

University of Life JVC

(Jovens com a Visão de Cristo)

Youth with the Vision of Christ

Mission

To train and equip the next generation of Christian leaders in Brazil and to give them opportunities to share and develop their faith through missions and discipleship.



Background

Life in the impoverished favela (Brazilian slum) is difficult, stressful and often emotionally and spiritually devastating. Violence is widespread and most children are exposed to some form of abuse, whether physical, emotional, sexual or substance. Economic opportunities are limited or nonexistent so obtaining even the most basic necessities becomes difficult, if not impossible. With the immense daily pressures, it is not surprising that so many people seek out drugs, alcohol,

sexual promiscuity or violence to escape the harsh realities of the favelas. However, we understand that true freedom and fulfillment come only from a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Most of our students who have made a decision to follow Christ have a limited knowledge of the Bible coupled with an irrepressible enthusiasm to share their newfound faith. To respond to this need, we created a youth missions and discipleship program.

Youth with the Vision of Christ (JVC)

The youth involved with JVC seek to emulate the distinct vision of Christ as a servant. Therefore, students strive to become a physical manifestation of Christ's love with their friends, in their homes and in their communities. JVC activities are divided into three separate age groups and are comprised of three components:

- Weekly meetings to cultivate their faith through bible study, prayer, support and fellowship
- Leadership training to equip students to be spiritual mentors and upstanding and contributing members of the community
- Missions, service and community outreach

Additionally, when students join JVC they make a commitment to be a part of the community weekly evening chapel service in one of three ways:

- **Music**—singing or providing instrumental accompaniment
- **Prayer team**—meet before each service and be available after
- **Facilities support**—setting up chairs and instruments and cleaning up

To learn more about program activities, please contact:

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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.



As each child has unique gifts and talents, JVC seeks to capitalize on the strengths of each of its members when determining how best to serve the community. Opportunities for outreach include:



- Music team for chapel services, Christmas and Easter programs and Mission Bus performances
- **Univida Dance performance group**—a hip-hop dance group whose members choreograph their own dances and perform in and around Fortaleza. In 2006, the group was invited to perform in the United States.
- **Drama team**—writes and stages theatrical performances addressing such social and religious issues as faith and healing, domestic and sexual violence, alcohol and drug use, gang violence and street children
- **Mission Bus**—a full size bus customized to become a traveling stage for performances and public events. The bus features dance, theater and musical performances, health and hygiene education and Biblical teaching
- Visiting local schools, universities, hospitals and impoverished neighborhoods with messages of hope and healing and offering physical care and assistance
- **“Super Saturdays”**—a monthly, community-wide activity day that offers a biblical foundation for the academic theme of the month and provides a way to connect the mind and the spirit.
- **Health Impact Days**—JVC members seek to restore dignity to members in the community by offering haircuts, foot care, food and clean water and athletics and games

Future Goals

The University of Life would like to expand on the current JVC structure and, in conjunction with the Mission Bus Program, offer a full-time, certified missionary training program. To make this a reality, we need:

- To develop a comprehensive, certifiable curriculum
- At least two full-time staff members to be in charge of curriculum, programming (dance, drama, music, health and hygiene messages, etc.), itinerary planning and coordinating, and networking with local churches and communities
- Classroom facilities and equipment
- On-going funds for travel, communications and programming

How can I help?

Here are some concrete ways that your assistance would benefit JVC:

- Support a full-time staff member to run and develop the vision of the missionary training program. It costs \$850 – \$900 per month to employ one full-time staff member (\$10,200 – \$10,800 per year).
- Travel to Brazil to volunteer your time with the team
- Commit to supporting us with daily prayer
- Donate funds to buy Bibles and other resources

