

# GOOD WILL



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

JULY/2015



## GENEROSITY

Mother and daughter receive hot meals from the LBV of Bolivia, in the city of El Alto.



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POST-2015 CHALLENGES: HOW TO PREPARE SUSTAINABLE CITIZENS

## ALTRUISM: A REVOLUTION

The President of the LBV, José de Paiva Netto, highlights: “. . . Let us always have some mercy along with fair common sense in the way we look at things, in the attitudes towards our fellow beings, whether we know them or not; in the interaction with our neighbors, whether an individual or a country. The so desired Peace can also come out from this understanding.” (Read the full article on page 4)

The Legion of Good Will (LBV) presents its recommendations of best practices to the participants at the High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York (USA). The LBV is a Brazilian civil society organization in general consultative status with the ECOSOC since 1999.



Legion of Good Will  
Legião da Boa vontade

65 years

A energia pernambucana é  
o que corre em nossas veias  
e nos orgulha há 50 anos.

maripet



O que corre em nossas veias é a energia de Pernambuco. São cinco décadas sendo parceira da energia que é plural, cheia de cores e personalidade. A energia da inovação, que faz o futuro acontecer agora. A energia da cultura, cheia de originalidade, que faz o coração bater mais forte. Estamos, há 50 anos, compartilhando os valores do nosso Estado e crescendo com os pernambucanos.





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The Future of the Planet at Stake

**GOOD WILL**  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT | 2015



Non-political and non-partisan magazine of Ecumenical Spirituality

GOOD WILL *Sustainable Development* magazine is a publication of the Legion of Good Will, edited by Elevação Publishing House. Registered under number 18166 in book "B" of the 9<sup>th</sup> Titles and Documents Notary and Register Office of São Paulo (Brazil).

SPECIAL EDITION — JUNE 24, 2015  
AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH, FRENCH, PORTUGUESE, AND SPANISH.

**DIRECTOR AND RESPONSIBLE PUBLISHER:** Francisco de Assis Periotto — MTE/DRTE/RJ 19.916 JP

**MANAGING EDITOR:** Rodrigo de Oliveira — MTE/DRTE/SP 42.853 JP

**GENERAL COORDINATION:** Gerdeilson Botelho

**SUPERINTENDENT OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS:** Gizelle Tonin de Almeida

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**COVER:** Helen Winkler / **COVER PHOTOS:** Mother and daughter receive hot meals from the LBV of Bolivia, in the city of El Alto: Archive GW

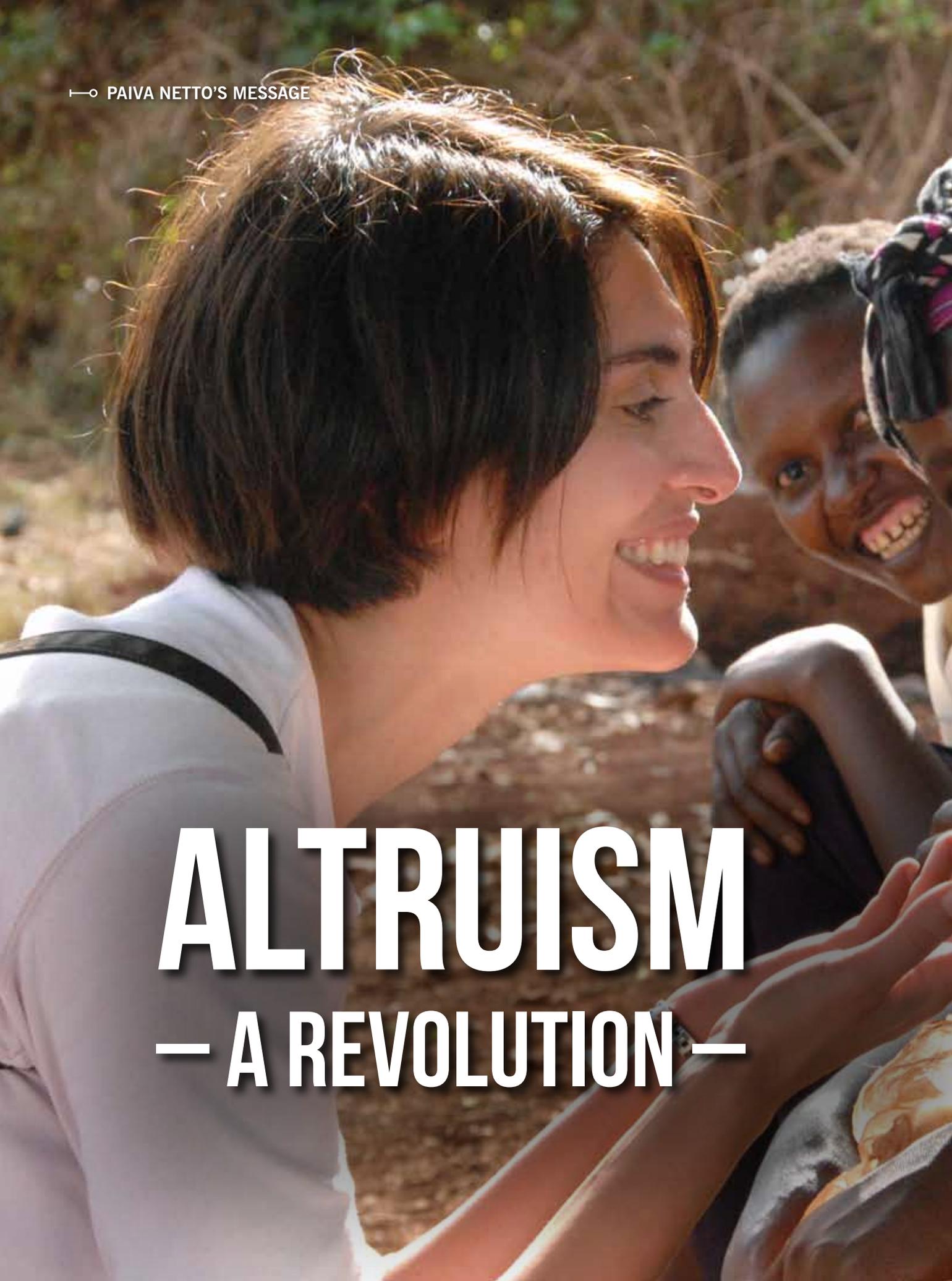
**PROJECT:** Helen Winkler / **LAYOUT DESIGN:** Diego Ciusz and Helen Winkler

**PRINTED BY:** Mundial Gráfica

**MAILING ADDRESS:** Rua Doraci, 90 • Bom Retiro • CEP 01134-050 • São Paulo/SP • Brazil • Phone: (+5511) 3225-4971 • P.O. Box 13.833-9 • CEP 01216-970 • Website: www.boavontade.com / E-mail: english@boavontade.com

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— PAIVA NETTO'S MESSAGE

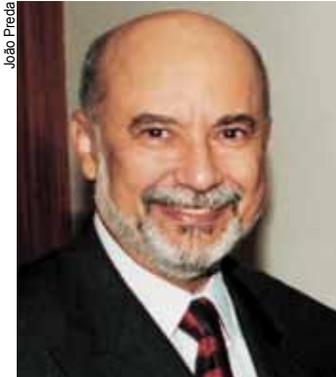
A woman with short dark hair, wearing a white shirt, is smiling and looking towards a group of children. The children are also smiling and appear to be in a rural, outdoor setting. The woman is holding a small object in her hands, possibly a piece of food or a small gift. The background is a blurred natural environment with dry ground and some vegetation.

