



*Our first group of college students*

## Future Goal

Our goal is to create a sustainable fund that can support every University of Life graduate who decides to pursue higher education and to maintain the staff support by which to provide mentorship and motivation.

## How can I help?

You can become a member of the Foundation for Life Higher Education Program by making a financial commitment of \$300 per month for a period of three years to support the university and vocational education of our graduates.

As a member, you receive:

- Two reports per year from each graduate in the program
- A certificate of membership
- Our monthly newsletter
- One monthly story from one student at the University of Life

We understand that completing a college education requires more than simply paying the cost of tuition—it also includes the cost of transportation and books, an enormous amount of time and energy and a long-term commitment. We are dedicated to providing 100% of the costs of attending college upfront and ask that the students provide the time and dedication. Additionally, to encourage ownership of their education, we enter into a long-term agreement with the students and ask them to repay 30% of tuition costs, as they are able, interest free. All returning funds are reinvested into the Foundation for Life Program. As college fees vary by subject and length of course, your gift will be used to help one or more students for the duration of their course of study.



*Rogerlane, age 12*

### Rogerlane: One Graduate's Story

Rogerlane began studying at the University of Life as a shy child in 1996. As she did not attend pre-school, her education was delayed and her learning was challenged further by problems with her eyesight. Immediately Rogerlane joined the dance program at the University of Life, and began to enjoy her classes and new friends.



*Rogerlane, age 22*

In 2003 she was one of the first students to graduate high school, the first in her family and one of the first in her community. For the next 3 years, Rogerlane studied to pass entrance exams for college, and working part time as an assistant in a nursery school.

In January 2007, in her second attempt, qualified for a place at private college to study child development. At the age of 22 she was our first student in college. Rogerlane dreams of being able to help children in the same way she received help at the University of Life.