

## REPORT

# Costa Rican Students in Brazil

From Training to Sending—Mobilizing Leaders for Gospel impact across Borders



*Training and mentoring leaders and young people in Costa Rica*

Dear Friends,

On behalf of Multiply, the ministry team in Brazil, and the Association of Biblical Churches in Costa Rica (AIBC), **thank you for partnering with us in the training of emerging leaders.** Your finances and prayers aid in equipping ministry leaders and young people with the skills to share the Gospel and plant churches in their communities.

Emerson Cardoso, Multiply's Regional Team Leader for Central and South America, reported that in 2024, the ministry team in Brazil began developing a consistent relationship with AIBC, the first evangelical denomination in Costa Rica. Throughout its history, this network has played a significant role in church planting and missionary sending. However, in recent years, internal challenges have impacted its missionary dynamism.

Emerson and his team were invited **to contribute to a process of renewal by offering training and mentoring for leaders and young people**, with a focus on practical, multiplication-oriented missional formation. This began with short-term missions schools aimed at national youth leaders. In January 2025, the pastor leading the movement within AIBC came to Brazil with his team to participate in this intensive missionary training program.

In July 2025, the first *Zoe Pura Vida* School was held—a **six-day mission training program designed to equip and send young people and adults to serve local churches and engage in evangelism within their communities.** The outcome was encouraging, marked by strong participation and immediate practical application. In January 2026, two additional short-term programs were hosted, equipping approximately 100 youth and teenagers to serve intentionally and missionally within their own churches and communities.



*Participants at Zoe Pura Vida School, a short-term mission training program*

At the same time, AIBC leadership has connected with the International Community of Mennonite Brethren (ICOMB) and is taking steps toward integration into the global MB family. This process is **broadening vision, strengthening international relationships, and reinforcing a commitment to a healthy and cooperative missional future.** Emerson shares:

“Alongside these initiatives, we have been hosting young people from Costa Rica in a missionary exchange program in Brazil. Five participants are currently in training to launch a similar initiative in their home country. They have shown strong commitment and maturity as they adapt to the Brazilian context and engage in intensive, cross-cultural ministry training.”



*Hosting Costa-Rican students in Brazil*

Although there is openness and renewed vision within AIBC, the development of a sustainable missionary culture is still in its early stages. As a result, these young leaders face challenges in

mobilizing the necessary resources to begin the program in Costa Rica. This remains a strategic moment, with receptive leadership, motivated young people, and a network of churches ready to be mobilized once again.

The next steps in this process include completing the training of the five students currently in Brazil, assisting in structuring the first missionary training program in Costa Rica, providing ongoing mentorship to local leadership, and supporting the development of a culture of sending and mobilization within the network.



*God is building His work across nations*

Emerson expressed his thanks, saying:

“I am grateful to see how God is building His work across nations with patience and purpose. We are learning that **true renewal comes through trust, consistent teaching, and faithful cooperation.** Your partnership plays a vital role in strengthening leaders and communities. We remain confident that God is guiding this process and are deeply grateful for those who make this work possible. **We are committed to serving with responsibility, close follow-up, and faithfulness to the mission entrusted to us.**”

Once again, thank you for your generosity in giving of your resources and for your faithful prayers toward this ministry. Your partnership ensures the ongoing training of leaders so that the Gospel may continue to extend and the Good News be shared—so that **together, the world may know Jesus.**