# ALTRUISM — A REVOLUTION —



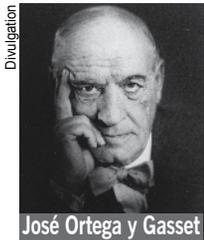
In 2007, during a humanitarian trip to Kenya, the Italian actress Caterina Murino smiles at a child as she visits local villages where wells were installed.

## — PAIVA NETTO'S MESSAGE



João Predia

José de Paiva Netto is a Brazilian writer, journalist, radio broadcaster, composer, and poet. He is the President of the Legion of Good Will (LBV), effective member of the Brazilian Press Association (ABI) and of the Brazilian International Press Association (ABI-Inter). Affiliated to the National Federation of Journalists (FENAJ), the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), the Union of Professional Journalists of the State of Rio de Janeiro, the Union of Writers of Rio de Janeiro, the Union of Radio Broadcasters of Rio de Janeiro, and the Brazilian Union of Composers (UBC). He is also a member of the Academy of Letters of Central Brazil. He is an author of international reference in the defense of human rights and in the concepts of Ecumenical Citizenship and Ecumenical Spirituality which, according to him, constitute *“the cradle of the most generous values that are born of the Soul, the dwelling of the emotions and of the reasoning enlightened by intuition, the atmosphere that embraces everything that transcends the ordinary field of matter and comes from the elevated human sensitivity, such as Truth, Justice, Mercy, Ethics, Honesty, Generosity, and Fraternal Love.”*



Divulgaçion

José Ortega y Gasset

I would like to ask permission to share with you, esteemed readers, some lines that were inspired by the efforts of Good Will.

According to our belief in the value of altruism, in my literary essay *Sociologia do Universo* [Sociology of the Universe], I stress that it is not because we believe in this feeling, including in the area of business, that we should be considered fools. We are well aware of the hindrances, even in the economic and social fields, like the tragedy of corruption, which any community or country needs to courageously face up to and overcome. By proposing decades ago the Economy of Spiritual and Human Solidarity as a Survival Strategy, we became part of the rigorous group of those who want to see corrected the many faults which harm society.

One of the most expressive Spanish philosophers, **José Ortega y Gasset** (1883-1955), goes along with this ancient precept when he says: *“Human state and life project, action program, or conduct are inseparable terms. The different State classes are born from the way in which the entrepreneurial group establishes collaboration with the others.”*

A country’s development, when most threatened by violence, cannot do without a philanthropic spirit, therefore humanitarian, allied with a spirit of honest justice and a competent administration. The Persians, who followed the doctrine of **Zarathustra** (about 660-583 BC), taught: *“He who is indifferent to the well-being of others does not deserve to be called man.”*

**Deng Xiaoping** (1904-1997), who in the 20<sup>th</sup> century started a series of profound reforms in China, observed what should not be followed when one works towards harmony: *“There are people who criticize others to gain fame, by stepping on the shoulders of others to occupy key positions.”*

For all these reasons, what we precisely suggest, having **Jesus** as the foundation, is the Economy of Spiritual and Human Solidarity, which goes beyond what inspired the solidary economy studied by the eminent sociologist **Émile Durkheim** (1858-1917). One only has to remember that the Divine Master, as **Francis of Assisi** (1182-1226) called Him, warned: *“So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for*



Reproduction GW

Zarathustra



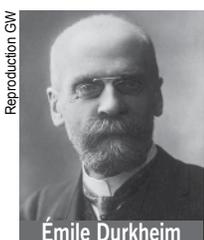
Divulgaçion

Deng Xiaoping



Reproduction GW

Jesus



Reproduction GW

Émile Durkheim

**A country's development, when most threatened by violence, cannot do without a philanthropic spirit, therefore humanitarian, allied with a spirit of honest justice and a competent administration.**

*this sums up the Law and the Prophets (The Gospel according to **Matthew** 7:12)."*

The Economy that we proclaim is holistic, inasmuch as it invites us to see our true origin, which is spiritual. Only in this way will the State be humanized and spiritualized, beginning with human beings themselves, in other words, bathed in the light of Ecumenical Charity, which makes no distinction between people, since it considers that—above our race, belief, disbelief, political views, sexual orientation, and age—we stand before earthly and spiritual beings who supplicate for help and understanding. . . .

Divulgation MCT



Nelson Mandela

Very much to the point, the heroic **Nelson Mandela** (1918-2013) stated: *"Man's goodness is a flame that can be hidden but never extinguished."*

The praiseworthy initiatives of the Third Sector, when properly employed, are an indispensable part of the good development of communities. By doing so, we exercise, for example, excellent social practice and Citizenship, which has to be better understood by everyone.



Isaac Billy/UN Photo

Let us always have some mercy along with fair common sense in the way we look at things, in the attitudes towards our fellow beings.

When we talk about Fraternal and Universal Love, we are in no way wishing to walk around with our heads in the clouds. We are certain, however, that the good feeling of generosity is the essential factor for a civilization in which the Eternal Spirit of human beings is the pivotal point. Based on this spiritual intelligence a revolution is shaping up that urgently needs to be concluded, a revolution that is taking place in the Souls of each individual and through them is perpetuated. This is where efficient education comes in; more than that, effective re-education, which is essential for consolidating complete citizenship and for the perfect exercise of authority.

Let us recall this lesson from the late sociologist **Herbert de Souza** (1935-1997), known as Betinho: *“Starting with ethics it’s possible to formulate the five true principles of democracy: equality, freedom, diversity, participation, and solidarity—all existing simultaneously.”*

It was well-deserved and appropriate the cultural award he received at the end of 1996 from the World Parliament of Ecumenical Fraternity, the LBV’s ParlaMundi, in Brasília, Brazil: the Order of Merit of Ecumenical Fraternity, in the “Solidarity” category. As I wrote in the article “A Citizen Called Solidarity,” the fight against hunger, for which Betinho became a powerful advocate, naturally demands constant effort. . . .

So, let us always have some mercy along with fair common sense in the way we look at things, in the attitudes towards our fellow beings, whether we know them or not; in the interaction with our neighbors, whether an individual or a country. The so desired Peace can also come out from this understanding.

It is essential, therefore, to never forget this eloquent reflection from **Confucius** (551-479 BC): *“Repay kindness with kindness, but evil with justice.”* ●

Divulgation



Herbert de Souza

Reproduction GWV



Confucius

Andrea Varela



La Paz (Bolivia)



Adriana Rocha



New Jersey (USA)

João Perillo



São Paulo (Brazil)



João Perotto

Santa Maria Madalena (Brazil)

# PRESENT WHERE PEOPLE MOST NEED IT!



Vivian R. Ferreira

Carvalhos (Brazil)



Neithalia Valério

Duque de Caxias (Brazil)



Clayton Ferreira

Anori (Brazil)





— LBV's Statement for —  
**THE UNITED NATIONS  
ECOSOC  
HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT**

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Vivian R. Ferreira

São Paulo (Brazil)



Educator Elaine Regina Camargo de Almeida teaches her kindergarten students at the Jesus Super Day Care Center about the variety of colors that exist, by observing the shades of the plants in the wooded garden in the Good Will Educational Complex in São Paulo, Brazil.

