



Pastoral da Criança

Brazil, Angola, Guinea-Bissau,
Mozambique and East Timor

REDINFA – Red para el Desarrollo Integral del Niño y de la Familia

Argentina

Pastoral del Niño

Paraguay, Honduras,
Mexico and Venezuela

Pastoral del Niño y de la Niña ou Pastoral Wawamicheqkuna

Bolivia

Pastoral del Niño y de la Niña

Uruguay and Panama

Pastoral Materno Infantil

Dominican Republic

Pastoral de la Primera Infancia

Colombia and Guatemala

Pastoral Care for Children

The Philippines

La Pastorale de l'Enfant

Guinea

Promoting a full life for every child

Child's Pastoral in Brazil and in the World

**Social action for life and benefit of the child's
health and its full development.**

The Child's Pastoral was started with a small seed of Faith and Life and planted 25 years ago in Brazil. Today, it has also spread its fruit in other 17 countries. Get to know our main communitarian actions for the benefit of the children, pregnant women and their families, and how you can add to strengthen and increase this work in favour of life, love and hope.

“Childhood must today be the object of high-priority action on the part of the Church, the family, and government institutions, both because of the possibilities it offers and the vulnerability to which is exposed.” n° 438

5th General Conference of the Latin American and Caribbean Bishops



Home visit in Brazil



Life Celebration in Brazil



Evaluation and feedback meeting in the Brazil

A word of Dr. Zilda Arns Neumann

This love story began in 1982, in Genève, in a conversation between James Grandt, executive director of Unicef and the Cardinal Archbishop of São Paulo, Dom Paulo Evaristo Arns, during a ONU meeting. James Grandt was convinced that the church could save thousands of children, if the mothers were taught simple actions like preparing an oral rehydration made at home to prevent dehydration.

The Cardinal Dom Paulo, my brother, called me to talk about the proposal of James Grant. I felt I was called by God for a great life mission. I explained to him that according to my experience in public health as a paediatrician and sanitarian medical doctor, it would be not enough to teach the mothers to use the oral rehydration. It would also be necessary to teach them about pre-natal check, breastfeeding, nutritional vigilance and vaccination, so they would know how to take care of their children for them to “grow in wisdom, and grace” (Luke 2:52).

The National Conference of Bishops of Brazil (CNBB) approved the proposal and appointed the Archbishop of Londrina at that time, Dom Geraldo Majella Agnelo, currently the Cardinal Primaz of São Salvador da Bahia, to follow the development of the work. The slogan chosen was “I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.” John 10:10.. The pilot-project was implemented in Florestópolis, municipality belonging to the Archdiocese of Londrina, in the north of the state of Paraná, which had a high mortality rate, 127 death per one thousand children born alive.



Dr. Zilda Arns Neumann visit to Angola in 2002

I have developed a community methodology inspired by the Gospel of the two fish and five loaves (John 6:1-15), that would feed as many as five thousand men, without counting women and children. It is the simple and cheap actions of education and promotion of health, faith and citizenship performed by volunteer leaders, who organize the communities into family groups with pregnant women and children younger than six years old, and with whom they share knowledge and solidarity. These actions also contribute to strengthen the social tissue and to improve

“The conquest of a fair and fraternal world is born in the heart of each person and in the positive attitudes towards the neighbour, mainly the child.”



public policies mainly in the areas of health and education, promoting the reduction of social difference, child and mother mortality, malnourishment and violence.

The conquest of a fair and fraternal world is born in the heart of every person and in the positive attitudes towards the neighbour, mainly the children. One of each community members is to be available for volunteer work. The Child's Pastoral, since its foundation, is inclusive, ecumenical and beyond religion. It does not make distinction of race, complexion, political party or any other. Here in Brazil there are more than 260 thousand volunteers. Each month, they follow two million children under the age of six years, pregnant women from 1.4 million families, in 42,319 communities and 4,066 municipalities. The International Child's Pastoral is present in 17 other countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Its extraordinary results are due to the methodology that joins Faith and Life, to the promotion of women, to the non-centralized qualification system, to the Information System, to the quality of the education material and others. The sum of efforts and the partnerships ensure the sustainability of the actions. In Brazil, the Child's Pastoral relies on the financial support from the Federal Government through the Department of Health which, since 1985, has been the main financer. For its credibility the Program also won support of the state and municipal governments, companies and others. In the same way it helped Brazil at the outset. Unicef is usually one of the first entities to support and help financially the Child's Pastoral when it is initiated in a new country.

