

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



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INTRODUCTION

Our Annual Report provides an overview of our work during 2017. The report covers the presentation of our organizational structure, an overview of our achievements in developed programmes, projects and actions, a review of our financial balance and a special thanks to our partners.

This was a year of changes, with new projects, and a completely renewed team bringing new ideas. We were able to face new challenges and start new projects. In advance we want to thank all our partners and the people who support us. Without them this project would not be possible.

We invite you to share with us a bit of this great year through our year report.



Kids and volunteers of Mais Caminhos during the Christmas celebration



PROGRAMMES

COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION

About the Programme

Our Complementary Education Programme holds classes for children from the favelas Pavão-Pavãozinho and Cantagalo in the premises of Caminhos Language Centre in Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro.

Four days a week children aged 8 to 12 take over the classrooms and participate in three hour classes. Since we want to develop our children’s academic and life skills to the fullest we focus on teaching the same group of children for a lengthy period of time. Mais Caminhos believes that the right balance of academic and emotional development with creative and physical inputs is a great way to prepare our children for their future that we try to make a little brighter. Our international volunteers give their best to teach the children and help pave the path to a better life.

The programme originally included English, Social-emotional learning (Positive Discipline) and Creativity (for instance theater, sports, games or any other physical activity). This year we gave an upgrade to the programme. We kept our english and social emotional lessons, but put together a schedule including a cinema and photography workshop, and technology classes. We had conversations, and together with the children, we arranged a programme that would deliver the best school year the kids could imagine.



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
2:00 - 2:20	ARRIVE, PREPARE CLASS & ENERGYZER			
2:20 - 3:10	IPAD/ENGLISH	CINEMA	ENGLISH	PHOTOGRAPHY
3:10 - 3:40	SNACK			
3:40 - 4:40	THEATRE	SOCIAL EMOCIONAL/ CREATIVITY	IPAD/CREATIVITY	OUTDOOR ACTIVITY
4:40 - 5:00	ORGANIZE CLASSROOM AND WALK HOME			

Complementary Education Programme calendar



During 2017 we helped 12 children at our programme. The rotation of the kids in the program was higher than we expected. Only 4 of them completed the full year programme. The other 8 kept entering and dropping the programme at different moments for various reasons.

Kids drop the programme because they need to stay at home to take care of their siblings or help with chores at home. Some of them also need to work at their family businesses. Another common reason is that when their grades drop they are obliged by parents to stay home as a “punishment”. Poor attendance during the programme is also attributed to the constant shootings in the favela, which makes it very dangerous for the kids to come some days.

“I live in Cantagalo Favela, I've been participating in Mais Caminhos since Christmas last year. I very much like coming to Caminhos because our teachers take care of us, they teach us to read and write. We (kids) also teach some stuff to the volunteers. I very much like all the people that work at caminhos because they do not treat us differently nor judge us for being from the favela. They accept us and take care of us.”

Laiane, 8 years old.

“It's extremely rewarding to see the impact we are achieving in these children through our daily work. This programme we've put together with a lot of effort, love and hard work is showing it's results.” affirms **Fernanda (volunteer).**

FAMILY SUPPORT

Mais Caminhos has decided to act as a “foster parent” to chosen families and include them in our family programme in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro. We support families, help them to pay their bills, find jobs and obtain a good education. In return, we value gratitude and the motivation to be able to make it independently in the future. We believe education is the key to this and therefore we expect the family's children to pursue a decent education. That means that we tie our offer to the condition that the children of the family study hard and take the opportunities that we can provide for them.

DAVI

We currently support Davi's family. Davi is employed at Caminhos Language Center as the Activities Coordinator. He is 23 years old, in his third year of university, studying electronic engineering and he takes care of two of his younger siblings. This is a huge responsibility for a young man, which is the reason we have chosen to support him, financially and emotionally.

Thanks to Caminhos financial help during 2017, Davi was able to rent a new house in a nicer and safer area. His new house has a big outside space, enabling Thiago, the youngest brother, a safe place to play.



Volunteers and children eating together at McDonald's



Thiago (9) is now studying at a full time private school where he is learning English and the quality of education is superior. This makes it easier for Luciana (16), who had to take care of him in the past.