**T**he Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), one of the main organs of the United Nations (UN), will be holding its High-Level Segment between July 6 and 10, 2015, in New York (USA). The theme of this edition is “Managing the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals: What it will take.” In order to contribute to the debates of this important event, the Legion of Good Will (LBV), which has had general consultative status at the ECOSOC since 1999, submitted its recommendations to the United Nations with the best practices it undertakes in the areas of education and social assistance. Read below the full document, translated by the UN into its six official languages:

Considering the importance of the present UN agenda, where the transition to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is being discussed, we, the Legião da Boa Vontade/Legion of Good Will (LBV), present our recommendations for the debate in two strands: 1) a social technology successfully adopted in our work with vulnerable populations; and 2) proposals compiled from multiple public consultations carried out in South American countries.

We are a Brazilian civil society organization founded 65 years ago by radio broadcaster and social activist **Alzira Zarur** (1914-1979) and currently presided

over by journalist, writer, and educator **José de Paiva Netto**. We work closely with the Legion of Good Will of Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruguay, the United States, and Portugal in the areas of social assistance and education across 150 cities, besides the ones we reach with our communications channels. Together, in 2014 alone, we provided more than 13 million services and benefits for communities living in poverty.

## 1. EDUCATING AND PROVIDING PEOPLE WITH THE TOOLS THEY NEED FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: THE KEY TO THE SUCCESS OF THE POST-2015 AGENDA.

The recommendations set out here directly contribute to reaching one of the goals proposed by the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals created by UN Secretary-General **Ban Ki-moon**. Over the last few years we have sent to the United Nations proposals that can also be applied to this goal, and we believe that if this goal is achieved then it will create a positive chain reaction for the other development objectives: “By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development<sup>1</sup>.”

We propose that this approach be incorporated in a concrete way within different public policies, particularly in schools and social development programs. We know that measures like these, even though they are always considered praiseworthy, are sometimes

### THE LBV'S MISSION STATEMENT

**To promote Social Development, Education, and Culture with Ecumenical Spirituality, so there may be Socio-environmental Awareness, Food, Security, Health, and Work for everyone, in the awakening of the Planetary Citizen.**



UN Photo/Jean-Marc Ferré

underestimated in the role of fighting poverty and promoting sustainability. Our experience shows, however, that they are the most effective ones, because they reach the heart of the problem.

A great part of the development models and responses to financial, social, and environmental crises are still excessively centered on the economic aspect rather than on the well-being of individuals, who should be considered in all aspects. As a result, our societies, even some of the richest, produce unhappy people and, ultimately, sick people. The high rates of depression are evidence of this phenomenon. Depression used to be considered an illness characteristic of rich countries, but today it is the one that is most prevalent among women from high-, middle-, and low-income countries. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that by 2030 depression will become the most common disease in the world<sup>2</sup>.

Given this situation, renowned British specialists **Mary De Silva** and **Jonty Roland**, based on a series of studies compiled for the British Parliament in 2014, emphasized the need to act on the “social determinants” of mental health. Even poverty reduction programs must be analyzed in light of the impact they might have on the psychiatric well-being of their



Photos: Archive GW

(1) During the ECOSOC High-Level Segment in 2013, in Geneva (Switzerland), the United Nations Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, was greeted by Adriana Rocha, from the LBV, and received the GOOD WILL magazine. He leafed through the publication attentively, and pointed out that he admires the work of the Organization. (2) Juan Manuel Santos Calderón (R), the President of the Republic of Colombia, with the LBV's representative at the United Nations, Danilo Parmegiani. Mr. Calderón gave a speech at the ECOSOC Substantive Session. (3) The Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Post-2015 Development Planning, Amina J. Mohammed (C), from Nigeria, and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Helen Clark (R), from New Zealand, received the recommendations of the LBV from the representative of the Organization at the event, Noys Rocha.

target public<sup>3</sup>. After all, anxiety disorders, chronic stress, and depression have been transformed into a global epidemic and are aggravated by other social ills, among them the increase in violence (real and





Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

Priscilla Antunes



## SCHOOLS



Montevideo (Uruguay)

Archive GW



La Paz (Bolivia)

Leilla Tonin



Buenos Aires (Argentina)

Archive GW

→ perceived). Since these processes are self-perpetuating, the prognosis for them cause considerable concern. This is why it is increasingly urgent to act on the causes that are at the heart of these issues, as the following extract indicates: *“Everyone is deeply concerned with the savagery that dominates the Earth, in search of a solution to reduce, at the very least, the violence that has left the hidden*

→



## LBV IN THE WORLD

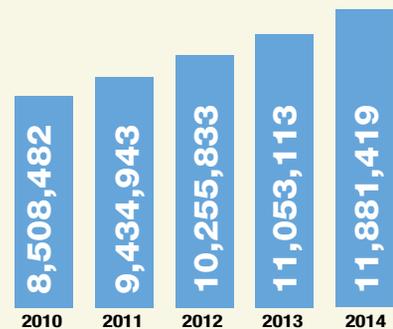
The Legion of Good Will was founded on January 1, 1950 (World Peace Day), in the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, by the journalist, radio broadcaster, and poet Alziro Zarur, who was succeeded by the also journalist, radio broadcaster, and writer José de Paiva Netto. The data presented below account for the work of the LBV of seven countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Portugal, Uruguay, and the United States.

### NUMBERS FROM 2010 TO 2014

+ **57**  
than  
**MILLION**

services and benefits provided to families and individuals in vulnerability or at social risk

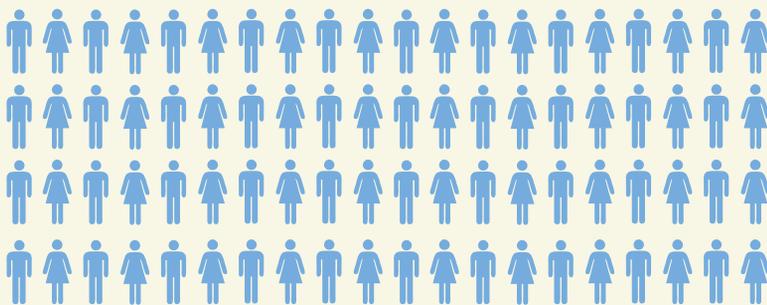
### NUMBER OF SERVICES AND BENEFITS PROVIDED BY THE LEGION OF GOOD WILL OF BRAZIL FROM 2010 TO 2014\*



\* For more than two decades, the Legion of Good Will has its general balance sheet audited by Walter Heuer, external independent auditors, by initiative of its President José de Paiva Netto, long before the Brazilian legislation required this measure to come into effect.

**91**

educational and social service units in seven countries



+ **1.6**  
than  
**MILLION** PEOPLE IMPACTED BY THE LBV'S WORK



In addition to schools, social service centers, and homes for the elderly, the LBV has a broad social communications network (radio, TV, the Internet, and publications) dedicated to fostering education, culture, and citizenship values. More than **17 thousand** specialists from all across Brazil participated, in 2014, in the programs of the Super Good Will Communications Network.