There is still much to be done! The Millennium Declaration, approved by the United Nations on September 2000, established eight targets to be reached by 2015, among them the eradication of extreme poverty, hunger, reduction of child mortality and increase in autonomy for women. These objectives can only be accomplished with the combined efforts of religions, governments, non-governmental organizations, companies, communication media and society in general.

The Child's Pastoral of Brazil contributed to these objectives disseminating its mission of Faith and Life when it expanded its methodology and experience of 25 years to other countries.

Promoting the full development of the children, from the mother's womb to the age of six in his/her family and community context, means participating in the construction of a fairer and fraternal world in service of life and hope.

Warmest regards,

Dr. Zilda Arns Neumann

Paediatrician and Sanitarian Medical Doctor

Founder of the Child's Pastoral

Representative Titular head of CNBB in the National Health Board

CDES Advisor for the Economical and Social Development Board from the Presidency of the Republic of Brazil

Who we are

The Child's Pastoral is a communitarian organization which acts nationally and internationally, whose work is based in human solidarity and knowledge sharing.

The purpose of the work is the full development of the child, from the time he/she is conceived till he/she reaches six years old, within the context of the family and the community, and is done with preventive actions that strengthen the social tissue and promote the integration between the family and the community. The institution is ecumenical and is open for participation of people from all religions. It does not distinguish between race, complexion, gender, political choice or



nationality. The main characteristic of the Child's Pastoral is the voluntary work, performed mainly by the people of the community who instruct and guide on matters of health, nutrition, education and citizenship plus basic inter-actions in the communities.

Each volunteer of the Child's Pastoral does more than just work with the families he/she follows up and monitors progress.

He/she has a mission of Faith and Life, of Christian fellowship, love and social co-responsibility, contributing to the construction of a more fraternal and fair world, in service of Life and Hope.

The situation of children in the world

Social difference is a worldwide problem. As a consequence of poverty and lack of quality education, mothers and their families suffer from diseases and violence which could easily be prevented. Malnutrition and child mortality rates are high in many countries around the world. The continents of the southern hemisphere are the ones with the highest concentration of child mortality rates, malnutrition and violence.



Sister Maria de Lurdes Mattiello

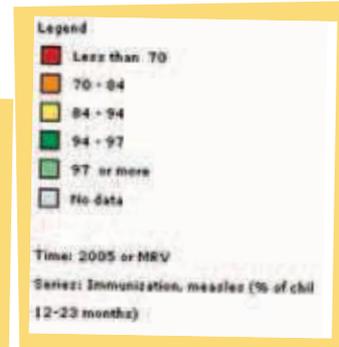
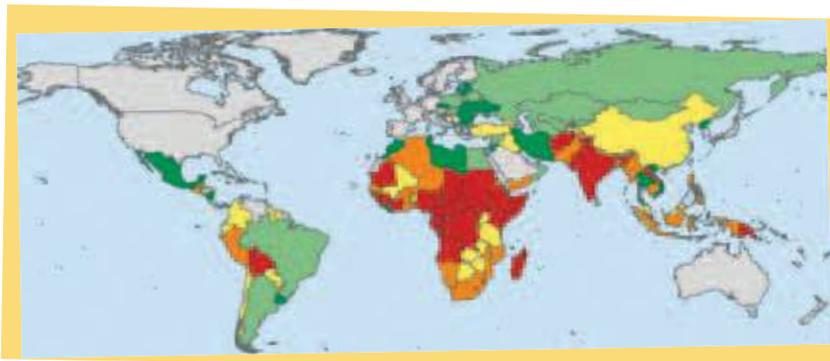
Guinea-Bissau

“The Child’s Pastoral is an example for Brazil and for the World of how complex but at the same time easy is to ensure rights to every boy and girl”.

Reiko Niimi, ex-representative of UNICEF for Brazil.



Child mortality in the world



18% of the world population live on less than US\$ 1 per day (World Bank/2005). Source: The World Bank Group. Millennium Development Goals. Global Data Monitoring Information System.2007.

The Brazilian child Brazil, the cradle of the Child's Pastoral

Brazil is a country of many contradictions. On the one side it is extremely rich; it has a large land mass, mineral richness, raw material, human resources, a culture of tolerance and solidarity. Such factors place it in the 10th rank in the world economy. However, Brazil has another face; the face of poverty, hunger, unemployment and violence.

