



# Harvest: Brazil

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**“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”  
Matthew 7:24**



## Pure Water and Clean Restrooms

The two small topics of this newsletter are among the biggest problems that tribal groups don't know how to solve.

This is a beautiful season --- the beginning of spring in the US and the beginning of fall in the Amazon. It's a good time to get back to our friends and ministry partners to talk about a very important subject: the houses or dwellings of the Ticuna people..

In the Ticuna culture, the house is not only a physical space in which to live, it is also a space to socialize and build a family, to develop the economy, to build community, and to live as a church.

Families print the history of their lives in the houses where they live. When they go through life's transitions, families leave a mark on their homes. The past, present and future are imprinted there...and this is very important for the family's sense of continuity. This is crucial to consider when we think about sustainability.





The Ticunas have migrated from their villages to small urban centers. They live in towns that are close to each other in a region called “Alto Solimões”, where the Amazon River marks the border between Peru, Colombia and Brazil.

About 70% of the Ticuna families live in houses where there is no division of rooms, kitchen and restroom. They dwell in an open room, a common shelter where they eat, sleep, and work. When they visit a house in the city or watch TV, they get a different idea about construction, and then they start to build houses with interior divisions.

The provision of drinkable water and clean restroom facilities is an ongoing need among the Ticunas. Water and bathrooms are usually located outside of the homes. They are open doors for illnesses and parasites, and therefore a major problem for the Ticunas.

As we preach the gospel to these people, we also want to help them build restrooms and reservoirs of water, the “pure water and clean restrooms” that will give them a healthier lifestyle.



## Little House in the Amazon Project

In May we will start to build a little house in the Amazon, which will serve several purposes. This will be our mission base in the village and will host people in need of a place to stay overnight. It will also provide classroom space for training, a place where community people, pastors and church leaders will learn the gospel, the message of biblical wholism...and about water purification and sanitation.

You can participate with us. We covet your prayers for each step of this project. You can also contribute for it. We estimate that it will cost about US \$5,000 to build a Little House in the Amazon. If you decide to send your support soon, we estimate that by June of this year we will be able to host you there. You could visit the Ticunas in the Amazon and share the teachings. Your journey might take you first to Houston, Texas, then Bogotá, Colombia and from there to Letícia, on the border of Brazil, Colombia and Peru. Another 1 or 2 hours by boat will bring you to the heart of the Ticuna Amazon...and the Little House in the Amazon...where you are very welcome!



If you would like to make a contribution to this ministry, please write checks payable to Harvest and send to PO Box 2670, Phoenix, AZ. Include a note with the check designating the funds to “Oliveira”. All contributions are tax deductible. Thank you for your participation!