Belém (Brazil)

Archive GW



SCHOOLS



Curitiba (Brazil)

Vinicius Ramão



Asuncion (Paraguay)

Raquel Diaz



Taguatinga (Brazil)

Lellia Tonin

→ places, the dark early hours, and has gone out onto our streets and into our homes, because it has invaded people's minds. There is today, however, a growing understanding that if there is violence, it is not just a problem for governments and police organizations in particular, but it is a challenge for all of us in society. If it has left the dark night and showed itself to us in the light of day it is because it inhabits the innermost part of human beings. If it exists in the souls and in the hearts, it will be present wherever human beings may be. Therefore, it is in the hearts and souls of individuals that it must first be fought against<sup>4</sup>." (PAIVA NETTO, 1987)





Vivian R. Ferreira

Volta Redonda (Brazil)

## HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY



Patrícia Oliveira



Teófilo Otoni (Brazil)

Vivian R. Ferreira



Uberlândia (Brazil)

Selma Corrêa



Volta Redonda (Brazil)



Porto Alegre (Brazil)

Liliane Cardoso



## SOCIAL SERVICE CENTERS



Inhumas (Brazil)

Archive GW



Fighting against the various forms of violence that affect individuals in their innermost being goes far beyond providing them with access to resources and basic services; it also means strengthening their resilience and preventing family and community ties from being weakened. As a result, we have managed to interrupt the process of social degradation that many families experience, by offering them the conditions necessary for them to reorganize themselves and reassume their role in the community.



Aracaju (Brazil)

Felipe Moreno

### ECUMENICAL SPIRITUALITY, HEALTH, AND WELL-BEING.

This result does not happen by chance. There are solid scientific evidences correlating health/well-being and happiness, happiness and spirituality, and this is present in the work we do. According to a survey presented in 2012 by psychologist **Dacher Keltner**<sup>5</sup>, professor and director of the Social Interaction Laboratory of the University of California, Berkeley, United States, a





Ananindeua (Brazil)

Leilla Tonin



Thiago Bianchi

Mogi das Cruzes (Brazil)



Joamar Boni

São Paulo (Brazil)



Leilla Tonin

Criciúma (Brazil)



Manaus (Brazil)

Leilla Tonin



Archive GW

Asuncion (Paraguay)



Maceió (Brazil)

Leilla Tonin



## SOCIAL SERVICE CENTERS



Tatiane Oliveira

Aracaju (Brazil)



Mônica Mendes

Belo Horizonte (Brazil)



Teima Carliel Paiva

Glorinha (Brazil)

→ series of research studies demonstrate a relationship between spirituality and lower rates of stress and depression, greater levels of happiness, positive emotions, civic ideas, healthy behavior, longevity, and even cognitive capacity.

We have systematized the experience of allying social and educational actions with spiritual, ethical, and all-encompassing ecumenical values in the most diverse social and cultural contexts. In doing so, we have produced a replicable and innovative social technology. Dozens of pieces of academic research, whose object of study



La Paz (Bolivia)

Jenny Mancilla Endara



Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

Priscilla Antunes



Maringá (Brazil)

Paulo Araújo

is our social and educational work, have already been concluded. Following, the main strands of our work:

**Social and Educational Programs** — We currently have 30 main programs, which are developed by our multidisciplinary teams. These programs involve hundreds of workshops and projects. They are aimed at pregnant women, early childhood, children and teenagers, youth and adults, people who live on the streets, the elderly, the elderly who have been separated from their family nucleus, community leaders, and professionals from civil

society organizations. The programs have several objectives, among which are productive social inclusion, food safety, social protection, the strengthening of family and community ties, improvements in health indicators, and advocacy.

**Educational Proposal and Work Methodology** — The book *É Urgente Reeducar!* [It is Urgent to Re-educate!] contains the principles of our teaching method, which have been widely talked about since the 1980s in lectures and in the press by educator Paiva Netto. In 2000, we presented the main aspects



## LBV'S RECOMMENDATIONS



Campinas (Brazil)

Thiago Bianchi



## SOCIAL SERVICE CENTERS



Asuncion (Paraguay)

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São Paulo (Brazil)

Vivian R. Ferreira



Aracaju (Brazil)

Leilla Tonin

of this message to the UN in various languages. Another publication, *Education with Ecumenical Spirituality — the Pedagogy of Affection and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy Manual* presents the practical reference points of the MAPREI (Learning Method through Rational-Emotional-Intuitive Research), which was developed by our educators based on our teaching proposal.

**Culture of Peace and Ecumenical Citizenship** — We have created a curricular proposal for our social and educational



New Jersey (USA)

Archive GW



Vivian R. Ferreira

Cascavel (Brazil)



Leilla Tonin

Florianópolis (Brazil)

programs that values self-knowledge, Spirituality, protagonism, and respect for religious and philosophical pluralism. At the beginning of each activity we encourage meditation and/or prayer. The projects, music, texts, videos, and other resources worked on are selected in such a way that they interact with the cultural repertoire of the participants, thus enriching it and at the same time reinforcing a solidary and sustainable behavior.

**Social Communication and Education** — We constantly produce content for

publications, radio, television, and the Internet on education, citizenship, human rights, social work, sustainability, complete health, and other topics, which are all in line with our curricular proposal. We supply our teachers and social workers with instructional materials directed towards their constant improvement, and it is made available to the general public.

**Meetings and Workshops** — Held periodically, they count on specialists in the topics being developed and on our professionals who act as the multipliers



## LBV'S RECOMMENDATIONS



Aracaju (Brazil)

Leilla Tonin



## SOCIAL SERVICE CENTERS



Vivian R. Ferreira

Fortaleza (Brazil)



Porto (Portugal)

Leilla Tonin



of our practices. These events are aimed at schools, universities, civil society organizations, trade unions, boards of education, and other social actors. The main event we hold is our International Education Congress, which started at the beginning of the 1990s and is in its 14<sup>th</sup> edition. It has taken place in cities like São Paulo (Brazil) and Porto (Portugal). It is worth highlighting that today our network is comprised of 10 school units in 4 countries and approximately 80 social service centers in 7 countries, many of them working in partnership with public schools.

These strands help produce “a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being,” which defines health, as established in the Constitution of the World Health Organization. This definition is much wider than the mere absence of illness and it is in line with our approach to social problems, which aims to modify their deep-rooted causes, as the following extract suggests: *“It is not enough to consider citizens just in their physical*



Carlos Cesar da Silva

Buenos Aires (Argentina)



Campinas (Brazil)

Thiago Bianchi



Leilla Tonin

Lisbon (Portugal)

context. They have to be considered also in their **spiritual** context, because any component of the human group is, in short, formed by body and **Soul**. After all, we are Spirit by origin. This is the complete meaning of citizenship<sup>6</sup>. . . ." (PAIVA NETTO, 1999)

A concrete result of this vision is the work carried out by the Family Health Support Groups in School that is comprised of teachers, social workers, nurses, school psychologists, nutritionists, librarians, and by those who work in our administrative area (which includes the security and maintenance staff). Organized into working groups, the members implement collective health projects aimed at the entire school community, as well as individual plans for students who have health problems and for members of their family. By encouraging the adoption of new habits and values, it is possible to reduce the occurrence of diseases and risk factors among children and teenagers, which include obesity and diabetes.