The confrontation between the two so very different worlds in one sole country reveals the social difference and injustice which affects, on a daily basis, one-third of the 186 million people that form the Brazilian population (Brazilian Institute of Geography

and Statistics/Estimate of 2006). Only 10% of the Brazilians hold half of each families' total income in the country. The poorest ones, about 50% of the population hold only 10% of the income.

This serious social situation mainly affects the women and the children. In Brazil, almost half of the (48,6%) children younger than six years old are poor. Out of the total of 19,767,600 children in this age group, 9,607,443 of them belong to families whose income is equal or lower than two minimum wages, (US\$ 400.00) according to Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics data of 2002.

Child mortality x mother's school level

When a mother has a **school level of lower than 1 year**, the child mortality rate is **93 deaths per one thousand** live births; **school level between 1 and 3 years**, the rate falls to **70 deaths per one thousand**;

school level between 9 and 11 years, the average rate is **28 deaths per one thousand**. Source: UNICEF/Brazil, Situation of the Infancy in Brazil 2001.

Where do we act in Brazil

Every year, 123 thousand children younger than five years old die in Brazil, the majority of them in poor communities and of causes which could be prevented if the families had received orientation on health, nutrition, education,

citizenship and received the necessary support.

The Child's Pastoral is present in 42,319 poor communities of 4,066 municipalities in all states of Brazil.

A work from all

Result and Achievements from the Child's Pastoral in Brazil - 2007

Number of poor children followed per month:.....	1,816,261
Number of pregnant women followed:	94,987
Volunteers:	261,962
Number of poor communities followed:	42,319
Number of municipalities:	4,066

Source: Information System of the Child's Pastoral, FABS sheet recorded till 06/05/2008.

Who do we follow

In Brazil, around 261 thousand volunteers, in the community level, follow up each month about two million children, aged from zero to six years old plus pregnant women in their family and communities. More than 21 million home visits are made to the families annual.

In 42,319 communities children are weighed every month and the malnourished are treated and cared for.



Communitarian Leader weighs a child in the Dominican Republic



What do we do

SAVED LIVES BY SHARING

In the followed communities, the qualified Leaders, through the Christian mystics of faith and life, put into practice one set of actions for the promotion of health, nourishment, education, citizenship and spirituality. They act ecumenically focused not only on the survival but also on the full development to the child and improvement of life quality of the children and their families.

When a family is followed by the Leader of the Child's Pastoral, its members feel supported and strengthened to search for solutions to the problems. The Leader belongs to the same community, knows the family and its situation well. Thus, he/she can instruct the family on its rights and duties. Together they can fight for better life conditions. The Leader also contributes to prevent domestic violence with messages of peace, love and solidarity. The **Basic Actions** listed bellow, are the main settings for the Child's Pastoral work:

1. Follow up pregnant women:

- Rights and duties.
- Important facts in pregnancy care.
 - Preparation for breastfeeding, prenatal, nutrition, hygiene, vaccination, etc.
 - Psychological support, strengthening of self-esteem.

- Pregnancy follow up:
 - Baby development in the womb.
 - Most common complaints, risk signs.
 - Preparation for the child birth and after the birth.



Sister Ana Maria Borges

Ecumenical Group in Guinea-Bissau

2. Follow-up of children younger than six years old:

- Rights
- Learning and development
- Breastfeeding
- Nutritional Evaluation
- Hygiene and buccal health
- Immunization
- Orientation for the prevention and treatment of diarrhea and breathing infections.
- Home serum to prevent dehydration
- Health danger signs

