



Opportunity



AVSI **USA**

A Unique Giving Program to Share in the Adventure of Life



RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

On the hills of Morro dos Cabritos, a slum in downtown Rio de Janeiro, drugs, violence and poor basic services dominate lives and dictate relationships. Yet, there is a different option for children, youth and their distressed families.



1 Cantinho da Natureza is a multi-functional community center with a full-time nursery school, after-school programs for at-risk youth, activities for adolescents and evening classes for adults. Since 1973, the Cantinho, with its dedicated staff, has been directly challenging the common mentality of resignation and indifference so prevalent in the urban *favela*. More than 500 children, adolescents and their parents experience something that is more than just service provision or even a safe haven in this unique place; the Cantinho is full of living relationships where each can discover his own dignity and responsibility.



YOUR CONTRIBUTION will give adolescents an alternative to spending their free time on the streets through the continuity and expansion of after-school programs including career counseling.

Annual cost per adolescent is \$230.



OAXACA, MEXICO

Contrasts between the poor and rich abound in Mexican states like Oaxaca, one of the country's poorest. Countless children live on the margins of a city full of possibility due to its unique history and tourism. For some, there is hope to go beyond these barriers.



2 Desarrollo Integral de la Juventud Oaxaqueña (DIJO) is a community organization that runs activities in five centers in poor neighborhoods around the city of Oaxaca in central Mexico. After-school programs including remedial lessons, homework help, recreation, arts and sports provide children with crucial support along their personal and educational paths. In these neighborhoods characterized by irregular levels of employment and income, malnutrition, violence and low educational attainment, DIJO reaches out to parents as well, providing a support network to face the challenges of raising children in a harsh setting. Since 1993, DIJO's growth has responded to the specific needs voiced by each community, and today DIJO's education, nutrition, income generation and family counseling services touch the lives of over 700 people.

YOUR CONTRIBUTION will ensure children and pregnant mothers access to regular, nutritious meals through the expansion of community kitchens and nutrition education activities.

Annual cost per beneficiary is \$300.

NAIROBI, KENYA

In a country where the educational path of most disadvantaged youth ends abruptly after primary school, hundreds of pupils, instead, are witnesses to a dramatically new approach in a young high school brimming with life and hope in the Nairobi area.



3 Cardinal Otunga High School is the fruit of an exceptional undertaking by parents and teachers concerned about the quality of secondary school education available for their children. The number of students graduating from primary school each year in Kenya far outstrips the seats available in secondary schools, and quality of teaching and the learning environment are perennial concerns. The school's faculty, staff and community of parents are committed to providing a holistic education for the children of the area regardless of their ability to pay. Heavy focus on teacher development, parental involvement and student scholarships have made the school an immediate success since the first academic cycle in 2004. Enrollment in 2008: 111 students. Enrollment in 2009: 140 students.

YOUR CONTRIBUTION will increase the number of scholarships available and will contribute to a resource fund for the library and laboratories.

Annual cost per student is \$500.



BECOME A PARTNER

Step 1

Complete a Registration Form, on-line or printed.

Step 2

Choose an Institution from the three to support.

Step 3

Select the amount you can pledge to annually.

Step 4

Submit your registration form together with your first payment.

WHAT YOU WILL RECEIVE

- A) Welcome Packet and letter confirming registration.
- B) Receipt of donation for tax purposes.
- C) Bi-annual reports.
- D) Regular communication from AVSI-USA including updates from the Institution you are supporting as well as opportunities for interaction with the project directors, staff and beneficiaries.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the AVSI-USA website

www.avsi-usa.org

- On-line Registration
- Printable Registration Forms
- Payment Information
- Frequently Asked Questions

Contact AVSI-USA at any time:

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What makes this Opportunity different?

This OPPORTUNITY is much more than just a one-time financial contribution to a good cause. It is about opening up yourself to a human enterprise that is immersed in a context far from your own.

Consider the following:

1) OPPORTUNITY is different because of the particular characteristics of the selected institutions.

- These institutions are the expressions of local people committed to facing the challenges of their communities. AVSI has worked alongside these people and their organizations for years, reinforcing their capacity to contribute to the common good in a bottom-up approach that exemplifies the principle of subsidiarity.
- Each of the institutions provides quality, essential services open to all without discrimination based on ability to pay, cultural or religious background. In this way, the staff and volunteers strengthen the social fabric of their communities through their attention to the human person.
- Led by highly capable leaders, each institution has a vision of long-term service to its community. Yet, in targeting the most marginalized populations, these institutions face significant limitations on the availability of income sources and local funding.

2) OPPORTUNITY is different because of the meaning and the value of the donor's investment.

- Your contribution will be an expression of support, both materially and in friendship, to the committed staff and volunteers so that they can face the human needs that they encounter daily. Investments will contribute to the stability of these essential service providers as they continue to grow and adapt to the needs and opportunities of their environments.
- Your investment will strengthen the ability of the non-profit sector in each country to contribute to the common good in a way that is complementary to public institutions, thereby giving room for a culture of freedom in action to mature and spread.
- All donors stand to gain from the opportunity to open one's life and heart to a boundless horizon of human experience.

3) OPPORTUNITY is different because of the role of AVSI-USA as facilitator.

- This giving program is small, direct, transparent and highly accountable to its donors. Making a commitment to one of the three selected institutions through OPPORTUNITY will ensure you that your contribution reaches the people who are best positioned to put it to work serving real needs and building healthy communities.

AVSI-USA is a public charity registered with the IRS as a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization. AVSI-USA leverages resources and contacts in the U.S. in order to enhance and broaden the achievements of AVSI network organizations in developing countries. AVSI-USA coordinates public events, employment and internship opportunities, provides support for AVSI program funding from U.S. based donors, and offers technical and management support for selected AVSI projects abroad.



AVSI Foundation is a not-for-profit organization for international development founded in Italy in 1972. AVSI supports human development according to Catholic social teaching, focusing on the education, economic and healthcare sectors through direct project implementation. AVSI collaborates with its international network of 24 NGOs working in 35 countries and with financial support from private donors, foundations, and businesses, and public support of the Italian government, European Union, and U.S. Government, among others.



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