

# Brazil Missions Team



July 18-August 2, 2025  
(tentative dates)





## Trip Details

We are organizing a ministry team of 14 youth and 4 adult leaders to visit the **Home of the Good Shepherd** (HGS) in rural south Brazil.

HGS is a residential home for children who are unable to live with their families due to abandonment, abuse, and other reasons. The team will be leading ministry times and recreational activities for and with the children, helping with maintenance tasks such as painting and other responsibilities.

In south Brazil, July is their winter and the average daytime highs are around 18 degrees Celsius with overnight lows of around 10 degrees Celsius.

Portuguese is the primary language.

## Who can apply?

Students active in the Hope City youth group who are **enrolled in grade 11 or 12 in the 2024/25 school year** and who will be **at least 16 years of age at the time of departure** are welcome to apply.

Students must profess faith in Jesus, have been actively engaged in our youth group for at least six months, have been involved in some aspect of ministry service in the church, and have the recommendation of their youth leader and the leader of their serve team.

We also need to be confident that they will be able to travel and lead ministry with limited oversight for two weeks, reside in shared accommodations and follow the rules and guidelines of the team leaders and our hosts.

As part of the application review, confidential references will be sought. If more students who meet the criteria apply than spots are available, priority will be given to students based on their current ministry involvement, maturity and the team needs.

## Passport and Visas

Participants who are Canadian citizens require a **passport valid for six months after travel (an expiry date of January 5, 2026 or later)**. Brazil requires an entry visa for Canadian Citizens, and the application may require both parents to have valid passports.

Team members who are citizens of other countries should check their eligibility to travel to Brazil and the US.

## Application Dates

The initial application deadline is September 20, 2024 and team members will be informed of their application status no later than October 10, 2024.

## How to Apply

The application form is available at <https://hopecity.ca/Brazil2025>. The student must complete the application with their own hopecity.ca profile.



## Costs

The total cost of the team trip per participant is estimated at \$3,500.

A **\$500 deposit** is required within 15 days of acceptance on the team. This deposit becomes non-refundable once airline tickets are purchased, and will cover the non-receiptable portion of the trip costs including the visit to Igazu Falls.

Each team members will be responsible for raising **\$3,000** in charitable donations towards the team costs. This amount can come from their own income, donations from family and close friends and team fundraisers.

These team funds will cover all team member expenses including transportation, meals, accommodation and activities.

The team will engage in one or more fundraising events that are anticipated to raise between \$750 and \$1,000 per team member, and participation in the team fundraising is a condition of acceptance.

In accordance with Canadian law, all donations receipted by Hope City Church are for the team's expenses, and once a donation is made it is non-refundable. If for any reason the

team member is unable to participate on the trip, the funds will remain in the team budget, and any surplus funds after team expenses will be donated to Home of the Good Shepherd by Hope City Church.

Additionally, team members will need to bring funds with them to cover airport meals and any souvenirs.

In the event travel is disrupted, the church will make arrangements and cover costs for meals, accommodation and alternative travel arrangements. The church will then seek reimbursement from the carriers or insurers for the group. Participants and their parents/guardians will be required to sign an authorization form and release to this effect before the trip.

## Team Leaders

Pastor Tammy and Matt Ball – [tammy.b@hopecity.ca](mailto:tammy.b@hopecity.ca)

Pastor Graham and Charlene Greenwood – [graham.g@hopecity.ca](mailto:graham.g@hopecity.ca)

## Important Dates

Team Meetings	Other Important Dates
<p>Team meetings will occur at our Mill Woods Campus on <b>Sunday afternoons from 2:00-4:00 pm in Room 2021</b>. Attendance is mandatory for team members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• October 20</li> <li>• November 17</li> <li>• December 15</li> <li>• January 12</li> <li>• February 16</li> <li>• March 16</li> <li>• April 13</li> <li>• May 4</li> <li>• June 8</li> <li>• July 13</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sept 20</b> - Application Deadline</p> <p><b>April 30</b> – Silent Auction Fundraiser (6:00-8:00 pm)</p> <p><b>May 31</b> – Engage Worship and Prayer Night at Hope City Church</p> <p><b>June 6-7</b> – Serve Weekend with Hope City</p> <p><b>May 30</b> – All funds due</p>

## Information Regarding International Humanitarian Travel

When volunteering to travel and serve as part of a Hope City Church team, individuals and their parents / guardians are responsible for understanding the risks and considering the implications for them and their family. They must assume those risks, meaning they will not hold the church responsible for any loss connected to their participation.

