



Brazil 2026

**Empowering Vulnerable Communities in Brazil
Through the Transformative Power of Sports**



The Vision

Our vision is to connect, inspire, and equip churches and community projects that use sports as a powerful tool to transform lives. Through sports, we aim to teach essential values, build self-confidence, and foster trust and unity within communities. Sports are more than physical activity—they are a bridge to hope, character development, and long-term change. By creating opportunities for meaningful engagement, we believe sports can help individuals discover purpose and experience holistic growth.

The Project Context

Since the early 2000s, we have been involved in sports ministry through the Levante street children project and our local church south of Recife.

This region faces deep social and economic challenges: widespread poverty, exclusion from public life, and systemic issues such as alcohol abuse, drug trafficking, violence, and prostitution. These realities shape the lives of countless families and limit opportunities for children and youth.

Sports provide an effective and practical way to break this destructive cycle. They create safe spaces, promote discipline, and open doors to education and employment. We have seen inspiring examples: in sports like Taekwondo, young athletes have risen to national prominence, earned scholarships, and secured stable jobs—proof that sports can change futures.



Main Areas of Work

- Networking and encouragement for churches and organizations already engaged in sports ministry, helping them share resources and best practices
- Training programs and conferences for teachers, coaches, and youth leaders focused on values-based sports and leadership development
- Soccer schools and multi-sport training sessions for children and teenagers from vulnerable communities, offering structured activities and mentorship
- Organizing tournaments, competitions, and training camps to build community, promote teamwork, and create positive role models
- Programs in juvenile detention centers, using sports as a tool for rehabilitation, character building, and hope for reintegration into society



2026 Highlights

- Continued motivation and support through phone calls and social media, strengthening relationships with partners in both the Northeast and Southwest regions
- Two mission trips to the Northeast with a small team to visit existing projects, encourage leaders, and deliver much-needed sports equipment.
- Opportunities to speak in various churches about the strategic importance of sports ministry and its impact on communities
- Significant growth: Many participants from last year's training remain active and have even launched new initiatives, expanding the reach of sports ministry
- Popular sports include Floorball, Dodgeball, and Pickleball, which complement soccer and provide inclusive options for different age groups
- Challenges remain: There is still a shortage of quality sports equipment and adequate facilities, limiting the potential impact of these programs

Local partners

- Mission ATE “Associação transcultural evangélica aos confins da terra (Transcultural evangelical association to the ends of the earth)
- CBE “Coalizao Brasileira de Esporte” (Brazilian Sports Coalition)
- Various church parishes

“This year, we saw children, teenagers, young athletes, and coaches discover and teach Kingdom values during sports sessions. They learned to play fair, play with excellence, play together, and about the gospel of God’s grace—so they can become true champions, both in sports and in life.”

-Cristiano Dias (CBE/FCA)



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