3. Promotion of the person's dignity, citizenship, spirituality and of education for peace.

THE COMMUNITY IN ACTION

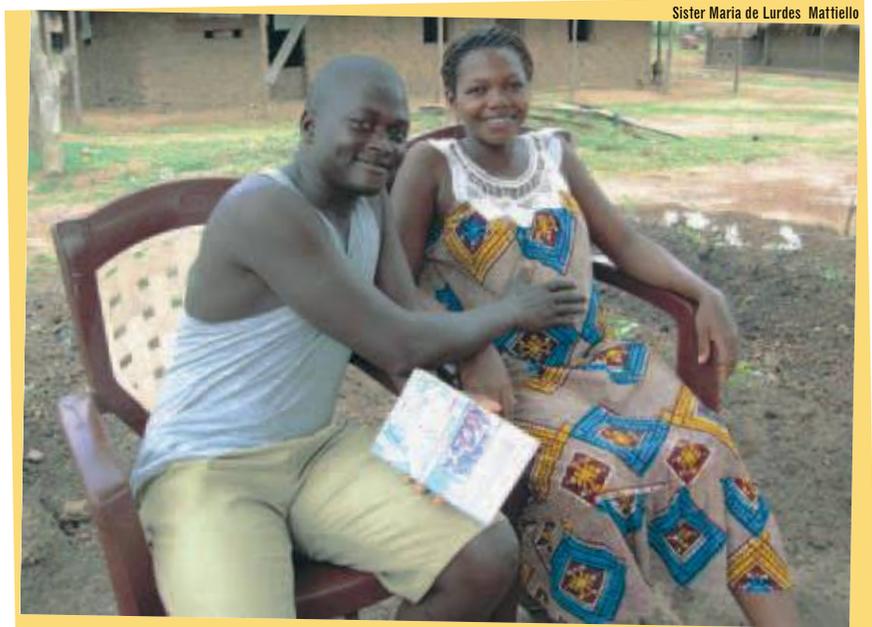
The Child's Pastoral aim to enhance the full development of children younger than six years old. However, care to the families and communities cannot be ignored either. Dr. Zilda Arns Neumann says that:

“If the families are well, the child is well. If the community is organized and the Child's Pastoral is well developed, the authorities will respect it much more.”

The Child's Pastoral has some **Complementary Actions which also help** to reduce child mortality and to promote improvements in the family and communities to which the child belongs. These are the following:

- **Literacy Program**- to mothers and the children followed - Youth and Adults Education (EJA).
- **Toys and Games** - to increase the interest in playing and joining leisure activities in the communities. The families receive support and stimuli to create a favourable environment to the development and education of their children.

- **Social Control of the Public Policies** - Qualified volunteers report the Municipal, State and National Boards of Health, Board of the Children and Adolescents Rights, Board of Nutrition Safety, among others.



Guinean man with his pregnant wife

Optional Actions

- Network of Communication Volunteers
- Youth and Adults Education Program - to other followed people within the community apart from the mother.
- Hansenosis - the Child's Pastoral participates in an organized and systematic way of the National Program of Control and Eliminations of Hansenosis in the municipalities where it is endemic.
- Tuberculosis Control

“Our country was the first to implement the methodology of the Child's Pastoral abroad. We have worked more than ten years and among the results achieved are: the promotion of solidarity, the appreciation of the children's life and more attention from the public authorities”.
Elizabeth Burró, ex-National Coord. of Pastoral del Niño of Paraguay.



The leader's activities of the Child's Pastoral

Jesus said: “No one lights a lamp to cover it with a bowl or to put it under a bed. No, it is put on a lampstand so that people may see the light when they come in.” (Luke 8: 1,16). These teaching guides the Leader's work, who takes the light of knowledge and solidarity to the families of his/her community. He/she multiplies the knowledge and solidarity through three monthly activities: the Home Visit, the Life Celebration Day - the Weighing Day (when the children are weighted and the bonds of friendship among the families are strengthened) and the Evaluation and Feedback Meeting.

Each Leader in Brazil follows an average of 13 children

THE VISIT THAT GENERATES FRATERNITY BONDS

The Home Visit is the most personal contact between the community Leader and the families which he/she follows. During the



Home visit by a communitarian leader in Colombia

visits, he/she has the opportunity to get to know the family better and to share knowledge and experiences on health, nutrition, hygiene, citizenship, pregnancy, diseases prevention, child education, faith, and life, among others. The Leader also evaluates what improvements can be made in the care of children, during pregnancy, in nutrition and in family relationships.

In the Child's Pastoral of Brazil, each Leader follows an average of 13 families and works 24 hours per month. Those families take better care of their children and strengthen their self-esteem to transform their lives and their children's lives.

“We notice changes in the people that, even though manifested as daily actions, they are in fact deep changes”.

David Forte - REDINFA - Red para el Desarrollo Integral del Niño de la Familia de Argentina.

CELEBRATE LIFE - WEIGHING DAY

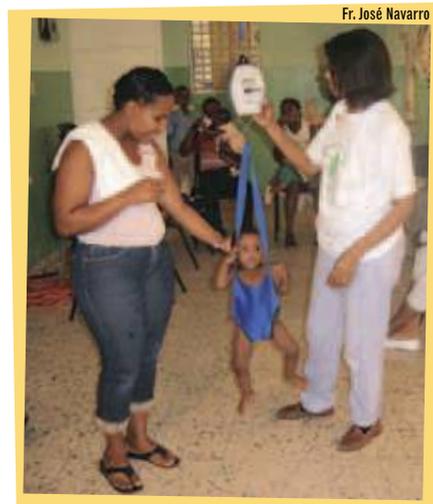
The Life Celebration Day is the moment in which the communities gather the children followed by one or more members of the families, to be weighed. This fraternity moment is enhanced with the exchange of experience, information and the enjoyment of a delicious snack.