All international travel involves risks. Participation in missions and humanitarian work carries different and greater risks than tourist travel. Travellers will not have access to the same protection, security and health services as in Canada or other international tourist destinations.

Each country has a unique legal system, specific safety and security conditions and potential health hazards. Participants are expected to read the travel advice published by the Government of Canada (<https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories>) at the time they commit to the trip and again immediately before travel.

Countries make their own decisions about who they will allow to enter and leave the country. Participants are responsible for meeting the entry requirements for the countries they are visiting or transiting through, including obtaining any required visas.

Transportation, including air and ground travel, is provided by companies that are registered in different countries and are governed by different safety and liability regulations than Canadian companies.

Changes to the planned itinerary may be required due to schedule changes, natural disasters, security concerns and other reasons. Changes may involve alternate carriers and providers, and may include stops in countries other than those on the original itinerary.

The activities of the team may include projects where the equipment, safety standards and oversight are different than those in Canada. Team participants assume greater risks than they would in Canada and are responsible for assessing the safety risks and taking appropriate precautions.

The church is not qualified to assess personal health risks. Participants are responsible for consulting with their physician and a travel health professional before travel and obtaining recommended vaccines and personal medications.

In the event of injury, disease or other medical emergency, the emergency medical care will be different than what is available in Canada. Participants are responsible for arranging

health insurance to cover emergency medical needs for the duration of the trip. Participants must understand the coverage and limits of the policy, including any limitations on coverage and will confirm with the insurance carrier if there are any questions, including coverage for pre-existing conditions.

Individuals and their parents/guardians who participate on trips are responsible to consider how any injury, disease, loss or death would impact their financial situation. Participants are responsible for confirming any life, disability or other insurance policies will provide coverage for loss incurred as a result of the trip.

# FAQS

## **What if I can pay for the entire trip without fundraisers?**

- That's fantastic! You still need to lean in and help with the team fundraisers as they are integral to team building and learning to work together, and your portion of the funds raised will offset the amount needed from other team members with less financial capacity.

## **What if I can't make all the meetings?**

- We understand that other important things can come up. We ask for at least two weeks notice if a team member cannot make it a meeting or event. We are only allowing team members to miss up to 2 meetings, including for illness.

## **Will I be responsible for the cost of getting a passport?**

- Yes. Each passport will need to be valid 6 months after the trip. So, if your passport expires January 5, 2026 or later, you will need to apply for a new passport in early 2025.

## **Will there be contacts I can reach in case of an emergency?**

- Yes. Parents will be provided with information to contact team leaders via WhatsApp before departure.

## **What will we be doing on the missions trip?**

- Activities will be confirmed closer to the date of the trip. A sample schedule is attached.

## **Is financial assistance available?**

- Team leaders will work with the team on some fundraisers and will provide sponsor letter templates to send to close family and friends. Team fundraisers are anticipated to raise between \$750 and \$1,000 per team member.

## **What are the travel arrangements?**

- The missions team will travel together. All travel, including flights, ground transportation, and accommodations, will be organized by the team leaders or the missions organization.

## **What should I pack?**

- Due to restrictions on the amount of luggage the buses can accommodate, each team member will be able to bring one regular sized suitcase and a personal sized carry on. A list of suggested clothing will be provided and the team will have access to laundry facilities.

#### **What kind of supervision will there be?**

- The team will be led by four experienced adults in addition to the staff from Home of the Good Shepherd. However, team members are expected to be responsible for their own conduct throughout the trip.

#### **What if I have dietary restrictions?**

- Participants with allergies or food intolerances must notify team leaders in advance to look into the possibility to accommodate allergies and other dietary needs. Depending on the type and severity of the allergy or intolerance it may not be possible to participate on the trip.

#### **WiFi and Mobile Phones**

- Team members will have access to wifi at certain locations and there is cellular coverage in the areas we are travelling to. However, team members will not have access to their phones during many of the activities, as we are there to engage with the ministry!

