



# Evaldo Rodrigues

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Contact details:  
b\_g\_r@hotmail.co.uk



**Location:** Olinda, Brazil



**What I do:** Lawyer advocating for adoption and fostering for children on behalf of ReVive, which works with abused and at-risk children.

Dear friends!

Hello from Olinda/Recife, Brazil! I hope this link letter finds you safe and well. I would like to express once again my gratitude, because without all of you I couldn't do this work. I pray that the Lord will bless you always. Please read on to find out more about what I have been up to over the last few months and thanks again for your prayers, encouragement and support, it means so much to me.



*Fostering team on the opening day of the service*

## ReVive fostering

We are grateful to God for the possibility to start the fostering service and already have a foster family prepared (Miss Claudia). Furthermore, the city of Olinda has just approved the fostering law in recent days. On the 14<sup>th</sup>, we had the official opening day of the service, with the presence of authorities and people who have been fighting for a fostering service. I am so grateful to God that I was able to be present and witness this moment that we have been fighting for the last four years. It was a lot of prayer, dedication and meetings.

## Legal cases

I recently supported one of the girls in court when she went to testify about what happened to her. It is always a challenge for a child to talk about such harsh and traumatic things. That's why our technical team is always ready to support girls in every way. In addition to the girls' legal cases, this week and next week I'll be teaching ReVive's team about the law and child safeguarding. I have also helped to review ReVive's protection policy so that it is current and addresses all areas that ReVive is currently involved in.

## Yorkits

We are happy to announce that sewing classes in the community of Aguazinha have started and we already have some students enrolled.

## O Farol Igreja (The Lighthouse Church)

We are working hard and planning to start an NGO to serve our city in many areas, please do pray for this!

## Floods and the response

With the heavy rains at the end of May and the whole month of June, we knew that once again Olinda and Recife would be badly affected and that those who would suffer the most, as always, would be the poorest communities and people, and so it was. Okay, but what could we do? What would be our answer? Our team from the church O Farol mobilised to be God's answer and seek solutions and support for these families. With limited human and financial resources, we needed to delimit our area of operation. We focused on supporting

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**With Jesus  
With each other  
To the edges**



the V8 community, with which we are already doing long-term work with approximately 100 families. We also extended our support to the community of Vila das Pedreiras with donations and services for 100 more families.

As I always say, the Kingdom of God is made with many hands, and with that thought we managed to form partnerships with many churches and organisations to be able to help many other communities, churches and projects in Olinda and Recife.

### Forum about faith and politics

We are in the midst of general elections in Brazil and the country is politically divided. In view of this, our church planned a forum to discuss the topic, which we held on 18 September. It was a night of debate and learning about the role of the Church in society, how we relate to politics, and the values of the Kingdom of God. One of the things I brought to the conversation was the words of Pastor Martin Luther King Jr, who said: "The church is not the state's mistress or servant, but rather its conscience. It must be the state's guide and critic – never its tool!"

### RECAP (Christian lawyers' network)

RECAP was born two years ago and exists to serve popular movements, social organisations and churches. We give support and legal advice based on Christian values and human rights. After two years RECAP has 125 members – lawyers, law school students and professors – and we are already really relevant in Brazil and in the Brazilian Church. I was elected one of the seven national directors for the next two years. It's a real pleasure and responsibility to continue to serve God through RECAP, now in this position.

### Aguazinha's social action event

At the end of September, in partnership with the Anglican church Agua Viva, in the Aguazinha community, I organised a two-day social action event to serve the residents of the community. On the Friday, we had a team from the city council there to sort out IDs for people who didn't already have them and a team to help people who needed social benefits from the government. On the Saturday, we offered medical care, with a doctor and two nurses. In addition to medical assistance, we offered legal assistance, with the presence of 10 volunteer lawyers. To conclude, at this event we were able to serve 78 people from the community and we are already planning a bigger event with more services for the month of November.

### Prayer points

- ▶ Please do pray for the ReVive girls and for their legal situations to be sorted as quickly as possible.
- ▶ Pray for the fostering team at Revive who continue to work hard. We praise the Lord for the inauguration event and that we have our first foster family ready to start.
- ▶ Pray for the plans of our local church, O Farol, to have more work in the poorest community in the city.
- ▶ Please pray for Becky and me, for God to protect and strengthen us during this time apart. Pray for our visa to be processed as soon as possible. Our hope and expectation is that the visa will be granted by 31 October.

Lots of love, Evaldo xxx



*Photos from top to bottom: Our floods response team in the V8 community; forum about faith and politics at O Farol church; day 1 of our social event in Aguazinha; day 2 of our social event*



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