Each community has its own way to organize its Celebration Day. It can be held **at the Leader's Home, in the open air, under the trees or in other spaces and regional food can be served. The Child's Pastoral leaders weigh the children in a party environment, celebrating the achievements and searching for solutions to improve the life quality of life for each one of them.**

Spirituality and prayer are present in all the actions.

On the Life Celebration Day all are invited to understand the importance of faith and fraternal relationship between the churches, in an ecumenical dimension and beyond religion.

Each children's weight is written down in the Child's Card and in the Leader's Notebook. The information is sent to Office of the Child's Pastoral, where it is recorded and becomes an important indicator of health and well being.



Fr. José Navarro
Life Celebration in a community in Dominican Republic

EVALUATION AND FEEDBACK

The passage of the loaves multiplication in the gospel ends saying that they all ate and were satisfied. Thus, in the methodology of the Child's Pastoral the volunteers organize a community, evaluate and discuss the results of their communitarian work every month.

The Evaluation and Feedback Meeting is one of the workers most important moments of this immense network of human solidarity. It is when the Leaders and the community coordinator of the Child's Pastoral fill in the FABS (Sheet of Monthly Follow-up and Assessment of the Health and Education Basic Actions in the Community) after the home visits and the community children's weighing activities have already been completed. This monthly portrait of the community is then forwarded to the National Coordination Office which records the data in the Information System.

During the meeting, the Leaders assess the progresses of their actions, using the methodology of See, Assess, Act, Evaluate

and Celebrate. In this meeting, they observe the reality of the families that follow evaluate the causes and consequences of a certain situation, gather efforts and evaluate which alternatives can help the family or the community.



Evaluation and Feedback Meeting in the Dominican Republic



Methodology and tools that lead to peace

QUALIFICATION OF VOLUNTEERS

In order for the volunteer to be able to do his/her work and generate the social transformation in his/her community, he/she needs to feel prepared and have access to the proper tools. Therefore, the Child's Pastoral provides training for all volunteers in the basic actions of health, nutrition, education and citizenship. The initial program of 52 hours on the Leaders' Guide is made according to the following curriculum:



The Leader's Guide is the base for this qualification and the main training tool for the volunteers that work at the Child's Pastoral. This book contains information on how to take better care of the child, from his/her conception till he/she is six years old. From this knowledge, the leaders are then capable of instructing the mothers on important basics they need to understand during pregnancy and breastfeeding, vaccines, healthy food, diseases and family violence prevention, together with how to promote opportunities

for the full development of the child within his/her family and community contexts.



Sister Maria de Lurdes Mattiello
Communitarian Leader in Guinea-Bissau
with the Leader's Guide

Continuous Qualification

The volunteers of Child's Pastoral always learn more and thus are able to instruct more. This is how Eunice, a leader explains: "Before the Child's Pastoral I was a nobody. Today, I feel like I am a doctor".

In order to update the knowledge acquired in the Leader's Guide Program, the volunteer takes part each year in a workshop on basic actions improvement. He/she also receives monthly the Journal of the Child's Pastoral and listens to the weekly radio program entitled "Live Life". Therefore he/she is constantly updated and ready to instruct the families. The Literacy Program of Youth and Adults to Community Leaders is also part of the continuous qualification in citizenship. After all, knowing how to read and write is a right to every citizen!

INFORMATION NETWORK

A big information network, that gathers and co-ordinates all the data of the Child's Pastoral of Brazil, is responsible for evaluating all the actions, contributing to define the objectives and motivate the volunteers. Every month the community leaders collect information about the followed children during the Home Visit and the Life Celebration Day. In the Monthly Evaluation and Feedback Meeting, they fill in these data in the FABS (Monthly Follow-up and Assessment Sheet of the Health and Education Basic Actions), which is sent to the National Coordination Office of the Child's Pastoral. There the information about each child is typed, systematized and returned to the communities under the form of a Quarterly Report, congratulating for the achievements, warning for risks and instructing on how to improve any actions that have not given good results.