Luciana (16) is still in school, studying and also participating in private English lessons. She has a part time Job, which helps her to contribute to the expenses at home. Vitor (20) is also living with them and studying nursing while working at a store.

Luciano(18) now moved out and is living with the oldest sister, Angélica (27).

Next year Davi plans to find an internship related to electronic engineering and hopes to continue living with his siblings.

“I’d like to thank everyone who helps our family. Your contribution allows us to stay together, and we are very happy to do so. What I value the most from Mais Caminhos is that they helped me to feel confident about myself. I learned that sometimes in life things are not easy, but if you try really hard and don’t give up and if you have people who believe in you and support you everything is possible”. **Davi Porfirio.**

TUTORING

Our tutoring programme offers one-to-one tutoring sessions for kids from age 8 to 15. We have volunteers helping the kids with specific school subjects, homework and accompanying their school development. The tutoring project happens at the Language centre from Monday to Friday during evenings.

This programme was a big success in only one year we’ve been helping 15 children and teenagers in several school subjects offering over 18 hours of lessons per week. All of them succeeded in completing their school year with great grades.

“I’ve been acting as a tutor for 3 months at Mais caminhos. I help two kids with english and portuguese lessons. Teaching at Mais Caminhos has not only been an experience of teaching, but also of learning. This was my first experience ever as a volunteer, I already feel at home and involved with

everything that concerns the project. With each conquest of children, I am happier, and it gives me more pleasure to teach and contribute to forming citizens. This unique exchange opportunity is for children and for me.” **Leticia , volunteer.**

“Mais Caminhos Project is marvelous. It helps with the development of my son. Besides teaching my son, the project also encourages him to study and search for knowledge. He loved english lessons... I have no words to say how grateful I feel. Im grateful that my kid is taking advantage of this amazing opportunity I wouldn't be able to afford these lessons otherwise. Thanks for everything Caminhos team and volunteers. We are very grateful for this opportunity you have given us.” **Josefa, mother of João Vitor.**



Teacher Antônio tutoring Rafaela



PROJECTS

SUMMER PROGRAMME

About the Programme

During the month of January 2017 we held the Summer Camp for the children of the neighboring communities. The children from Mais Caminhos were invited to bring friends and family members with them to join the camp. We had a total average of 18 kids.

The Summer Camp sessions were from Tuesday to Thursday afternoons. The kids had lunch at Mais Caminhos and then they participated in a variety of activities, including physical activities, visiting museums, a trip to the Aquarium, among others.

Our Summer Camp is very important because during the month of January students are not attending classes at public schools. As their families cannot afford to take them on vacations, they have a very long period without anything to do. The children risk getting into trouble when spending all day in the favela and they tend to forget the disciplines they have been taught at our programme.

Apart from allowing us to take care of our kids out of the school year, this camp works as an excellent admissions process for new kids entering our annual programme. While playing and having fun we identify the kids and volunteers who will be the best match for our school year programme.

“I love the summer camp that Mais Caminhos organizes. I take care of seven kids during the summer and I need to divide my time with my job. Having my kids spend the day in such a nice and safe and fun place makes me feel very grateful.” **Nete, mother of a few of the kids.**



Kids visiting AquaRio during the Summer Programme



BRAVEKIDS

During 2017 we were invited to travel with six kids from the community to Poland accompanied by one artistic instructor, their theatre teacher, Flávia. The kids spent one month between Slovakia and Poland. They stayed with local host families in a place like a Brave Kids Camp. During their stay kids participated in artistic workshops and teaching one another their songs, dances, and other artistic expressions.

“My name is Vitória Lorrayne. My experience was wonderful, gratifying, rich and unique. I got to experience different cultures and I was able to learn with them, more and more during the trip. I made lots of friends and, so now I want to thank Mais Caminhos, Cheila, Flávia, Dani and Diana, to have chosen me to be part of this amazing event. Thank you all very much!” **Vitória Lorrayne.**

“It was a pleasure to have the opportunity that you gave my son to be far from his family. I know he loved it and enjoyed it a lot and had lots of fun. He came back with so many experiences to tell. I would never be able to take him to another country, he couldn't have had this experience if it wasn't for Mais Caminhos. Christian is very happy to tell to his friends what he learned in each place he went.” **Erika, Christian's mother.**

For each person that was involved in the process to send those children to the Festival the experience was different. For Flávia Bittencourt, children's teacher it was a life changing experience as you can read in her words:



Kids of Mais Caminhos with their host family in Poland

“I am sure the best word to represent the Brave Kids Experience for me is challenge. Everything I experienced was a challenge. Being in a country completely different in so many ways and having to take care of six children was at least an adventure (...) I could see and conclude that The Brave Kids are a lot more than it aims to be. It is like an internal trip, that make you test your own limits, make you see different sides of yourself and new ways of living your life.”



