

Project Snapshot:

ASSOCIACAO BARRACA DA AMIZADE

SHELTER OF FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

Location: Fortaleza, Brazil

Partner: Global Fund for Children

Partner Website: www.globalfundforchildren.org

Summary of project:

Since its founding in 1994, Shelter of Friendship Association, Associacao Barraca da Amizade, has worked with boys and young men between the ages of 12 and 24 who are living on the streets and often engaged in high risk behaviors such as gang activity, substance abuse, and petty crime. Shelter of Friendship provides transitional housing, psychosocial counseling, academic tutoring, and vocational training in the performing arts, including dance, Capoeira, and acrobatics. Shelter of Friendship also works directly with the boys' families to achieve the longer-term objective of family reintegration and harmony. The Shelter of Friendship works from the principal that young boys have a strong need for identity and belonging. The Shelter's model is to create a tight-knit social unit that serves as a positive alternative to the streets.

In 2008, the organization made a decided to its program to serve girls between the ages of 12 and 18, particularly survivors of sexual exploitation. The Shelter also engages in advocacy for the rights of children and adolescents, in close partnership with 11 other community-based organizations and with local government bodies in Fortaleza, raising awareness in the government and throughout society regarding the needs of street children.

Funds for the project:

100% of funds will support street outreach and expand education to adolescent girls living or working on the streets in Fortaleza who are victims of sexual exploitation.

"Do your little bit of good where you are; its those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."

Desmond Tutu



Brazil Info:

Population: 201,103,330
(compared to USA's 310M)

26% of the population live below the poverty line
(CIA World Factbook)

42% of Brazilian children live in poverty and approximately 1/8 of all Brazilian Children live on the streets.(UNICEF)