Typing of Monthly Follow-up and Assessment Sheet sent by communities in Colombia

The Quarterly Reports of Brazil are available on the website www.pastoraldacrianca.org.br, link Sistema de Informação. With the information available to all society, the Child's Pastoral helps to mobilize governments, entities and opinion makers so they can participate in helping change the reality of the Brazilian poor children.

TOOLS

Apart from the Leader's Guide and from the FABS (Monthly Follow-up and Assessment Sheet of the Health and Education Basic Actions), there are other basic tools which help the volunteers work all over Brazil.

The Pregnant Woman's Card is an important tool for the future mother. It is delivered by the health service upon the first

prenatal check. On each Card is recorded information such as the woman's forecasted delivery date, blood type, vaccines, weight and blood pressure.

Love Bonds is a set of cards to the pregnant woman which contains orientation about the pregnancy period. The leaders deliver one card in the monthly home visit with texts about the baby and guidance from Child's Pastoral.

“The Information System has already been implemented what allows us to make a better follow up of the extension of the actions developed in the whole country”.

Sister Cecília Rodriguez Arena - National Coordinator of the Pastoral de la Primera Infancia of Colombia



The **scale** is a symbol of health and confraternity in the Child's Pastoral. On the Life Celebration Day, when all the children followed in the community are weighed, the weight is written down on the Child's Card that is distributed by the hospitals and health services. The weight assessment gives us an indication of the

nourishment risk and the potential risk to the child's health. As Dr. Zilda Arns Neumann states: "the weighing made in the community by qualified community leaders is the impelling force that most enables us to recover the malnourished and to instruct the families about having healthy nutrition."

The **Child's Card** is also very useful to the community leader because it is possible to verify on it if the vaccines are updated and to follow up the child's development.

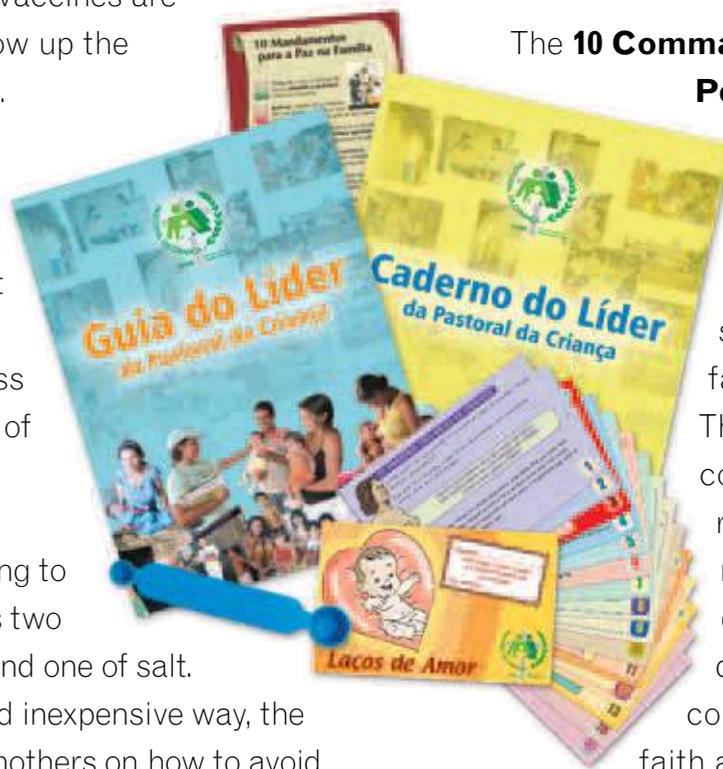
The **Measuring Spoon** indicates the quantities of salt and sugar that have to be added to a glass of 200 millilitres (ml) of clean water. The preparation of oral rehydration, according to the leaflet, mentions two measures of sugar and one of salt. Thus, in a simple and inexpensive way, the leader instruct the mothers on how to avoid dehydration caused by diarrhea.



Sister Maria de Lurdes Mattiello
Communitarian Leader in Guinea-Bissau with the Leader's Notebook

The **Leader's Notebook** is the historical record of all work done in the Child's Pastoral. In it, there are 30 indicators regarding the children and the pregnant women that the Leader follows each month. Among them we find indicators such as wick vaccines need to be administered, weight, malnutrition, prenatal check,

pregnancy month, and indicators of Opportunities and Achievements. The second part of the Notebook, refers to the records of health actions non performed by the health services and the records of deaths, as well as the joint effort with SUS (Sole Health Systems from the Department of Health). The Leader's Notebook is the tool that gives support to the Information System of the Child's Pastoral.