Kids of Mais Caminhos in Poland during the BraveKids



PORTUGUESE FOR REFUGEES

The complex political situation in several countries have taken us to action to help the refugees arriving in Rio de Janeiro. With great help from the Caminhos Language Centre and our volunteers we offer free portuguese lessons to refugees wanting to improve their portuguese skills and quality of life in Brazil.

During 2017 we supported three refugees from Congo and Angola with portuguese lessons. One in a group course and the two others in private lessons. They brought a lot of joy to Caminhos and it was great having them around.



Some of the refugees with thir teachers

Two of the refugees who took lessons at Caminhos are now employed. The three of them with two other people have formed a musical band called Bomoko, which is a great success in Rio!

WINTER PROGRAMME

During the month of July we hosted our Winter Programme. It has the same structure as the Summer Programme except that it runs for a shorter period. It is a good way to keep contact and strengthen our relationship with the community.

The winter programme lasted one week and we received twenty kids at our school. We served lunch every day and did several activities like cinema, excursions and lots of games.



Our group of kids and volunteers for the 2017 Winter Programme

“My granddaughters attended the Mais Caminhos Winter Programme. They loved it and made lots of new friends. It was very nice to listen to them every night during dinner talking about how much fun they had at the program. I feel blessed to have the possibility to put my kids in such an amazing programme with people who care and love them so much.” **Grandmother of Sarah and Gabi**



CAMINHOS IN ACTION

Caminhos in Action are daily actions in which we collaborate together with our volunteers and motivated students from all over the world and go directly to the communities to help with specific projects. Entering the communities and helping with these tasks is extremely rewarding and always a huge success for our team. For this reason we try to be a partner to the communities, see where we can help them and ask them to reach out to us whenever they require help. This year we have organized the following Caminhos in Action:



Cleaning the beach for one of our Caminhos in Action this year

GOOD DEEDS DAY

A global day that unites people from 93 countries to do good deeds for the benefit of others and the planet, this action improved our visibility as an organization and involved our volunteers. We participated in a city fair in Rio and recruited volunteers for our next action.

GARDEN FOR HARMONICANTO

As a complementary action involving the Good Deeds day we went to Harmonicanto to help them build a garden, it was a good action for the improvement of a partner project at Favela do Cantagalo. This mobilization involved over 20 volunteers.

FUNDRAISING FOR OUR BRAVE KIDS TRIP

Action organized to collect money for Brave Kids involving a money collection through a game called “guess how many” that people from Caminhos Language had to guess the amount of candies that were in a jar . This was a fun and creative way to collect money and involve students from Caminhos in our project.



Volunteers making the soup for Caminhos in Action

SOUP KITCHEN - FOOD FOR THE HOMELESS

This event involved cooking a soup to give to homeless people from Ipanema, Copacabana and Downtown. We were able to do this action with the help of two of our partners, Mangoo Tree Hostel and Passei Direto, they helped us with the place to cook, volunteers and materials and food. We also got the help of Tia Maria, that is a cook in Cantagalo. We were able to feed 300 homeless people.



“(...)Mais Caminhos made it possible for us to create an action with impact even with a small investment. We were able to give 300 meals to homeless people(...). The smile of those people that were hungry receiving their hot soup on a cold day was a priceless experience. We are very happy and we want to do more and more actions with Mais Caminhos.”

Rodrigo, manager of partner organization, Passei Direito.

FOOD FOR SOLAR

Action organized to collect food for our partner Solar Meninos de Luz. They provide education to hundreds of underprivileged kids from Cantagalo and Pavão-Pavãozinho. We collected more than 50kg of food for them with the help of Caminhos students and friends.

