

Rosie and Stu Bayford

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The call in action

To our wonderful friends and family,

Thank you so much as always for your continued support, especially throughout a particularly difficult year for everyone in 2021. Who would have thought that so much could have happened (or not happened!) in one year? As you may remember, we hoped to return to Brazil on three occasions last year, and on our third attempt in September, we made it!

We have settled back into life here once more, though December was a tough one with illnesses, project frustrations and setbacks, and we start 2022 feeling positive and hopeful for what's to come. Here's a little summary of what's being going on since we arrived!

Food Project

We started the food project well with the help of our friend and colleague Bento. We translated the business plan into Portuguese to present to the various organisations and churches who we hoped to partner with. We have two churches that we'll initially start the project with, and then see how it grows.

Both churches have a structure of some kind out of which we can provide the community market, and it will be done on a membership basis – whereby those receiving the support will fit criteria so to speak, so that we know we are meeting the needs of the poorest in the community and not taking away from the local economy.

There are a few food projects that are running up here in the north east, but the big differences are that we're hoping to redistribute surplus food that would otherwise go to waste – not reliant upon donations. In this way we're helping the planet as well as people! We also want to provide a market format so that it is not yet another handout, but those coming to the project have the choice and dignity to choose what they would like – and if they've selected it themselves, we know it shouldn't be wasted either! The third main difference is that because it's run by the church for their community, they already have the relationships and know the people. The idea is to provide not just food, but practical and emotional support too. We will aim to run workshops to help these people get back on their feet and signpost to relevant organisations or people who can help them find jobs.

One of the churches is in the heart of a very poor community called Aguazinha, which used to be a landfill site, so to redistribute surplus food in this community would be a beautiful full circle. We already have a lot of connections with this area as many



Name: Rosie and Stu Bayford

Location: Recife, Brazil

Our call: Helping vulnerable street children in South America, particularly in Brazil.

Our role: Rosie: A mixture of therapeutic work, arts and crafts and healthcare. Stu: Website development, IT, maths tutoring, sports and music.



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Welcomed back at the airport

of the ReVive staff are from here, so we are grateful to feel safe despite its reputation.

Work has been hard with meetings being postponed and uninterested supermarkets. We've felt quite discouraged at times but are still hoping that one of the markets will start by February, though some of the logistics are proving hard to confirm so we'll see! But we will work hard to try to get it ready for then.

Please pray for good contacts and interested, willing supermarkets and food producers who we can partner with as we press forward with the food market idea. And please pray that we will be able to stay positive and hopeful as we can feel quite out of our depth!

ReVive

It was great to return to ReVive and receive such a warm welcome from friends, colleagues and the girls living there – old and new! Both houses are almost always full, with the original house still specifically for girls and the new house for babies and little ones, including sibling brothers. As you can imagine these littlies are super sweet and it is a joy to work in the office above them and hear them shrieking and giggling when they are playing!

A few of the children have been adopted or reintegrated into family since we arrived, and the fostering service is almost there with the first families starting this process very soon, so lots of exciting things going on in and out of the ReVive home! Please continue to keep the precious children at ReVive in your prayers; they have been through so much in their young lives already.

CMS

Over the last few months we've been doing some of the CMS pioneer training course, which was really insightful and well taught. It gave us a lot to mull over and think upon. We have had a lot of questions for the church and those of us who consider ourselves Christians for a long time, not just since living here! This course was helpful for us to vocalise a lot of our frustrations and meet like-minded individuals.

Church

We have been welcomed back to O Farol with open arms, which has been really encouraging, and we are grateful to have a church family here who are so loving and kind. It's also great to be back at a church properly, having been across so many different ones online and in person while back in the UK. And they've already got Stu back on keys in worship!

As always, we are so so grateful for all your support and wish you a very blessed 2022. If you don't already follow our monthly newsletter, do sign up at www.thebayfords.com!

Much love,

Rosie and Stu x



Photos from top to bottom: Inspiration for the market; Making plans for the room at Aguazinha; Some of the lovely ReVive children; CMS pioneer training.

GOING FURTHER WITH CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY

Pioneer Mission Leadership Training at CMS, designed by pioneers for pioneers, equips students for transformational mission in a dynamic and supportive learning community. Find out more at pioneer.churchmissionsociety.org

You can give to Rosie and Stu at: churchmissionsociety.org/bayford

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If you would like to discuss your mailings with us or to receive this link letter on a regular basis, please email supporter.care@churchmissionsociety.org or call 01865 787400

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