

## CASA DE MEU PAI

### My Father's Hous

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## PRAYER POINTS – JULY 2017

Dear praying friends

The photo above shows a recent headline in a local newspaper. Which reads “The total number of murders breaks a new record” And below explains that the number in March rose to 548, and a total of 1522 in the first three months of 2017! You might be imagining that this is a very high number and that Brasil is becoming a very violent country. If I tell you that the above figures are only for our state of Pernambuco, which is one of the smaller states of the 22 that make up Brazil we begin to see just how bad things are!

My Father’s House continues to play an important part in the need to revert this situation both in looking after those boys who would otherwise be living on the streets and thus at maximum risk. A frequent question we often get asked is “what happened to.....? We have always been careful and somewhat restricted on the information we are able to put out, however the actual child welfare judge, understanding the need to keep supporters informed has adopted a more open policy and has removed restrictions so we can now share a little more on individual cases. For example:-

RAFAEL José dos Santos today is a 12 year old teenager, very interesting, dynamic, and intelligent despite so many sufferings. Since Rafael came to live in the House of My Father in 2012 the technical team began a work of healing and liberation, it was not easy as his wounds were very deep, however through many conversations, guidelines, limits and prayers we managed to soften his pain.

Rafael arrived at the age of 7 following domestic violence and sexual abuse, { his mother made sexual initiation (abuse) in addition to abuse his mother assaulted the teenager with an iron and burned his arm.

During these years of care we have been to give Rafael emotional balance and a new vision of life, and today he very happy living with his stepmother and younger brothers and sisters. While his father continues to serve out his prison sentence, Rafael is able to visit him regularly, looking forward to his future release. An important factor in determining his return to family was His latest school report which reveals that he has recovered well and reached a normal level for his age. To achieve this the team at MFH has spent many

long hours in patiently teaching and caring for Rafael, while researching and helping his family reestablish itself.



Rafael showing his wall paintings at MFH

[PSALM 199 V 117](#) Hold me up, that I may be safe and have regard for your statutes continually!

PEDRO HENRIQUE, 13, a teenager who came to us with many internal conflicts and a vast experience of living on the streets of Olinda. When asked why he constantly ran away from home to spend weeks at a time living rough on the streets he replied that “this is where I can find some peace”. We then discovered that his mother has mental difficulties and also constantly spent weeks away from home on the streets. So He came to MFH in 2015, and the difficult restoration of his life began. Pedro always said that he wanted to “live with his mother” and finally we discovered that “his Mother” was in fact his grandmother who had moved away. Research led us to the city of Maceio [ some 250 miles south of Recife! On the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2017 with the help of the child welfare Pedro went by plane to Maceió where he is now very happy living with his maternal grandparents and several uncles and aunts



We could and should do more but finances continue to be the main restriction factor. So please continue to pray for this. For our part, we are concentrating on raising funds here in Brazil. Results are always uncertain but God never ceases to surprise! As I write this I have been interrupted by a phone call from someone in Olinda who has committed a small crime and fined R\$350,00 [ About £90 ] which must be paid in meat for MFH!! However, don't get the idea that I am asking you to pray for an increase in petty crime! Our prevention project Transformation House has been approved as a World Vision Partner and posted 100 of our boys and girls on their site [ [juntospelascriancas.com](http://juntospelascriancas.com) ] Parceiros – Casa de Meu Pai – Olinda ] if you would like to have a look, however this program is only for Brazil and we now need to pray for 100 sponsors!! Currently the Project has activities 5 nights a week. And includes girls as well as boys All run by volunteers. The Photo below is of Pollyanna, now a mother at the age of fourteen!



Many thanks to all who take part with us in this ministry, may God Bless you all

Love

Ian and Siméa