

# Miriam Children's Home

## Changing the Future of Brazil

Jonni Sliver April 2025



### Spring!

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant." Anne Bradstreet

Greetings from a slightly less sticky Miriam Home! Though it is still very summery we can feel the heat lessening a bit and the nights cooling off more quickly. And as we appreciate fresher air, I am hoping you are seeing first hearty sprouts, and fields clearing, ready to be planted.

Though we are entering different seasons, the idea of hope for the new things arriving is joy full for all of us. The Miriam Home continues full, and With all the coming and goings we the babies continue to be the power house! Today we have 23 children and 11 are 2 years old or younger! It takes a lot of steam to keep up with that many little ones!

Last month I introduced **Ashyla** as the youngest Miriam Home resident (at the time she was **three weeks old**). She only held her title for three weeks, because on the 11th of March **Isaque** arrived, just **6 days old**! This precious little guy has already faced a lot of challenges! His mother gave him up at the hospital, because she new she didn't have conditions to care for him, and we are grateful she made this choice! She is a drug user but Isaque was born on time and with a normal weight, he also didn't have any of the withdrawal symptoms babies often have. Also, his mom is HIV positive, but she took the medications during her pregnancy, and Isaque began taking the medications immediately, Doing both, he has a very good chance of not becoming HIV+. But that means he has been to the doctor almost every other day! He has already become a favorite with the nurses!



Added to that is the bad cold that ran through the Miriam Home, leaving everyone sniffing and

coughing. Both Ayshla and Isaque caught the cold, and Isaque had to go to the hospital for three days, because it was too much for his little lungs. Praise the Lord he is happy and healthy and back with us!

Another set of new arrivals are the Silvas! **Jasmyne (9), Davi (4) and baby Alyffer (6 months)** came to us by the court order, because of abandonment and neglect.

The family complained that social services took everything out of context, that the children were fine and the parents are good caregivers, and that great injustice has been done.



What we see is that the baby is under weight, that David arrived fearful and timid and that both of the boys are totally dependent on Jasmyne - it looks like she has been their caregiver for a long time!

In the three weeks the children have been with us their mother has decided she wants help and has asked to enter the residential recuperation program. That should happen in the next couple of weeks and once she has been in the program for about two weeks, if she is doing well, the baby will join her. We are praying that she will go through with the plan, and that she will truly seek change in her life and not just toe the line to get her children back.

We are also glad that Davi has made fast friends with Jose! They are the same age, and it is easy to see that Davi confidence has grown as they play together - they look like brothers!



## New Beginnings

As much as we love the children that come to the Miriam Home, we know their time with us is limited and we really desire to see them blessed when they leave us. Most of the time the children return to their birth families (though often to grandparents or aunts and uncles), sometimes they go to new families.

In March we said good-bye to **Pietra (3) and Aylla (1)**. These amazing little girls were with us for 9 months, and we saw them take so many first steps - from Aylla's literal first steps to Pietra's first phrases and catching her sing Baby Shark! The mothers of these little ones are sisters, 19 and 17 years old. I often feel really bad for parents of our kiddos, who miss such important moments in their children's lives - today they aren't aware what they have given up, but one day ...

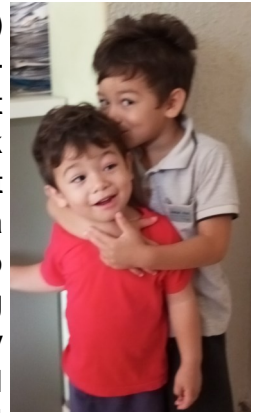


Pietra and Aylla went to live with their paternal grandparents (the father is not involved, having moved on to another girl, having another baby), but from what we can see, the grandparents are more stable, are involved with an evangelical church and really want to care for their grandbabies. So we keep praying!

**Francisco (1)** isn't out the door yet, but he has a lovely couple jumping through all the right hoops for his adoption and they should have permission to take him home any day now. In the mean time he spends every weekend with them!



And **Samuel (4) and Jose (2)** are on deck! They met a couple who would like to adopt them this week, and this week -end they will have their first sleep over. I confess, this is a hard one for me. These two little boys have a really big place in my heart, and it may be a good thing that they will join their new family when I am in the States on furlough!!! But we are very happy for the loving couple preparing to receive them!



## Extra Blessings

We received a big blessing when a Mission Team from Atonement Church in Arlington WA, came to minister in Curitiba, Campo Mourao and Foz do Iguacu at the same time as Paul and Bonnie Handsaker and Calvin and Terry Knapp came to be a blessing! The focus of the mission trip was to stir up our local churches to be more active in our evangelistic outreaches, but the Miriam Home received so much love from the young people and the ... not as young people! We want to thank them all for showing the love of Jesus everywhere they went!



As for me, I am almost on the tarmac! In just two weeks I will be home on furlough. Beware, there may be a grandma hug in your future!

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**To make a financial contribution:** Make checks payable to AFLC World Missions and enclose a note that it is for the support of Jonni Sliver; send to the above address. Or give on line at [www.aflcworldmissions.org/online-giving/missionaries-donate](http://www.aflcworldmissions.org/online-giving/missionaries-donate)