

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY



The Anglican Relief and Development Fund®



BRAZIL: CONSTRUCTION PROJECT MEETS NEEDS OF CHILDREN

Church community center will provide a place for sports, spiritual care, and academic services



This dedicated team of volunteers bring their passion and enthusiasm to serve the community through the Compassion Project. In the new community center, the project will be able to almost double the number of people served.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

CONTEXT: João Pessoa is a port city in Northeastern Brazil. It serves as the capital city of Paraíba and is home to more than 817,511 people. It is located on the right bank of the Paraíba do Norte River. A lack of investment and ineffective public policies focused on community development have contributed to the vulnerability of residents, especially children and young people. The absence of comprehensive educational programs, adequate resources, and quality educational infrastructure has limited learning opportunities and growth for residents.

NEED: The Diocese of João Pessoa serves the greater João Pessoa area, a community that has few options to meet the basic needs of education, health services, and access to the Gospel. The diocese seeks to fill the needs of the community it serves. With parents often working long hours, children are often left alone and without a safe place where they can be nurtured and educated. The diocese seeks to offer Saturday programs.

SOLUTION: With funding from the Anglican Relief and Development Fund (ARDF), the diocese will construct a community center that includes a sports area, cafeteria, and gathering rooms for small and large groups. It will be furnished and equipped to allow the community to thrive in their social and spiritual development. The new space will have a capacity of 150 people, which is 70 more than the existing rented space can support. It will be used to host various activities offered by the Diocese of João Pessoa, including free meals, academic support, counseling services, soccer, teen and motherhood programs, wellbeing care, and spiritual nurturing.

LIFE IMPACT

Benefits 450 people, some in multiple ways:

- 150 children along with their 300 family members receive services at the new center including meals, afterschool care, vocational training, parenting programs, sports programs, and diocesan services

PROJECT PROFILE

ID: ARDF-0823-João Pessoa

Lead Ministry

**ANGLICAN CHURCH
IN BRAZIL**



LIVES IMPACTED 450

SECTOR **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

AMOUNT REQUESTED **\$140,555**

ARDF COST PER
BENEFICIARY **\$312.34**

TIMELINE **18 MONTHS**

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"I am a volunteer here at the Compassion Project. I started coming to the Compassion Project when I was 5 years old. Throughout this process, I could see that the Compassion Project is not only a social project, but it is actually something impactful, something that can change a person's life. Today, I am a jiu-jitsu teacher here at the Compassion Project, and now I can give back to my students what was once planted in my heart – love, attention, care, and the value of community."

– Paulo Ricard, volunteer jiu-jitsu teacher



WHAT IT'S LIKE NOW



“João Pessoa, the capital of Paraíba, Brazil, received the title of Creative City by UNESCO in 2017,

recognizing it as the ‘Brazilian city of handicrafts.’”

— en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jo%C3%A3o_Pessoa,_Para%C3%ADba

“In June 2023 João Pessoa exported \$408k and imported \$55.8M, resulting in a negative trade balance of \$55.4M. Between June 2022 and June 2023 the exports of João Pessoa have increased by \$332k (436%) from \$76.1k to \$408k, while imports increased by \$50.8M (1.02k%) from \$4.99M to \$55.8M.”

— https://oec.world/en/profile/subnational_bra_municipality/joao-pessoa

“Joao Pessoa is a melting pot of religious traditions, with numerous churches, temples, and religious landmarks ... With numerous universities, research institutions, and educational opportunities, João Pessoa is a hub for academic pursuits.”

— tripadvisor.com/Tourism-g303428-Joao_Pessoa_State_of_Paraiba-Vacations.html

“In Brazil, 23% of 25- to 34-year-olds had a tertiary qualification in 2021 compared to 47% on average across Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries.” In Brazil, the share of women among general upper secondary graduates is 54% (OECD average 55%). Men make up 43% of all vocational upper secondary graduates, below the OECD average (55%).”

— gpseducation.oecd.org/

PROJECT DESIGN

This project is based in the neighborhood of Jacaré in the city of Cabedelo, Paraíba. The Anglican Diocese of João Pessoa will engage architects and engineers to develop the new building plans and designs. Key steps include securing construction permits and clearances, reviewing building plans with local authorities, determining interior and exterior finishes, installation of electricity, plumbing, and HVAC systems, landscaping, and fundraising for the whole effort.