Leilla Tonin

Lisbon (Portugal)



Sâmara Causo

New Jersey (USA)

— LBV'S RECOMMENDATIONS



São Sebastião (Brazil)

Vivian R. Ferreira



## RELIEF CAMPAIGNS



New Jersey (USA)

Adriana Rocha



Xanxerê (Brazil)

Derli Francisco

## 2. THE MANY VOICES OF LATIN AMERICA

Also with the objective of contributing to the UN debate on the post-2015 development agenda, we held the 11<sup>th</sup> Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum – 8<sup>th</sup> Innovation Fair, in support of the ECOSOC Annual Ministerial Review. In October and November of 2014, the capital cities of Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay hosted meetings between representatives from civil society organizations, universities, companies, governments, and UN entities; the topic on the agenda was “Sustainable Citizen Education.” Representing the United Nations System were the UN Information Centers, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the UNESCO Associated Schools. In the event, which was supported by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, participants drew attention to the need for governments to:

—implement educational initiatives on sustainability aimed at various population



São Paulo (Brazil)

Vivian R. Ferreira

groups (age-related, region-related, etc.) based on research. This should be done in order to foster sustainable lifestyles, in other words, the adoption of daily practices of conscious consumption, recycling, composting, shared use of resources, saving resources, among others;

—create or consolidate mechanisms for citizens to become mobilized and demand actions from government in several areas, such as education and sustainability;

—provide support for educational institutions (early childhood, primary, secondary education; university; open courses) so that they can adapt their own curricula in order to develop sustainability content and practices. To do so, they must train their teams and supply them with the tools that enable them to use attractive and diversified strategies that involve not only the students, but also their families and the community;

—encourage schools to periodically coordinate educational activities on sustainability in the green areas in their



Salvador (Brazil)

Italane Oliveira

Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)



Priscilla Antunes



Caruaru (Brazil)

Bruna Gonçalves



## HUNGER RELIEF CAMPAIGN



Palmas (Brazil)

Márcio Lins



Campina Grande (Brazil)

Jean Carlos

neighborhoods. Adults living in the region would also participate in order to encourage the community to become engaged in conserving these areas;

- create or strengthen educational programs aimed at youth who are not attending regular schools. These programs must be adapted to meet the needs of these young people in order to overcome basic educational deficiencies and assist their entry to the formal labor market.

In Paraguay, our Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum focused on the subtopic “Sustainable Agriculture.” Below are the recommendations for public policies that originated from this event.

- Governments must expand programs that increase the productivity of family farming, among which those that supply inputs, technology, technical support, etc. They must also ensure that these programs have indicators that allow them to be assessed as to their contribution to gender equality.



Curitiba (Brazil)

Vinicius Ramão

— Governments must also recognize and value native languages and the regional cultural manifestations of small farmers, ensuring that their traditional ways of life are respected without jeopardizing their economic inclusion.

— In addition to knowledge and agricultural skills, governments must also develop with small rural producers attitudes, values, and several other topics, among them sustainability, human rights, healthy diet, and other subjects related to citizenship.

We would like to thank all the organizations and partners that contributed to the success of the forum and we reaffirm our commitment to cooperate with the United Nations in implementing the new development model that is sustainable, solidary, and holistic, because it reflects the engagement of conscious people, who are qualified and committed to the future we want. ●

Márcio Lins



Buena Vista settlement, El Alto (Bolivia)

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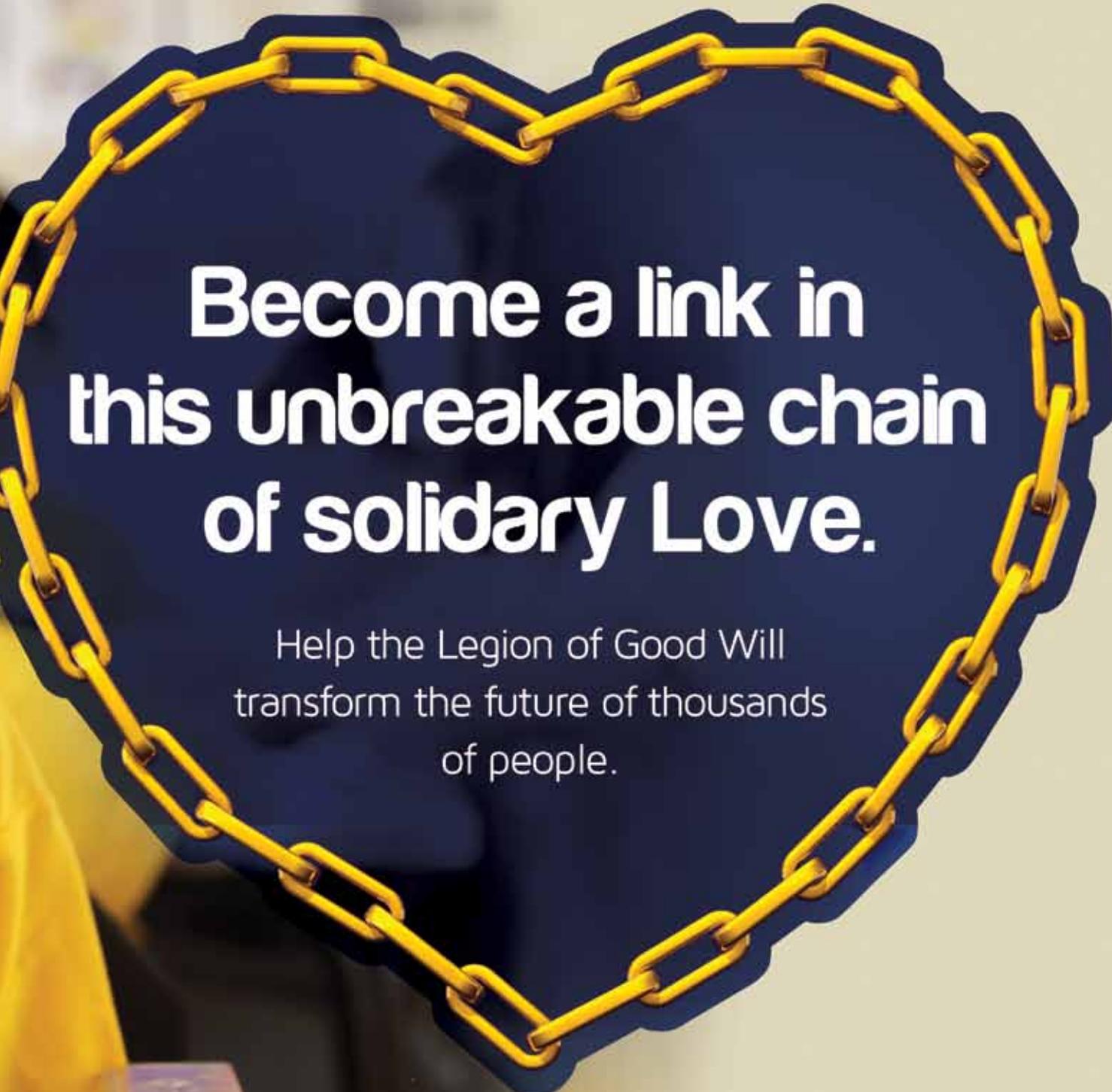


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Legion of Good Will  
Legião da Boa Vontade

# EDUCATION, Citizenship, and SUSTAINABILITY

These were the topics addressed in the international forum held by the **LBV**

**B**etween August and November 2014, the Legion of Good Will (LBV) of the United States, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay promoted the 11<sup>th</sup> Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum — 8<sup>th</sup> Innovation Fair. The event was held in support of the Annual Ministerial Review of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), in which the LBV has had general consultative status since 1999.