The **10 Commandments for the Peace** in the Family

summarize the principles regulating the message of Peace that the Leader shares with the families he/she follows. The commandments contain lessons of respect, family union, rights and duties. For example, the message described in the first commandment, "Have faith and live the Word of God, loving your neighbour as yourself."

A joint work

RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The path of the Child's Pastoral is filled with stories of love, hope, achievements, overcoming of difficulties and transformation of reality. The follow up of families and the children within the community and family contexts is an example of the capacity the organized societies have to find solutions for their problems.

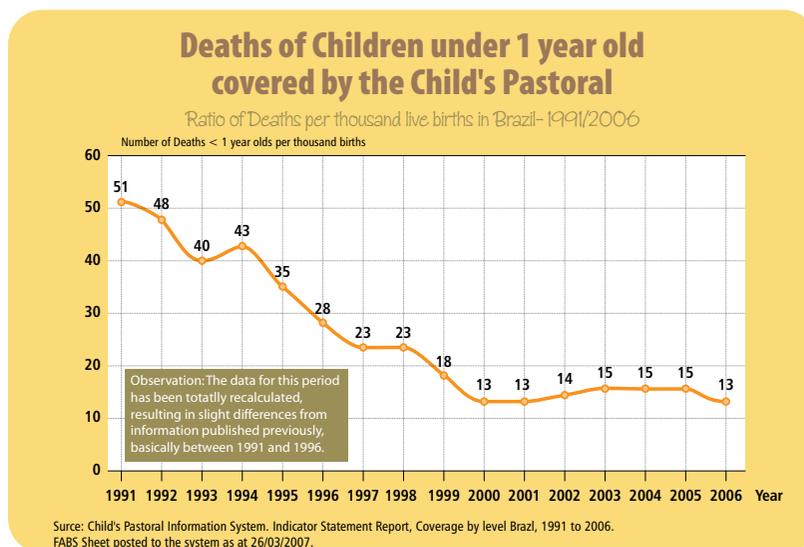
In the poor communities where there is established Child's Pastoral, the child mortality is 13 deaths for every one thousand children born alive, almost

half of the national average in Brazil, which is 26 deaths per one thousand, according to the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics data of 2003. In the last 25 years, the Child's Pastoral expanded over the whole of Brazil. Today, volunteers follow every month 2 million children and pregnant women in Brazil.

But, there is still a lot to be done! Nowadays, the Child's Pastoral follows approximately 20% of the poor Brazilian children. The goal to be reached is 100% of those children.

The numbers reveal that the work of the Child's Pastoral is well received all over the country. However, in addition to growing and saving lives, the Child's Pastoral wishes to change the reality of the children, the

women, men, of the followed. To illuminate their wish to help and instruct and to see their children growing healthily and developing. There are many statistics



regarding this successful work, but the most important of one of all cannot be accounted for, which is the social transformation of the communities that have as their protagonists the volunteers and the families followed.

“The Life Celebration Day is in fact a big party for the children; they enjoy themselves in the games and the families see the benefits of the Child's Pastoral”.

Amalia Lona Dias - Pastoral del Niño of Mexico



The International Child's Pastoral - solidarity that crosses borders.

The main victims of social difference in the whole world are the children and the women. In all continents and mainly in the countries below Ecuador, millions of children are born and die before completing one year of age. Many people suffer from malnutrition, dehydration, pneumonia, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases that can be easily prevented.

In countries like Angola, Africa, East Timor and Asia, the child mortality rate exceeds 100 children per every one thousand

children born alive. Simple hygiene care, access to proper food and essential public policies, such as those of basic sanitation and correct water treatment, would save thousands of lives every year.

There is still a lot to be done! Simple action can save thousand of lives

The Child's Pastoral Work consists of organizing poor community networks of solidarity in order to multiply the knowledge about health and citizenship and, through this, reduce child mortality, nutritional and violence problems and as a result, create more opportunities for the children and their families to fully develop. The action has

already been extended to other 17 countries in three continents besides Brazil, where the International Child's Pastoral was originated.

The countries are in Latin America - Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela, Guatemala, Panama, Dominican Republic, Honduras and Mexico; in Africa - Angola, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Mozambique; in Asia - Philippines and East Timor.

Challenges of the Child's Pastoral in the Countries of the Three Continents.