The new building will serve disadvantaged families and vulnerable children. Expanded classrooms and cafeteria will allow the diocese to provide more healthy meals, medical care, general education, and vocational training. The center will also be a place where beneficiaries – especially children – have healthy human interactions that will improve their overall quality of life. The center will be built on a 400-square-foot tract of land owned by the Comunhão Cabedelo Anglican Church.

The Bishop of the Diocese of João Pessoa will draw from his experience at the Diocese of Recife where similar projects were conducted. Members of the diocese will play an integral role in the implementation and outcomes of the project. They will contribute their time, skills, and expertise. The presence of the local church will provide emotional support, spiritual guidance, and a social network for families and people at risk.

The project has a contingency plan in case partial or no funding is granted. In such a scenario, the project will continue its activities on Saturdays in the Comunhão Cabedelo Anglican Church. The project will rely on the generosity of sponsors and volunteers to ensure the maximum number of children are served.

The diocese has a track record of implementing projects that have had a positive impact on the community, both with and without funding from the Anglican Relief Development Fund. These projects range from educational initiatives to healthcare programs, all aimed at improving the wellbeing of individuals and families served.

Measuring impact. The Rt. Rev. Márcio Medeiros Meira and his wife, the Rev. Linda Constancio da Silva Meira, project manager, will oversee the day-to-day implementation of the project. They will update Archbishop Miguel Uchoa Cavalcanti on a regular basis and account for the number of people served at the new center.

PROJECT BUDGET

ITEM

Community center construction materials, labor, and equipment
Sports court: construction materials, labor, and sporting equipment
Cafeteria construction materials, furniture, and equipment
Project administration, monitoring and evaluation

TOTAL

SOURCES OF FUNDS

ARDF FUNDS LOCAL FUNDS

\$70,000 \$30,000¹

\$25,000 \$10,000²

\$20,000 \$5,000³

\$25,555⁴

\$140,555 \$45,000

HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE

For \$44 per student, you can support the construction of a cafeteria for the 450 people who will use it.

For \$55 per project beneficiary, you can support construction to a sports center for the students' physical and social development.

For \$155 per beneficiary, you can provide a community center for the residents of the Diocese of João Pessoa.

NOTES

¹ includes local fundraising

² includes corporate sponsorship

³ includes donations from individuals

⁴ ARDF contracts project research, monitoring and evaluation with The Grid and provides administration and communication to ensure full project funding



IMPLEMENTER FINANCIALS* 

This project adheres to some or all of this sector's established best practices

INCOME	2020	%	2021	%	2022	%
Diocese income	24,861	71	32,671	81	38,016	66
Tithes and offerings	422	1	251	1	1,137	2
Other income	2,638	8	601	1	4,152	7
In arrears	7,040	20	6,690	17	14,706	25
TOTAL	34,961	100	40,213	100	58,011	100
EXPENDITURES	2020	%	2021	%	2022	%
Pastors and missionaries	11,655	38	19,732	49	28,333	43
Administrative	7,431	23	10,903	28	13,021	19
Capital projects	11,826	37	8,955	23	25,916	38
Other expenses	741	2	42		327	
TOTAL	31,653	100	39,632	100	67,597	100
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	3,308		581		(9,586)	

NOTES:

*Income and expenditures reported in U.S. dollars

INCOME: Diocesan income increased 40% from 2020 to 2021 and an additional 10% from 2021 to 2022. Arrears income increased over 100% from 2021 to 2022. Other income generally consists of reimbursements and refunds.

EXPENSES: Expenses for pastors and missionaries was consistently the highest percentage of income over the three years analyzed with significant increases to this category each year as income increased. These costs include salary, insurance and other costs to maintain the pastors and missionaries. Capital costs include rent help for the elderly, as well as a cathedral expansion. As the diocese relies heavily on donations and tithes, it's susceptible to market risk if the donors are no longer able to donate or the funds are depleted. It operated at a fiscal loss in 2022.

RISK ANALYSIS



Low: 1, Low/Medium: 2, Medium: 3, Medium/High: 4, High: 5 

CONCEPT: 1

Once completed, the new center will enable the diocese to meet the holistic needs of the community it serves. Educational outcomes are anticipated to improve through access to tutoring and academic support, enabling students to overcome challenges and enhance their learning abilities. Beneficiaries will also learn from Scripture, helping them develop a relationship with God.