Under the theme “Educating Sustainable Citizens,” a series of meetings discussed global progress in two priority areas: achieving education and fighting poverty. The cycle of debates and talks resulted in drafting proposals and ideas for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will become effective in the UN summit to be held in September 2015. These recommendations can be found starting on page 10.





▼  
Partial view of the opening ceremony of the 65<sup>th</sup> Annual NGO Conference of the Department of Public Information (DPI), at UN Headquarters in New York.

# SHARING GOOD RESULTS

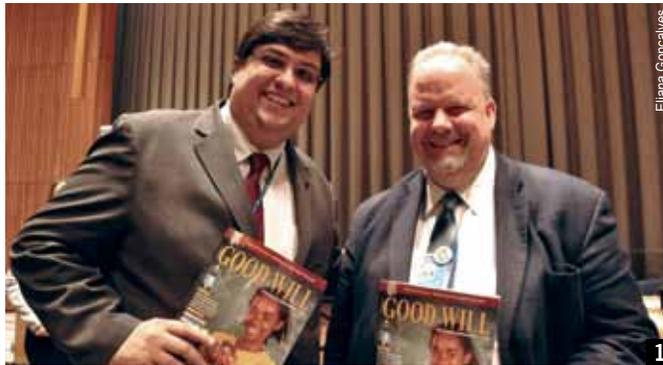
The forum started on August 29, 2014, with the panel discussion “Educating Sustainable Citizens — Best Practices of Brazil from the Rio+20,” co-organized by the LBV of the United States during the 65<sup>th</sup> Annual NGO Conference of the United Nations

Department of Public Information (DPI) in New York (USA). The LBV, which has been a DPI associate since 1994, presented some of its success stories in the area of education.

In this edition of the conference, civil society, international network

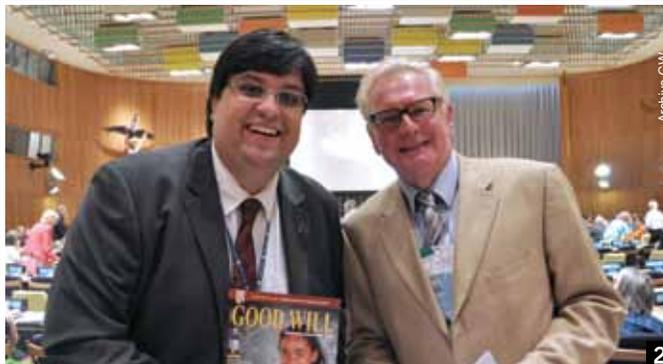


Mariana Tamasan



Eliana Gonçalves

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(1) Jeffrey Huffines (R), Chair of the 65<sup>th</sup> Annual NGO Conference of the United Nations Department of Public Information, receives a copy of the *GOOD WILL Sustainable Development 2014* magazine from Danilo Parmegiani, representative of the LBV to the United Nations. (2) Danilo meets with psychologist and psychoanalyst Joseph DeMeyer (R), Co-Chair of the NGO Committee on Education and representative of the Society of Psychological Study of Social Issues, both at the UN.



Nataly Peres



## SPEAKERS FROM THE UNITED STATES

- Danilo Parmegiani, representative of the LBV to the United Nations.
- Joseph DeMeyer, psychologist and psychoanalyst.
- Sâmara Caruso, M.A. in Special Education from Kean University.
- Sueli Periotto, Supervisor of the LBV's Pedagogy of Affection and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy and Principal of the José de Paiva Netto Educational Institute in São Paulo, Brazil.
- Vicente Amaral Bezerra, representative of the Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations.

organizations, and social activists gathered in the UN Headquarters to create an Action Agenda to mobilize the negotiations of the post-2015 development goals: the Sustainable Development Goals and a new climate agreement to replace the Kyoto Protocol.



The panel discussion was comprised by (from left to right): interpreter Mariana Tamasan; Sueli Periotto; Vicente Amaral Bezerra; moderator Danilo Parmegiani; Sâmara Caruso; and Joseph DeMeyer.

# LEARNING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE



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- ▶ The LBV of Paraguay, in partnership with the Paraguayan Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, has implemented vegetable gardens in schools and communities located in low-income and extremely poor settlements and also in Indigenous communities that are at risk in order to contribute towards sustainable development in these regions.

In Paraguay, civil society and official representatives from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), as well as from the country's Ministries of Education and Agriculture took part in

the debates. The forum was held in the Josefina Plá Auditorium of the Autonomous University of Asuncion on November 31, 2014, and focused on the topic "Educating Sustainable Citizens."

With regard to the event organized by the LBV, **Elsidio Cavalcante**, President of the



► The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization, Daniel Campos, talks about “Educating Sustainable Citizens” in the event in Paraguay.



## SPEAKERS FROM PARAGUAY

- **Alejandro Díaz**, Technical Coordinator of the Paraguay Biodiversity Project of Itaipu Binacional.
- **Ángel Oviedo**, Coordinator of Intra- and Inter-institutional Technical Support of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock.
- **Bernardo Boris**, Director of Technical and Professional Education of the Ministry of Education and Culture.
- **Daniel Campos**, representative of FAO and member of the National Committee of Family Farming of Paraguay.
- **Elsidio Cavalcante**, President of ADEOP (Brazil).
- **Ignacio Fontclara**, Director of Slow Food Paraguay.
- **Jorge González**, Director of the Department of Agronomy of the National University of Asuncion.
- **José Silva**, Head of project execution of UNESCO.
- **Lelia Rojas**, Director of Safety, Health, and Environment of UNILEVER.
- **María Mendes**, LBV’s Social Worker.
- **Victor Benítez**, Executive Director of ALTERVIDA.

## ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

*“Participating in this event held by the LBV was a very interesting and great experience. It was a very important contribution to the topic of healthy eating, a subject that predominates at the present time. We live in a world that we ourselves have polluted and deteriorated. The presentation by other colleagues was crucial and at the same time alarming for Paraguay. This event promoted by the Legion of Good Will is of great importance; it helps us to continue promoting healthy food.*

*“In the FAO we work to promote sustainable agriculture and food around the issues of food security, health, and nutrition; to practice environmental responsibility; to ensure economic feasibility and share values; to respect human rights, promote decent employment and contribute to the welfare of local communities; to foster good governance and accountability; and to promote access to and the transfer of knowledge, skills, and technology.”*

### DANIEL CAMPOS

Representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and member of the National Committee of Family Farming in Paraguay.

Regional Development Agency of the West End of Paraná (ADEOP), said, *“I praise the LBV’s proposal to discuss such an important subject nowadays. We need more investment in family farming, because it produces food and [contributes to] sustainable development. The project you presented was outstanding.*

*A long time ago I paid a very enjoyable visit to one of the LBV’s schools in Brazil. I spent a very pleasant time meeting people, and we were very moved by it all. We hope to continue with the partnership between ADEOP and the LBV of Paraguay and also the LBV of Brazil.”*



▼  
Students from the José de Paiva Netto Educational and Cultural Institute in Uruguay during a playful activity.