CLEAN UP THE OCEAN

As part of an international event to show how important it is to take care of the planet, together with the Mango Tree Hostel and Juçaí, we did a clean up on Ipanema Beach with the help of our volunteers. It was a small action but we are sure it helped to save sea animals and show people the importance of keeping clean our beaches.

CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN

Every year we run a campaign to collect gifts, school materials and clothes to give to our children for Christmas. This time we had the help of our partners from Passei Direto. We were able to give a school kit to each of the students that participated in our project.



Christmas presents

GARDEN FOR SCHOOL IN NOVA FRIBURGO

Mais Caminhos was contacted by INACTUS, a university committee in Nova Friburgo to help to build an organic farm at a local school. The reason was that children in Brazil have lunch at school. For years they have been eating the same kind of instant meal. In cooperation with Eco Caminhos and the students of INACTUS a plan was developed to build an organic garden in the school so that the children could learn about farming and there would also be vegetables at school for consumption. So on the July 6,2017 a team of volunteers and Belgian scouts went to the school to build the organic garden with bamboo boxes and the children learned how to grow their own vegetables in used limonite bottles. It was a great success and the children were extremely excited with their organic garden and bottles.



RENOVATION OF MR. IRINEU'S HOME

Mr. Irineu is a 90 years old farmer who has always dreamed of finalizing his house by placing the windows and applying a finishing layer on the outside. He lives in Lumiar, a mountain town in the state of Rio de Janeiro with his wife, daughter and grandchild. The family lives off of agriculture but their wages are low.

Mais Caminhos made a plan to renovate the house in one weekend. We managed to get all the building materials donated. On July 15th and 16th, in cooperation with the scouts from Horizons Eldorado (Belgium) and a local spiritual group, we did the restoration with over forty volunteers participating.

It was an incredible and inspiring experience. Neighbors could not believe what was happening. In two days we “pimped” Mr Irineu’s house.

“I’m so grateful for this dream. Since completing our new house, my family can’t stop laughing from happiness” says Mr. Irineu.



Mr. Irineu (right) is very happy with his renovated house.

VOLUNTEERS

During the year we get to know many people and they become part of our Family, the Mais Caminhos team. We are glad to have such an amazing group of people that make it possible for us to hold our programs and projects. We are not able to name everybody that helped us during the year but we would like to talk about some people that stayed and made a great difference in our project.

We want to thank especially our volunteers who came from abroad at different times and during their volunteering time helped us to create new processes and improve the old ones. Big thanks also to our Long term brazilian volunteers, especially to our education coordinator with whom we wouldn't be able to overcome this year!

We need to thank our Complementary Education Programme Team. This year we had a great team that made it possible for us to run special activities and different projects during the year. Children had the opportunity to get to know these amazing people and they shared memories and knowledge they will carry for the rest of their lives.

When we start something new we need help from people that have the commitment to make it work and to make it become something that makes the difference in someone else's life. We had that kind of people this year helping our children with their school subjects and educational challenges. Our Tutoring Volunteers did a great job and we are sure next year we will accomplish everything we aims.

We couldn't finish this topic without saying something about every volunteer that helped us in our Caminhos in Action activities. They don't have that much time to volunteering but they do their tasks with love. We hope you have all enjoyed spending time with us doing our actions and we hope to see you in 2018 making the difference with us.



Some of our volunteers for the year of 2017



SPONSORS/PARTNERS



The **Caminhos Language Centre** is the largest and most popular Portuguese language school in Rio de Janeiro. They offer high quality Portuguese courses whilst maintaining a friendly, relaxed and fun environment. Their Brazilian teachers are carefully selected university graduates. Their methodology is based on the communicative approach and they pride themselves on having unique course material.



Hilaine, Bart, Roger, Nico and Lucas decided to head to Brazil to set up **Eco Caminhos**. They are idealists with copious experience in social projects, engineering, management, entrepreneurship and educating brazilian youth. They know what it takes to set up a project in Brazil as they have lived and worked in Brazil for 8 years. They enjoy sticking their hands in the dirt, connecting with people and exchanging knowledge.



Brave Kids' mission is to bring together children from all over the world in an atmosphere of friendship and respect for each other's cultures. They do so by joining children together in artistic experiences aimed to inspire them to imagine a better future for themselves and their communities, and to provide them with tools to help reach their aspirations.



