



Evaldo Rodrigues

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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 York, UK! I hope this link letter finds you safe and well. I would like to express, once again, my gratitude. Without all of you I couldn't do all this work and mission. 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 and Becky.

This is our last link letter as CMS missionaries in Brazil. We are sad at the thought of not writing to you anymore, but God knows what the future holds and one thing is for certain: no matter where we are we will continue to serve God and the people around us.

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. Ecclesiastes 3:1

Fostering

Despite the personal challenge of being apart from Becky for 10 months due to the visa process to come and live in the UK, I am grateful to God for having had the opportunity to see the fruits of our team's hard work. After four years, a fostering system has finally been implemented in Olinda. I glorify God for our team and pray that many children in the city will benefit from this work. We want to see the children of Olinda living in families and not in safe houses.

ReVive girls' legal cases

Your support has allowed me to help and take care of the legal processes of more than 70 girls during the years I've been a lawyer at ReVive. I was part of an amazing team that always put the girls' interests first. I learned a lot – I will never forget these cases and how they taught me what it is to fight for justice.

O Farol (The Lighthouse) church

I'm grateful to God for the three years I was part of this church. It will always be in my heart and I have made friends for life. The work we did during the pandemic and the severe, historical floods of 2022 will always be in my memory. The work with the V8 community will continue and I know that the church has a strong mission and social work team. May God continue to bless Olinda and O Farol church.

RECAP (Christian lawyers' network), OAB (Brazilian lawyers' association) and Time for Hope

RECAP was established two years ago by a group of Christian lawyers and exists to serve popular movements, social organisations and churches. We give support and legal advice based on Christian values and human rights. RECAP now has 125 members, including lawyers, law school students and professors and we are already



Ceremony marking the implementation of a fostering service in Olinda

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churchmissionsociety.org/reidrodrigues

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



making a difference in Brazil and in the Brazilian Church.

I was elected one of seven national directors for the next two years and it's a real pleasure to continue to serve God through RECAP in this way. As we operate throughout Brazil and abroad, my move to the UK does not change my work at RECAP in any way. For example, my friend Marcus Vinicius also lives in the UK, and is also a national director of RECAP. My prayer is for RECAP to grow even more and continue its good work in 2023.

I will keep my lawyer's licence in Brazil and for that reason I will continue as a member of the OAB's Commission of the Rights of Children and Adolescents and the Commission of Human Rights. Obviously, my work will be more limited, but I will still be able to do some work online. In addition to this, I will continue as a regular guest on the radio programme Time for Hope, hosted by my friend Pastor José Marcos, who is also president of the NGO Solidare Institute in Recife.

Yorkits

I will continue collaborating and advocating for the sewing project being carried out in the Aguazinha community. This project exists thanks to a key partnership between ReVive, Living Waters church and Yorkits (based in York, UK).

Words of gratitude

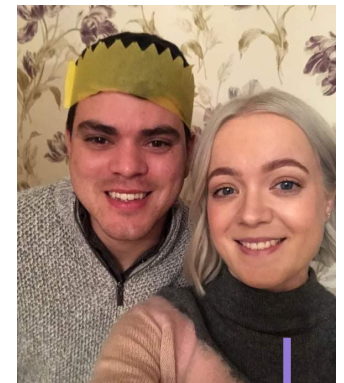
I'm so grateful for all your support and prayers over these years, especially this last year, which has been very difficult. Thankfully we've got the visa and I'm now living in York with Becky. Since I arrived, I've been working a lot at the Christmas market until the beginning of January. Now I finally have a few weeks to rest and I've found a moment to write this letter to you all. At the end of January I will start my permanent job at the University of York. Becky and I are grateful for everything and we pray that God's mission continues to be fulfilled in Brazil.

Please do pray for:

- ▶ ReVive and all its projects in Brazil
- ▶ O Farol church and its role and mission in the V8 community
- ▶ the Aguazinha community and for Living Waters Anglican church
- ▶ RECAP and its work promoting human rights and Christian values
- ▶ the community of Coqueiral in Recife, for the Baptist church and the Solidare Institute
- ▶ my dear country Brazil and the most vulnerable people over there
- ▶ Becky's family and friends here in the UK
- ▶ CMS and all the churches and people who have supported us over these years,
- ▶ and finally, for Becky and me and our new life here in the UK.

Becky and I encourage you to stay connected to CMS – if you would like to support other people in mission as they follow Jesus to the edges, please contact churchrelations@churchmissionsociety.org.

Becky and Evaldo



Photos from top to bottom: Children at ReVive, where I worked as a lawyer for seven years; serving vulnerable people and communities during the COVID-19 pandemic and the severe floods through O Farol church; advocacy campaigns through RECAP and OAB commissions; grateful to be with Becky in the UK after a long visa process



Going further with Church Mission Society

CMS people in mission are following Jesus to the edges in 40+ countries across Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and Europe. Mission partners like Becky and Evaldo commit to working alongside local people, listening, learning, building relationships and becoming a part of communities. Be part of this unfolding story at churchmissionsociety.org.

Please note that opinions expressed in link letters are those of mission partners, not necessarily of Church Mission Society.

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