PROGRAM DESIGN & EXPERIENCE: 2

The program has been operating in this community since 2006 and has quickly won acceptance by the community as demonstrated by the number of people already enrolled in its programs. The projected expansion is not too steep, increasing from 80 people to 150. The diocese must be careful not to become overwhelmed by the increased scope of work as the bishop and project coordinator already have other full-time assignments.

LEADERSHIP: 3

The Rt. Rev Márcio Medeiros Meira and the Rev. Linda Constancio da Silva Meira are married and serve as the founding pastors of the Diocese of João Pessoa. They are passionate about planting churches and expanding the Kingdom of God. They have the support of the archbishop whom they served under at the Diocese of Recife prior to starting this new Diocese of João Pessoa.

FINANCIAL CONTROL: 3

While the scale of the project may be limited without full funding, the team is committed to utilizing available resources and support to maintain essential services for residents. The project will explore alternative fundraising and engage with the community to seek additional assistance and partnerships to fulfill its mission. The diocese lacks independent governance as all board members are members of the Anglican Church.

SUSTAINABILITY: 3

The expanded facilities will be available for a long time with no need for additional funds other than general maintenance costs. The diocese has been able to attract some support from other churches and organizations to run its core programs. It has developed a partnership with Mission Chattanooga, an Anglican Church in Tennessee, for long-term support of this initiative. However, given the low-income community it serves, the diocese will need ongoing support to keep the center running.

EXTERNAL: 2

Fluctuations in Brazil's exchange rates are frequent and have potential to impact the cost of the items in the budget. External risks such as political, economic, or natural disasters could pose threats to the project's impact. However, the project team remains resilient and prepared to address these challenges. Government approval for permits and licenses could delay the pace of project implementation.



LEADERSHIP PROFILES

The Rt. Rev. Márcio Meira serves as bishop of the Diocese of João Pessoa. His background includes:

- degrees in theology, clinical psychology, and marketing
- post-graduate degree in psychotherapy, a master's degree in business management, a master's degree in pastoral psychology, and a doctorate in missional leadership
- background in extreme sports including crossfit training and surfing
- a black belt in kickboxing and a purple belt in jiu-jitsu

The Rev. Linda da Silva Meira serves as co-pastor of the Cathedral Church in Joao Pessoa, where she provides both administrative and spiritual guidance. Her background includes:

- a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in nursing

REFERENCES

“Comunhão is a very welcoming church for those who wish to know more about Jesus Christ and his Gospel. It truly is a family to belong. When you get to the church, you feel like you are home. The cathedral performs a very significant role in the local community, and not just for those who attend the services at the church building. Comunhão has a lot of social initiatives (such as the distribution of food to the homeless, free health services etc.), which make it possible for the church to serve those who are vulnerable.”

– **Anna Beatriz Leite Henriques de Lucena, Professor of International Relations**

“Bishop Marcio Meira is a very dynamic and focused leader. He has several skills and one of them is the ability to mobilize the people to work. I have followed him for more than 30 years now as a mentor and can assure his integrity and accountability. He is a visionary leader, and the diocese has been blessed in expansion through church plant initiatives and the development of a holistic vision for the mission. I am totally confident that this is the time for him to start this project as he has learned a lot with our experience at the House of Hope.”

– **The Rt. Rev. Miguel Uchoa, Bishop, The Anglican Diocese of Recife, Brazil**

Linda da Silva Meira is a humble, proactive, and passionate leader. I have no doubts when I say that Linda will be an amazing project manager for the proposed construction.”

– **Anna Beatriz Leite Henriques de Lucena**

RESEARCHER'S STATEMENT



Rhoda Gathoga
Sr. Research Analyst
August 2023

Through this project, children and families will have the opportunity to acquire new skills and learn about the Gospel in a safe and clean environment. The new facility will enable the Diocese of João Pessoa to solidify its presence as a source of hope and transformation through acts of love inspired by the Gospel. The project team possesses a substantial degree of the necessary skills and resources required to successfully operate the project.

IMPLEMENTER'S INSPIRATION

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

– Joshua 1:9 (NIV)

HOW TO FUND THIS PROJECT

PROJECT RECAP

ID - ARDF-0823-João Pessoa
 Timeline - 18 months
 Requested - \$140,555
 Modified - 101323

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The Anglican Relief and Development Fund®