EduMais is a project registered at Solar Meninos de Luz, a civil and philanthropic organization in Rio de Janeiro's south zone. EduMais offers extra curricular and complementary educational programs for underprivileged children and youth of the Pavão-Pavãozinho and Cantagalo communities in Rio de Janeiro.





Solar Meninos de Luz's mission is to transform the lives of children and adolescents in the vulnerable social situations of Cantagalo and Pavão-Pavãozinho communities through preventive actions providing them education and universal humanitarian values.



Art & Social Transformation is an International Program that offers a platform for artistic development, teamwork, and international experience. Art & Social Transformation focuses primarily, but not exclusively, to young artists in areas of risk and low income aged 14 to 18 years old.



The **Fundação Avante Educação Brasil (SAEB Foundation)** aims to pursue a South America where disadvantaged children can build up decent lives by offering quality education and all that is required to achieve this goal.



YFU is a non-profit international educational organization with national organizations in more than 50 different countries. Over 260,000 students and host families have benefited from the support and expertise of YFU. Since its beginning, they have been united by the belief that full cultural immersion is an effective means to gain the skills needed to thrive in an increasingly multicultural, competitive global society.





Harmonicanto is an NGO that operates in the Cantagalo Community. They work with art workshops, vegetable garden, reading incentive, music (singing, flute and initiation to percussion), pedagogical games and school reinforcement daily.



PasseiDireto.com is an academic network for university students whose mission is to connect students from all over Brazil. Since 2012, Passeidireto.com already concentrates over 7 million students and is present in more than 2,500 universities. Through the site and our applications, students can connect with each other, follow specific courses, share study materials, and take questions with each other.



Atados is a social platform that connects people and organizations, facilitating the engagement in the most diverse possibilities of volunteering. The strengthening of this network and the mobilization of volunteers increase the impact of organizations and transform people and communities.



FINANCE OVERVIEW

DESCRIPTION	INCOME	EXPENSES	BALANCE
Caminhos Language Centre* (AEB)	R\$52.500,00		
Donations Davi (AEB)	R\$20.948,00		
Donations Eco Caminhos (C.I.A.)	R\$5.000,00		
Online Crowdfunding	R\$3.150,00		
Donations Other	R\$20.621,00		
Cash Donation (Students)	R\$992,00		
Salary		R\$26.000,00	
School & Course Fee		R\$4.200,00	
Complementary Education Programme		R\$4.304,00	
Summer Programme		R\$8.025,40	
Brave Kids		R\$2.084,79	
Portuguese for Refugees		R\$357,00	
Winter Programme		R\$856,44	
Family Support (Davi)		R\$39.929,00	
Caminhos in Action		R\$5.799,49	
Admin		R\$150,00	
Other		R\$186,10	
Total	R\$103.211,00	R\$91.892,22	R\$11.318,78

* Caminhos Language Centre also ensures the following costs: rent, support staff, electra, internet, cleaning, promotion, marketing, etc.



2018

2017 was a year of success, changes and challenges. For 2018 we plan to continue with all the ongoing programmes, projects and actions. Striving to maximize the impact of our social program by optimizing our resources.

Our summer programme (January 2018) will hold up to 25 children. Our regular Complementary Education Programme will continue to hold 10 children. We aim to diminish the rotation. Hoping that we can continue to grow and help more underprivileged children from the local communities.

We intend to continue with the Tutoring Program and be able to host at least 30 children and provide these teenagers with academic and emotional support. During 2018 we aim to develop a new project in which we will provide business acumen and financial support for women from the communities of Cantagalo and Pavão-Pavãozinho.



Kids and volunteers during the Summer Program



THANKS

We would like to give a big thanks to Caminhos Language Centre, our main sponsor, that makes our social programme possible. Special thanks to Jascha and Bart, for the constant guidance and support. Thanks to the Caminhos team, for supporting us in everything we need, the reception team, the professors, and all the staff. Thanks for keeping our energies high and always having a positive mood! Most importantly, thanks for all the love and energy you all put into your work, which reflects into the positive vibe always present at Caminhos!

Finally, this year we had the privilege of working with some awesome volunteers. We would like to give a big shout out to all of them – a huge thank you! Congratulations on your awesome job!



Kids of Mais Caminhos during 2017 Easter Celebration