# ENSURING ACCESS TO EDUCATION

**C**ontinuing with the debates of the 11<sup>th</sup> Solidary Society Network Multi-Stakeholder Forum — 8<sup>th</sup> Innovation Fair, the LBV of Uruguay held the event in the José de Paiva Netto Educational and Cultural Institute in November 2014. The choice of the theme “Sustainable Citizenly Education” stressed the importance of providing inclusive education, through which everyone has the right to knowledge.

At the end of the meeting, participant

**Germán Machado** said that he had also taken part in the previous edition of the forum, which motivated him to get to know the work being done in the LBV’s school in Uruguay. With regard to the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the forum, he added, *“Education is always an interesting topic, and the idea of inclusion has to prevail. . . . We have to find different strategies and alternatives to the ones being used in order to bring all children together. . . . Love is the key.”*



## SPEAKERS FROM URUGUAY

- **Beatriz Vázquez**, School Principal of the José de Paiva Netto Educational and Cultural Institute.
- **Elisa Di Giovanni**, Technical Coordinator of the Ministry of Social Development (MIDES).
- **Hugo Almada**, member of the Lavalleja District's Network and representative of the Centro Comunal Zonal 13.
- **María del Carmen Diflore**, representative of the Lavalleja District's Network and representative of the Centro Comunal Zonal 13.
- **Pablo María Algorta**, Social Worker and Coordinator of the Tupambaé project of the Tacuru Movement organization.
- **Rafael Fernández**, Professor and member of the Teaching Committee of Uni 3 (Open University for Non-Formal Education).
- **Susana Burguez**, Educational Assistant at the Department of Educational Strategic Planning of CODICEN.



▶ Audience attends the talk by Pablo María Algorta on “Tupambaé: Opportunities for Children,” during the LBV’s forum.

## ENRICHING EXPERIENCES

*“I had no idea of the dimension of the LBV’s work. . . . The forum’s theme was very interesting because nowadays those with greater difficulties and fewer opportunities need to receive an education that prepares them [for life] and that helps them improve the virtues they already have.*

*“My talk was about the Tupambaé (‘what belongs to God’ in the Charrua language) project carried out by the Tacuru Movement organization, which offers young people and children experiences that prepare them to become qualified professionals in the future, by encouraging them to study, offering professional training courses, sporting and artistic activities, and creating spaces for socialization.”*

**PABLO MARÍA ALGORTA**

Coordinator of the Tupambaé project of the Tacuru Movement organization.



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▼  
Souvenirs given to the forum participants in Argentina. They were made by children assisted by the LBV's social and educational programs in the country.

## COMPLETE CITIZENSHIP

**T**he LBV of Argentina was responsible for the closing event of the forum. Educators, students, and representatives from civil society got together in the Alfonsina Storni Room of the Paseo La Plaza in Buenos Aires on November 26, 2014. On the occasion, professionals and experts from various fields of knowledge gave talks and conducted panel discussions about “Education for the Sustainable Citizen.”

**Suelí Periotto**, Supervisor of the LBV's Pedagogy of Affection and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy and Principal of the

José de Paiva Netto Educational Institute in São Paulo (Brazil), addressed “The Contributions of the Legion of Good Will's Pedagogy in the Development of Sustainable Citizenship.” *“When we talk about this subject we immediately think of nature and the well-being of the planet. But if sustainability doesn't start from the inside out, if it doesn't come from spiritual, ethical, and ecumenical values, we'll be working only with curricular contents and not with the necessary education, which considers individuals in their entirety,”* she said. ●



## INCLUSION AND ECUMENISM

*“Participating as a speaker in the conference held by the Legion of Good Will was an extremely rewarding experience. First, the good service and the relationship with the organizers were essential to arriving at the event keen to take part. Second, I was surprised that those attending were such a mixed group of people, from educators to the people assisted by the LBV’s programs, who we could see were very enthusiastic about taking part in all that. And third, the issues discussed during the event and the wide perspective of inclusion and Ecumenism of the LBV made this meeting a very special occasion. The event in itself was very valuable because it brought together a diversified set of perspectives on the issues dealt with.”*

**NICOLÁS PANOTTO**

Theologian with a Master’s degree in Social Anthropology and Politics.



### SPEAKERS FROM ARGENTINA

- **Nicolás Panotto**, theologian with a Master’s degree in Social Anthropology and Politics.
- **Suelí Periotto**, Supervisor of the LBV’s Pedagogy of Affection and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy and Principal of the José de Paiva Netto Educational Institute in São Paulo, Brazil.
- **Virginia Gudiño**, expert in cognitive neuroscience.





Aerial view of the José de Paiva Netto Educational Institute in São Paulo, Brazil. The school, along with the Jesus Super Day Care Center, assists every day, whether directly or indirectly, thousands of students—children, teenagers, and adults—who are enrolled in the nursery school, kindergarten, elementary school, secondary school, or Education for Youth and Adults (EJA).



Taguatinga (Brazil)

Divulgation



Belém (Brazil)

Ana Paula Fernandes



Curitiba (Brazil)

Vivian R. Ferreira



Thiago Bianchi

São Paulo (Brazil)



Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

Priscilla Antunes

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# A View Beyond the Intellect

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The transformation achieved through the LBV's teaching method, comprised of the Pedagogy of Affection and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy, with effective results in school activities and in society

ALINE TREVISAN, GISELA PORTILHO, and SUELÍ PERIOTTO



São Paulo (Brazil)

Various forms of violence have become part of the reality of children and young people all over the world, and this is often experienced in their own homes. There is also aggressiveness, unfortunately, in the teaching institutions they attend, whether public or private. That is why immediate, long-term actions are necessary to avoid this problem, which is already well-established in small, medium, and large urban areas.

In the Legion of Good Will we believe that schools are the perfect environment for fostering a Culture of Peace, as the President of our Organization, educator

**José de Paiva Netto**, advises for decades. According to him, this is one of the most effective ways that students themselves and their caretakers have of confronting the causes and consequences of destructive behavior that threatens the physical and mental health of children in the world. He affirms: “. . . *Many of them also suffer from a serious problem that causes them to feel great anxiety: bullying. This must be strongly opposed, once and for all, by those who are responsible for these young people. If not, we shall be accomplices to this violence, which originates precisely from the bad way in which child and youth behavior is managed. This is a*



► From left to right: Suelí Periotto, PhD student with a Master's degree in Education and Supervisor of the LBV's Pedagogy of Affection and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy; Educator Gisela Portilho, Teaching Supervisor of the LBV's schools; and Educator Aline Trevisan, Assistant Principal of the José de Paiva Netto Educational Institute. Suelí Periotto and Aline Trevisan are also the hosts of the *Educação em Debate* [Education on Focus] program on the Super Good Will Radio Network and Boa Vontade TV.

*highly regrettable situation that has been jeopardizing the school performance of so many children. This is working against the future. . . .”*

In the LBV, the encouragement for individuals to become more fraternally understanding begins in the early years of their lives through an educational work that promotes solidarity and an unselfish posture on the part of the student. This promotes a respect for diversity and for what is particular to each person.

