

## A Progress Report on the ARCA 2007 Project

ARCA's aim is to share the love of Jesus with the many street children and children at risk in Belém, Brazil, seeking to meet their needs physically, emotionally and spiritually.



### Background

The ARCA 2007 Project began in summer 2007 and with the help of a group of UK supporters, is providing additional strategic support to enable ARCA to become financially self-sufficient. As envisaged at the outset, the fund closed at the end of 2007.

### Thanks

The ARCA team in Belém are extremely grateful to **all** the supporters who have so generously contributed to the fund. See overleaf for income / expenditure. The team also gives thanks for the constant prayer support. Mo Sharratt, ARCA Treasurer, says, "As I look back over 2007 I am in wonder at all the Lord has done with us and for us during the year. We have had many difficulties to overcome but our wonderful Saviour has been faithful and we have much to give praise and thanks for. Please join us in doing this and thanking Him for all He will do with ARCA in 2008. We know, without a doubt, that we are in for an exciting year!"

### New title

The UK group will continue, under the name of the **ARCA Working Group**, to monitor the spending of the money raised last year. It will also continue to provide support and (where requested!) advice to the team in Belém.

### Progress since our October Newsletter

Much has been happening since we last reported. The ARCA 2007 fund has enabled the external advisor, Professor Múcio Morais, to spend further time in Belém. During his four visits he has been instrumental in

- developing improved links with Brazilian churches
- training the ARCA leadership team and Brazilian staff in a variety of skills
- introducing fundraising initiatives in Brazil

all of which were identified as needs last year at the outset of the ARCA 2007 Project.

Múcio is focusing not only on communicating the work of ARCA to local Brazilian churches, but on promoting ARCA to Brazilian businesses, charities and individuals. 33 promotional visits have been made by Múcio, accompanied by an ARCA team member. Múcio has appeared on a Christian TV channel, which broadcasts throughout Brazil, and he features on two more TV programmes to be broadcast at the end of January. He has secured a free site in a shopping centre to promote ARCA. More Christians are being encouraged to support Christian ministries to street children in general, and ARCA in particular.

With regard to the structure of ARCA, Múcio is appraising the skills of the ARCA staff and making recommendations on how best those skills can be used to benefit the work in Belém. He is also addressing the accommodation issues.

The ARCA 2007 Fund has also helped towards

- the production of a new DVD – watch out for it showing near you! It is also being used in Brazil to publicise ARCA
- a website to raise the profile of ARCA [www.arcabelem.com](http://www.arcabelem.com) (Whilst we may not all be able to understand the text, the pictures are of interest!)
- a new ARCA logo, which can be seen at the top of this page.

### Visit to see ARCA in action

Eleanor and Tom, from Hockliffe Street Baptist Church, were on holiday in Brazil in November and took a week out to stay in Belém with Mo. This is what they said on their return:

*"We felt so privileged to see God's work in action through his many faithful workers. His grace is evident in all aspects of the project. We feel confident that Christ will continue to be at the heart of the activities."*

### A craft session at the Girls' home



### Prayer points

Please continue to pray for

- the ARCA team, and Múcio, as they seek God's guidance and plan for the future
- the girls as they move to their new home and begin a new school in February
- the ministry to the street children and teenagers, which continues to be a blessing
- Shirley Hough, who is greatly missed on the street team; that she will adjust to life back in the UK on home assignment.

### What next?

There are still challenges to face before the project is operating on a fully viable financial basis. UK Supporters are encouraged towards the longer term support of ARCA by more regular giving during 2008. **Look out for a new Support ARCA leaflet shortly to be produced by UFM Worldwide.** This will give information on how we can further encourage the team in Belém, who are also committed to raising more funds for ARCA through their improved local contacts.

Supporting Churches will be sent a supply of the new leaflets. If you would like a leaflet to be posted to you please tell Anne Hailes (below). (If you receive this by email Anne will be pleased to send you a paper leaflet – but please give your postal address.)

### ARCA 2007 Project Fund

Income		Expenditure	
Registration fund, May 2007	£16,420.63	Costs associated with registration of Brazilian staff & severance payments	£15,000.00
		Transfer cost of £15,000 between UFM & Belém	£15.00
		Printing of ARCA 2007 leaflets (UK)	£205.63
		Training costs for ARCA leadership team & Brazilian staff	£1,200.00
Main ARCA 2007 Fund, opened June 2007	£21,729.00	Múcio's 4 visits to ARCA between Sept - Jan. Supporting communication literature & leaflets for use with promotional visits	£9,280.00
Gift Aid recovered	£2,185.92	Visits in Feb & Mar for work with ARCA & additional communication / promotional work. Training & supporting materials.	£6,800.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£40,335.55</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£32,500.63</b>

Balance of unallocated funds **£7,834.92** is held by UFM Worldwide, who are awaiting authorisation for despatch to Belém in line with approved requests from the ARCA Leadership team.

*For more information, please do not hesitate to contact:*

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