



is necessary to help the family of the boy who is being re-integrated by giving them an amount of basic foodstuffs and supplies.

The average monthly costs for the Boystown Shelter is £4100 which is raised from the support

of the Anglican Church at Rio de Janeiro, Churches in GB and Ireland, and from individual donations. The greatest need which confronts the shelter is to train local people to do the essential work in caring for and teaching these children, and help their families learn to support themselves. This is the long term aim of the shelter.

If you feel you can support the work of the Boystown Shelter please contact:

South American Mission Society
SAMS House
1 Irwin Crescent
Lurgan
Craigavon
BT66 7EZ
Tel: 3831 0144 / 3832 2044
Email: info@samsireland.com
Web Site: www.samsireland.com



INTRODUCTION TO THE BOYSTOWN SHELTER IN BRAZIL



BOYSTOWN SHELTER

Boystown is an official Brazilian shelter for boys who have been orphaned, abandoned or cannot be cared for, either temporarily or permanently by their natural parents. The home was begun in 1955 by the Rev R K Riebs from USA who was working with the Brazilian Anglican Church. He was moved by the sight of many young boys on the streets of Rio de Janeiro. By 1958 the home was established on its current site, officially recognised and a Board of Directors formed. It is situated a few miles from the town of Petropolis about 60 miles from the city of Rio de Janeiro.

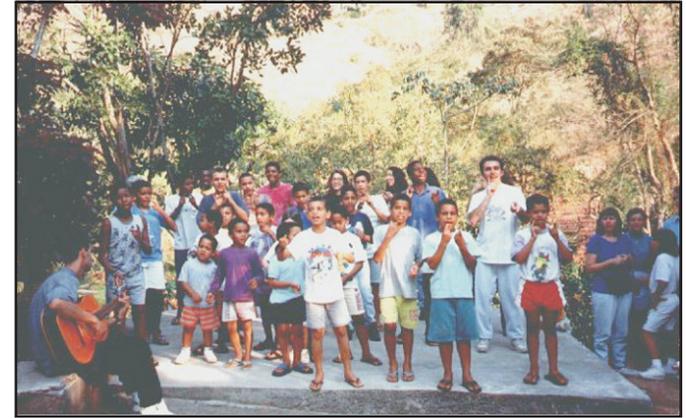
The shelter consists of two dormitories, bathrooms, staff bedroom, nursing station, office and toilet facilities. Beside this building is a pool where the boys are taught to swim. Other buildings have been renovated including a school room and recreation room, laundry, clothing store and workshops. A bakery is also on site where the boys are trained and it supplies bread for the shelter and other outlets.



There are also fowl kept and a garden to grow vegetables. A separate house is provided for the Internal Administrator, Alvaro Moreira, his wife Marta, (who is head teacher of the Anglican Episcopal School where the boys attend) and their four

children.

The boys range in age from three months up to 18 years and are mostly sent to Boystown by the local authorities.



They are either living on the streets, have a parent or parents who can no longer care for them or are in "at risk" situation. While the boys are in the shelter they are housed, fed, clothed and educated. The main objective is to restore them to their own families or substitute families as soon as it is safe for the child to leave the shelter. There are normally 30 to 40 boys who receiving 24 hour/ 7 days a week care from Alvaro, Marta and other staff members. The aim is not just to help the boy in the shelter but help and support the whole family wherever possible.

Approximately one third of the boys have no parents at all, and others who have only one parent, either mother or father, who are unable to care for them. Many of the boys have never been to school and some have learning difficulties. Others have physical problems due to being deprived in some way in their early years.

Due to the new legislation in Child Care, the shelter is required to employ a nutritionist, a Psychologist and a Social Worker. This has meant a substantial increase in the outlay in salaries each month as the government does not supply these services.

As part of the Christian ethos of Boystown the Board of Directors also feel it