



## Good News

DECEMBER 2020

# WE'RE INVESTING IN YOUNG PEOPLE AND WRITING STORIES OF SUCCESS



Brazilian team going to visit families in need

Our normal activities have been on hold since almost the beginning of the year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead, since March, we've been buying tons of food, providing masks in Brazil and moving our work from our Centres to the streets, so that we can continue to look after the children. In India we're providing food daily to the children. As well as catering for their basic needs we are providing families with information about hygiene and how best to protect themselves from the virus.

In the past few months we've had an opportunity to speak with a few folk who have been supported by our projects and you can read their stories on the following pages. These stories awaken in us hope, joy and gratitude, but, above all, make us want to help even more people.

Such stories are only made possible thanks to your support and there would be much more to tell about the seeds that are sown daily thanks to your help. The commitment of our local colleagues is enormous. We're grateful for your support so that our projects can offer the children and their families the conditions which enable them to survive and to develop well. They deserve to hope for a better future and we can offer them that with your help. Many thanks!

**Marciano Teixeira**

Operation Rescue - Schweiz

Solche Geschichten sind nur dank Ihrer Unterstützung möglich. Und es gäbe noch viel mehr darüber zu erzählen, welche Saat dank Ihrer Mithilfe täglich ausgebracht wird. Das Engagement unserer Mitarbeitenden vor Ort ist riesig. Wir sind für Ihr Mittragen dankbar, damit unsere Projekte den Kindern und ihren Familien weiterhin menschenwürdige Bedingungen zum Überleben und für eine gute Entwicklung bieten können. Sie verdienen die Hoffnung auf eine bessere Zukunft, und die können wir ihnen dank Ihrer treuen Mithilfe bieten. Herzlichen Dank dafür!

**Christian Baumann**

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# Ethiopia

## HOW LUAM GOT OFF THE STREETS

Luam was born and raised in Tigray. One day, she got into a fight with her mother, left home and never returned. At that point she was in Grade 5 at school. For the next four years Luam lived on the streets. Street life wasn't easy for her. She ate leftover food from restaurants and begged people to give her money to pay for a bed for the night. While some people were willing to give her money, some refused and they insulted and beat her instead. Eventually she lost all hope and started to drink alcohol, smoke cigarettes and chew chat to numb the pain. She became addicted to drugs and she suffered a lot. Several times men tried to rape her.

She had already given up on life when she first came into contact with Operation Rescue Ethiopia in January 2020. She remembers that day as if it was yesterday. Once Luam had joined the new Operation Rescue Ethiopia street children project, she started taking part daily in a life skills school run by professionals.

The aim: to get rid of the damaging patterns of behaviour and develop a positive attitude to life.

Apart from that she had enough to eat at the Centre and got a comfortable place to sleep at night. During her time on the street she never knew what it was to sleep peacefully and without fear. Luam started feeling hopeful again. She has now been at the Centre for almost a year. Our colleagues from Operation Rescue Ethiopia encourage her and help her with advice every day to create her new life. Now Luam is free from addiction and has started building up her own business: she sells nuts and boiled eggs to the community in Mekelle. This earns her 200 ETB per day. She pays the rent for her new little house by herself and is able to lead an independent, happy life. She is now planning to continue her education. Within these few months Luam's life has totally changed.

You can help us make a difference and change more lives for the better.



Luam



Pâmela and Beatriz



One of the transformations of Luam.



Groceries to be distributed to the families



# Brazil

## HOPE FOR PAMELA'S FAMILY IN THE MIDST OF THE CRISIS

Beatriz is a wonderful 6 year old girl. She's been with Operation Rescue since she was four. Her mother, Pamela, was born in São Paulo and moved to Patos as a child. Unfortunately she had a very disrupted childhood in which she had to experience the terrible effects of domestic violence from her father. At the young age of 12 Pamela met her now husband and the father of Beatriz and soon moved in with him. A few years later Beatriz was born.

Pamela is very grateful that Beatriz is able to attend our Centre and take part in the activities we offer. She tells us that Beatriz is now developing well and is clearly passionate about ballet, her favourite activity.

The family's situation got very complicated when the pandemic began. Pamela, who sells cosmetics from home, suffered a massive drop in income and her husband, who works as a bricklayer, lost most of his contracts. They have a very unstable income and only survive thanks to occasional work opportunities.