Million of children die as a consequence of diseases that could be avoided. In the poor countries, the destitution of basic health services, water and sewer treatment, as well as the lack of information about proper nutrition, hygiene and diseases prevention cause thousands of deaths. The strategy of



Sister Maria de Lurdes Mattiello

Children in Guinea-Bissau

communitarian articulation of the Child's Pastoral, that conveys information about

health, nutrition, citizenship and child development by means of voluntary work in poor communities of Brazil expanded to the countries mentioned below. The cooperation of institutions of the public sector, of the civil society and of the private initiative is paramount for the success of the actions.

Africa

Under consolidation process: Guinea (beginning of 2007), Guinea-Bissau (beginning of 2007), Mozambique (beginning of 2002). **Under expansion process:** Angola (beginning of 1996).

Latin America

Under consolidation process: Bolivia (beginning of 2003), Honduras (beginning of 2005), Guatemala (beginning of 2005), Mexico (beginning of 2002), Panama beginning of 2003, Dominican Republic (beginning of 2004), Uruguay (beginning of 2004), Venezuela (beginning of 2005). **Under expansion process:** Argentina (beginning of 2003), Paraguay (beginning of 1994), Colombia (beginning of 2001).

Asia

Under consolidation process: The Philippines (beginning of 2004), East Timor (beginning of 2001).

In February 2008, the CELAM (Latin American Episcopal Council) of the Catholic Church, located in Bogotá, Colombia, approved as a priority goal for the next 4 years, the subject of First Years of Infancy. One priority included in this goal is spreading out the Pastoral da Criança methodology in all the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Dr. Zilda Arns Neumann was invited to coordinate this expansion.

Highlight

PARAGUAY

Paraguay was the first country after Brazil, to apply the methodology of the Child's Pastoral. Among the results achieved are the promotion of solidarity, the appreciation of the children's lives and more attention from the public authorities. The Information System already operative, denotes reduction of child mortality, of malnutrition and other diseases which can be prevented. In that country 1,885 volunteers follow up: 8,129 Children, 525 Pregnant women, 4,655 Families. **Source:** Information System - Paraguay, data of year 2007, report generated on July 23, 2007.

COLOMBIA

In this neighbour country of Brazil, the action of the Child's Pastoral is known as "Pastoral de la Primera Infancia" initiated 2001. The Information System based on the Brazil model, is already being implemented. The National Colombian team relies on the support from the Episcopal Conference of Colombia (CEC), of Unicef from Colombia, of the Institute of Family Welfare Familiar from the Colombia Government among others. The 1,039 volunteers follow up: 14,732 Children, 733 Pregnant women, 10,935 Families. **Source:** Information System - Colombia, data of the year 2007, report generated on July 23, 2007.

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International Coordination of the Child's Pastoral: Dra Zilda Arns Neumann • **Responsible Journalist:** Aline Gonçalves • **Graphic Design:** Fernando Ribeiro • **Collaboration:** Father Ademar Rover, Vanderlúcia da Silva, Clóvis Bouffleur and Volunteers of the Child's Pastoral who contributed with suggestions • **Printing:** Gráfica. • **Edition:** 30 copies. November/2008. Printed with fund from the Opus Prize



Life partners

VOLUNTEER: OUR MAJOR ASSET

The major partners of the Child's Pastoral are their volunteers. Without them it would be impossible to do the Child's Pastoral Work. Therefore, it is not less than fair that we include them among the supporters of the entity. They do not contribute to it with money, but with priceless dedication and love.

OUR PARTNERS IN THE INTERNATIONAL CHILD'S PASTORAL

In 2006 a partnership was formed with an Italian organization called "Salute e Sviluppo", of the Catholic Religious Order Camiliana, whose main office is in Rome. The idea was to make viable the support of the initiatives from countries other than Brazil, by virtue of the fact that in Brazil the philanthropic entities are prohibited from transferring financial funds overseas. Dr. Zilda Arns Neumann has donated the "Opus Prize", which she received from the Family Foundation on November 2006, to the International Child's Pastoral in order to expand its activities.

The International Child's Pastoral has the following partners, among others:

- Family Foundation, USA
- UNICEF - United Nations Fund for the Infancy
- ABC - Agência Brasileira de Cooperação do Ministério das Relações Exteriores do Brasil - "Brazilian Cooperation Agency from the Department of Foreign Relations of Brazil"

- OPAS - Organização Pan-Americana de Saúde "Pan American Organization of Health"
- Empresa ODEBRECHT, Brazil "Odebrecht Corporation"
- Banco HSBC "HSBC Bank"

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