



Viva a Vida

Newsletter January- March 2016

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Photo taken during our integration day at Piruí beach in Arembepe

Reports

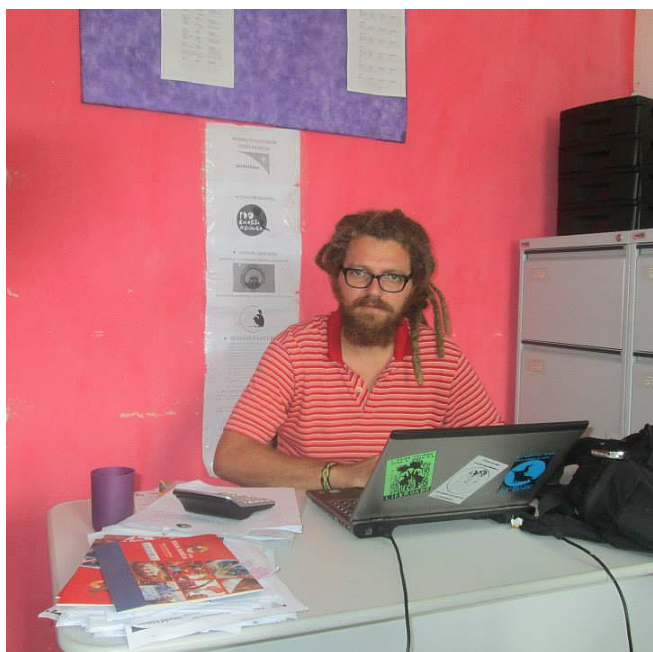
January

Annual, Protection Policy and the Fifth International Congress for Drugs and Alcohol: We started the year working on bureaucracy, updating our reports and making plans for the year ahead. #Productive2016

New team member

February

Aderaldo Lima became part of team Viva a Vida. Aderaldo is a historian by profession and has been an activist in the fields of social and youth work for many years. He will take on the role of running the Vila Jovem Group, the mini and life plan courses that will take place in local school, Colégio Estadual Vila de Abrantes. #Welcometotheteam





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Educational week - Colégio Estadual de Vila de Abrantes 1st February

A large part of the team- General Coordinator Cressida Evans, Project Coordinator Evelin Salles, Social Worker Deise Cruz and Educator Aderaldo- took part in the local school's educational week – attending both the morning and evening sessions. They presented the results of our work from 2015 as well as our proposal for the coming year; those present were the school's management team, coordinators and teachers.

#Greatpartnership

Filming by the Bottletop Foundation 1st February

Cameron Saul from the Bottletop Foundation brought his team to film interviews with two members of the Vila Jovem Group, who talked about the impact the project has had on their lives. #Sharewithpride

Planning 12th-25th February

We began planning our activities, goals and reviewing our objectives for the projects that will take place in 2016, including the Mini Courses and Life Planning, Theatre Group, the Vila Jovem Group and Parents and Community workshops.

#Gettingitright



Community Space - Moving in 19th February

After much expectation and tiring days spent looking for the right place, we found a house in the community of Vila de Abrantes. A space that will house our projects, our young people and our dreams. We have moved in and now are making adjustments, cleaning and preparing for our inauguration, set for the 8th April. We would like to thank Jon Lewis for his collaboration and for making himself available to help us with the move.

#Newsspacenewphase

Notice of death 7th February

It is with much sadness that we announce the death of our beloved student and intern, Henrique Santana. We give our love and support to his family and would like to give thanks to everyone that helped to make sure that he could live his life in dignity.

#Alwaysinourthoughts





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Integration

27th February

As is traditional at Viva a Vida, we started the year by welcoming and getting to know our team, board and beneficiaries. The day was interspersed with talks about our goals, results, energy and youth in what was a lovely event in the sun on the beach in Piruí, Arembepe, Camaçari. We would like to thank the NGO Diáspora Solidária, for hosting us in their beautiful space!

#Webelieveinintegration



Training

Public Participation and Oversight

9th March

For our first team meeting of the year in our new community space, we chose the theme of Public Participation and Oversight. We discussed the topic and what it means in relation to the work we do.

#2016withPublicParticipation



Volunteering

15th February

Beth Watson, a student of Portuguese at the University of Nottingham, arrived in February to work with Viva a Vida as a communications volunteer until the end of June. She is helping the association with our newsletters, creating a blog about our activities, and giving us a hand with various other aspects of communication and promotion.

#InternationalSolidarity



Fundraising February

During February, we sent two financial proposals to secure our future! The first went to the Epic Foundation in the United States, the second to the Brazilian Fund for Human Rights. We are hoping for their success!

#Financialsustainability



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Networking

11th March

We attended the launch of the 2013 cycle of the "Municipal Diagnosis for the Creation and Planning of Children and Young People Protection Policy" as well as the "Plan for socio-educative measures," organised by the Camaçari Local Council for Children and Young People, in partnership with Santander Bank. Unfortunately, the diagnosis confirmed the information we already had about the shocking statistics regarding the rights violations - violence, trafficking, abuse and neglect - of young people in Vila de Abrantes. The data once again ranks Vila de Abrantes as one of the worst in the municipality for these kinds of violations.

#Shockingdiagnosis



V2 Theatre group creates Evaluation timeline

9th March

The Theatre Group V2, along with the help of our Consultant Mara Vanessa, created an Evaluation Timeline looking back on, and strengthening the history of the group that is soon to enter its third year.

#Importanceofhistory

Community mobilisation

7th March

The Theatre Group performed in the local school, Colégio Vila de Abrantes, with the support of educator Aderaldo and directed by our drama teacher Simone. The aim was to promote Viva a Vida's projects and invite new young people from the community to come get to know our community space.

Administrative assistant

9th March

Our team welcomed yet another reinforcement, with the arrival of Fabricio Felix Mascarenhas. A welcome new part of the team to add value to our association.

#administrativereinforcements

Parents and Community

16th March

Social worker Deise Cruz, who mediates our parent's group, presented the project to the teachers and coordination team that organise evening classes at local school, Colégio Estadual Vila de Abrantes. It was a great opportunity to explain the proposal for the year ahead.

#Strengtheningthecommunity



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Networking – CEZA

16th March

We visited the Zilda Aranha Centre for Community Action in Vila de Abrantes. The aim of the visit was to get together to think of ways we could collaborate to benefit the local community. To kick off this link, we invited their youth orchestra to play at the inauguration of our community space. #Strengtheninglinks



Community Centre – Collective Action

19th March

To get our community space ready for the inauguration, we got together some of our young people and all of workforce. We painted walls, the front of the building and the front bars. All for the house to be ready and beautiful in time for the 8th April when we will welcome the community for our opening event. #ViladeAbrantesdeservesit



Associação
Viva a Vida

Protection Policy

16th March

We finalized the construction of our Protection Policy for Viva a Vida's beneficiaries. The next step is to circulate the information and make sure we put the policy in place throughout 2016.

#Protectingyouth

Board meeting

19th March

Our board of directors met for the first time in our new community space, where they discussed the goals for 2016, including the employment of a fundraising manager for the association.

#Strengtheningourmanagement

Founder- Gisella Hanley

21st March

The founder and creator of Viva a Vida, Gisella Hanley, visited Brazil in March. The anthropologist, who has a doctorate in chemical dependency, was responsible for planning, dreaming and building the organisation. Gisella will stay until the 16th April. As well as visiting us, she will carry out research with the young people who benefited from the Therapeutic Centre that used to be part of Viva a Vida.

#Returningtoourroots