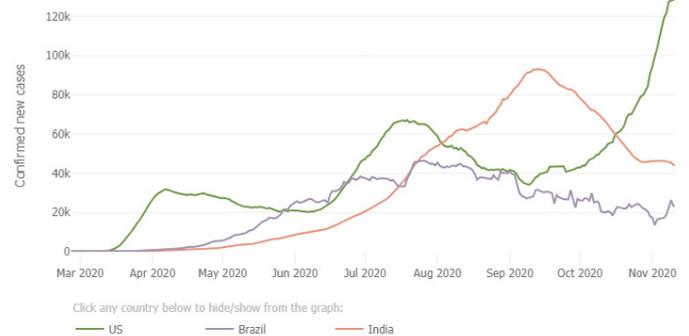


In Brazil few of the activities are done, but under secure measurements.

They can't count on any state help: their area is very badly neglected by the government. The sewerage system is insufficient for the area, there is a lack of jobs and income, and there is a high criminal element, yet there is neither effort nor strategy to improve these problems. However she is full of praise for our work not least because we are now supporting families and providing them with basics: 'I value Operation Rescue and its founder, Marciano, a great deal – I don't have the words to describe all they have done for our part of town.'

## COMPARISON OF CORONA NUMBERS

This graphic represents a 7 day average of new infections in Brazil, India and the USA and in the table below you can see some comparative Corona figures. (Status: 13th of November 2020). It's not clear how far individual countries are in a position to provide accurate numbers of infections and to record deaths in relation to a COVID-19 illness.



Source: John Hopkins University, 13.11.2020

The number of confirmed new infections in Brazil has been falling sharply slightly since the end of July, and in India it's been falling sharply since the middle of September, whereas in Europe and many other countries the number of new infections and the number of COVID related deaths has risen sharply once more. The economic consequences such as unemployment and hunger leading to a need

Country	confirmed infections	confirmed deaths	death rate	deaths per 1000000
Brazil	5,747,660	163,368	2.8%	77.99
India	8,683,916	128,121	1.5%	9.47
Ethiopia	100,727	1,545	1.5%	1.41
USA	10,400,227	241,798	2.3%	73.91
Switzerland	243,472	3,113	1.3%	36.55

Source: John Hopkins University, 13.11.2020



# India

## 'DON'T GIVE UP' IS IMPORTANT FOR DEEP

Deep ist vierzehn Jahre alt und kommt seit fast drei Jahren mit seinem Bruder in unser Zentrum. Sein Vater war Alkoholiker und starb vor drei Jahren an einer Leberinfektion. Seine Mutter besitzt einen kleinen Laden, in welchem sie Tee und andere Lebensmittel verkauft. Die Familie, zu der noch ein weiterer Bruder und zwei Schwestern gehören, lebt auf der Strasse in der Nähe einer U-Bahn-Station. Sie benutzen gegen eine Gebühr die staatlichen Toilettenanlagen, da sie keine eigene Waschgelegenheit haben. Auch während der Wintermonate muss sich Deep draussen waschen. Deep wünscht sich, später einmal in einem Speisehotel zu arbeiten, um Teller waschen und Essen servieren zu können. Deep is 14 years old and has been coming to our Centre with his brother for almost three years. His father was an alcoholic who died three years ago of liver failure. His mother owns a small shop selling tea and other groceries. The family, which includes another brother and two sisters, lives on the street near an underground station. For a small fee they use the public toilets as they have no other means of washing themselves. Deep has to wash outside even in the winter months. He hopes to work in a restaurant in the future, washing dishes and serving food.

In their first months in Operation Rescue Deep and his brother were often rebellious and impolite. However, over time their behaviour improved and they began to respect our colleagues and the other children. Although Deep is clever he doesn't enjoy learning. We have tried to send him to school but he's been rejected by the schools because he is academically so behind. Like most children his age, until recently he couldn't read or write. However, he shows a lot of potential and, thanks to the huge effort our teachers are making, he is showing progress in all areas. We hope now that we can soon find a school which will accept him.



Deep is looking for to get engaged with his education.



Deep participating in the groups activities.



We have the seal from the Ehrenkodex.  
This seal assures that your finances invested in the projects are used with responsibility.

## Financing de Projects

The projects from Operation Rescue are financed trough donations and project sponsorship. Each Project sponsorship costs CHF 50.00

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