## More Information



<https://hopecity.ca/Brazil2025>



# Sample Schedule

Start Time	Time Blocks
8:00 AM	30m

## Week "1" Schedule

TIME	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8:00 AM	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
8:30 AM							
9:00 AM							
9:30 AM	Kids Church?	Tour of site/s at "HOME"	Fruit Tree Planting	Garden Planting	Paint Play Structures	Paint Play Structures	Walk in BVB
10:00 AM							
10:30 AM							
11:00 AM	Lunch at the "HOME" - Leaders Mtg. - Grp. Briefing	Lunch at the "HOME"	Lunch at the "HOME"	Lunch at the "HOME"	Lunch at the "HOME"	Lunch at the "HOME"	Lunch at the "HOME"
11:30 AM							
12:00 PM							
12:30 PM	Rest	Girls (Indoor Soccr.)	Boys (Futebol 7)	Boys (Randy's Km)	Kite Design/ Build	Games/Field day activities	Kite Competition
1:00 PM							
1:30 PM							
2:00 PM	Prep. For evening service...	Kayak (Boys)	Kayak (Girls)	VolleyBall (Girls)	Kite Design/ Build	Games/Field day activities	Kite Competition
2:30 PM							
3:00 PM							
3:30 PM	Supper	*** Supper	*** Supper	*** Supper	*** Supper	*** Supper	*** Supper
4:00 PM							
4:30 PM							
5:00 PM	Walk to church	- Think of field day activities and hand in list of all supplies needed...	Soccer night at boys	Girls baking cookies at girls site	* Boys at boys site... ** Girls at girls site.... <i>Do a couple of games and Short Devotional...</i> (1 hour) SNACK!	*** Supper	*** Supper
5:30 PM							
6:00 PM							
6:30 PM	Church Service at "A ROCHA"	- Show what you want to paint/draw and what paint is needed... colours etc....	* Boys at boys site... ** Girls at girls site.... <i>Do a couple of games and Short Devotional...</i> (1 hour) SNACK!	* Boys at boys site... ** Girls at girls site.... <i>Do a couple of games and Short Devotional...</i> (1 hour) SNACK!	* Boys at boys site... ** Girls at girls site.... <i>Do a couple of games and Short Devotional...</i> (1 hour) SNACK!	*** Supper	*** Supper
7:00 PM							
7:30 PM							
8:00 PM	Church Service at "A ROCHA"	- Show what you want to paint/draw and what paint is needed... colours etc....	* Boys at boys site... ** Girls at girls site.... <i>Do a couple of games and Short Devotional...</i> (1 hour) SNACK!	* Boys at boys site... ** Girls at girls site.... <i>Do a couple of games and Short Devotional...</i> (1 hour) SNACK!	* Boys at boys site... ** Girls at girls site.... <i>Do a couple of games and Short Devotional...</i> (1 hour) SNACK!	*** Supper	*** Supper
8:30 PM							
9:00 PM							
9:30 PM	Church Service at "A ROCHA"	- Prep for games for devotional nights and Saturday youth night.	* Boys at boys site... ** Girls at girls site.... <i>Do a couple of games and Short Devotional...</i> (1 hour) SNACK!	* Boys at boys site... ** Girls at girls site.... <i>Do a couple of games and Short Devotional...</i> (1 hour) SNACK!	* Boys at boys site... ** Girls at girls site.... <i>Do a couple of games and Short Devotional...</i> (1 hour) SNACK!	*** Supper	*** Supper
10:00 PM							
10:30 PM							
10:30 PM	Team Devo's	Team Devo's	Team Devo's	Team Devo's	Team Devo's	Team Devo's	Team Devo's
11:00 PM	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out
11:30 PM							

Start Time	Time Blocks
8:00 AM	30m

# Week "2" Schedule

TIME	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
8:00 AM	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Travel to FOZ	Breakfast	Breakfast		
8:30 AM								
9:00 AM								
9:30 AM	Walk to church	Loose Ends	Visit Ivagaci School		Macuco Safari	Check-out		
10:00 AM	Kids Church at "A ROCHA"							
10:30 AM								
11:00 AM								
11:30 AM	Lunch at the "HOME"	Lunch at the "HOME"	Lunch at the "HOME"	Lunch		Lunch	Airport	
12:00 PM								
12:30 PM								
1:00 PM	Rest	Girls Walk "Randy's Km"	Loose Ends	Bird Park				
1:30 PM								
2:00 PM								
2:30 PM								
3:00 PM								
3:30 PM								
4:00 PM	Boys "Futebol 7"			Hotel Check-in				
4:30 PM								
5:00 PM								Prep. For evening service...
5:30 PM	*** Supper	*** Supper	*** Supper	Supper	Supper			
6:00 PM								
6:30 PM								
7:00 PM	Walk to church							
7:30 PM	Church Service at "A ROCHA"							
8:00 PM								
8:30 PM								
9:00 PM								
9:30 PM				Relax	Relax & Pack			
10:00 PM								
10:30 PM	Team Devo's	Team Devo's	Team Devo's					
11:00 PM	Lights Out	Lights Out	Pack	Lights Out	Lights Out	Sing "Oh Canada"		
11:30 PM								