Educating with all-encompassing Ecumenical Spirituality is what differentiates from other educational systems the pioneering teaching method that Paiva Netto devised decades ago, comprised of the Pedagogy of Affection (for children up to 10 years old) and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy (from 11 years onwards). As the president of the LBV emphasizes, the care we take to educate human beings completely unites *“Brain and Heart,”* in other words, reasoning and feeling, which therefore fosters a culture that values the emotions and awakens an interest in students to exercise empathy. *“I don’t like suffering violence, so I shouldn’t cause it”* is an example of the way of thinking that guides the actions of the Organization in favor of a Culture of Peace.

## RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY IN PRACTICE

How can we prepare children and young people to live in Peace and act towards a better world? With this in mind, the Legion of Good Will carries out social and educational programs that encourage students to be agents of positive change, both in their personal lives and in the communities in which they live. To contribute to this preparation, it promotes democratic practices in the classroom, sports and recreational activities, and in sports competitions in the playgrounds of the LBV's teaching units, in which students from different traditions and with different identities take part. All the initiatives lead to experiences that stimulate the practice of qualities in addition to **tolerance**.

The good results of this work are identified in initiatives such as the continuous training programs for teachers and strengthening strategies and actions that ensure that

**In the Legion of Good Will we believe that schools are the perfect environment for fostering a Culture of Peace, as educator José de Paiva Netto advises for decades.**

Leila Tonin



Asuncion (Paraguay)

Archive GW



Buenos Aires (Argentina)

students are not allowed to become isolated, above all in cases where they have fallen behind with their studies. In fact, with regard to this issue, we undertake various measures in order to solve the problem. One of them relies on support coming from those students who have better mastered the school subjects. They are invited to share the knowledge they have with their colleagues, an attitude that benefits both those who receive and those who willingly volunteer for this type of monitoring activity. The initiative leads to excellent results, not only in the classroom but also in the family environment of all these boys and girls. This incentive helps avoid bullying and/or other ways of physical and/or verbal confrontation or intimidation.

The LBV's schools frequently develop knowledge socialization projects, which start with individuals and then move on

to groups. The projects are carried out by way of daily experiences (either inside and/or outside the teaching establishments), whose priority is to encourage young people to adopt a critical attitude and resilience in the face of the challenging scenarios of violence in which they might find themselves in.

### **MORE TIME FOR EXERCISING SPIRITUAL, ETHICAL, AND ECUMENICAL VALUES**

The more time children and teenagers spend in school the less time they are in contact with the dangers of the streets and unfortunate common situations of violence and/or negligence in the period when their caretakers are working. The LBV's experience, however, shows that to eradicate violence, it is not enough just to adopt a full-time education regime—including sports activities, arts, reading, entrepreneurship, and workshops directed at improving learning and the personal and intellectual growth of students. What is necessary is that girls and boys receive excellent teaching content and have access to a series of activities and a variety of recreational projects, all based on spiritual, ethical, and ecumenical values.

**What is necessary is that girls and boys receive excellent teaching content and have access to a series of activities and a variety of recreational projects, all based on spiritual, ethical, and ecumenical values.**

## OWN METHODOLOGY

To apply the curricular and/or extracurricular content, the Legion of Good Will uses its own methodology, the MAPREI (Learning Method through Rational-Emotional-Intuitive Research), which aims at the full development of students who are seen as active individuals who help build knowledge. In this process, their subjective capacity and internal world, where the answers to many of their questions are to be found, are taken into account.

During the course of the six stages of the method, students are offered the possibility of exchanging information, reflecting about subjects, and individual and collective production. All these opportunities promote fraternity, group work, mutual respect, and the valuing of the different potentials and opinions of their peers; in short, an exercise of **listening** and knowing when to **speak**.

## HARMONY AS A GOAL

The LBV's educators encourage the practice of a Culture of Peace in the day-to-day lives of students, beginning with welcoming diversity in the school environment, in which individuals with different personality traits coexist harmoniously. To achieve this, they are introduced to Ecumenism as an element that promotes the necessary respect between those who express any form of world view, tradition, or ideology that needs to be taken into consideration, because they represent the fundamental aspects of each person's identity. It is important to emphasize that the concept of Ecumenism, on which the Organization's educational method is based, expects there to be a posture of respect from those whom it helps towards atheists and people from the most diverse religious convictions. This is because the LBV proposes that Ecumenism be exercised in an unrestricted

## THEMES FOR STRENGTHENING AND VALUING HUMAN BEINGS

- "When I share I contribute to the well-being of my neighbor"
- "How to do what's right"
- "Overcoming fear and speaking the truth"
- "The value of each one"
- "Who am I and why do I need others"
- "How to be free and what to do with our freedom"
- "The happiness of each one depends on the happiness of everyone"
- "The meaning of life"

way, in other words, one that goes beyond any possible conception of restricting it.

This educational method encourages students to take advantage of the possibilities of access to research and the socialization of knowledge that are offered by this globalized world. It also stimulates them to engage in dialogue (even with those who have opposite opinions), undertake teamwork, and help foster fraternal coexistence.



**The LBV's educational method encourages students to take advantage of the possibilities of access to research and the socialization of knowledge that are offered by this globalized world. It also stimulates them to engage in dialogue (even with those who have opposite opinions), undertake teamwork, and help foster fraternal coexistence.**



# Opportunities to Do Good

**LBV inspires young people to engage in networking and  
volunteer activities that value life**

**HÉLLEN PÂMELA SILVA RODRIGUES**

**W**hen we are moved by the pain of our fellow beings and do something good to help them, we see that we are capable of overcoming any challenge, no matter how big it might be. The strength that inspires our Soul and brings us the indispensable confidence and courage we need in order not to give in to the weight of adversity but to overcome it, comes

from the New Commandment of Jesus: “*Love one another as I have loved you* (The Gospel according to **John** 13:34).” The founder of the Legion of Good Will, **Alzira Zarur** (1914-1979), taught us that “*God created human beings in such a way that they can only be happy by doing Good.*” This is the ideal of Good Will.

For all these reasons, and encouraged by

my parents, **Paulino** and **Rita Rodrigues**, I became a volunteer at the Good Will Organizations (IBVs, in Portuguese). There I seek and find the tools I need to practice Complete Charity continuously, by way of a work that supports materially and spiritually those who need it most.

I live in a small town in the Brazilian State of Minas Gerais called Santa Rita do Sapucaí that has a population of around 50,000. Along with the Ecumenical Youth of the Good Will of God, of which I am a member, I take part in many activities in the town, from visiting shelters for the elderly, hospitals, and homes, to giving music and singing lessons in the community.

There are plenty of activities in the IBVs that allow you to spend your time doing good for others. One in particular is etched in my memory, given the importance of the matter addressed at the time in view of the high rate of suicide: valuing life.

This sad reality was disclosed in a report published by the World Health Organization (WHO) on the subject—which is still regarded as taboo in society—in September 2014. It revealed that more than 800,000 people worldwide take their own lives every year. This is the equivalent of one suicide every 40 seconds! The situation here in Brazil is no less alarming, since it is 8<sup>th</sup> in the ranking of countries in terms of the absolute number of suicides.

Ever alert to this scenario, the IBVs frequently carry out numerous actions all over the Brazilian territory on behalf of human beings and their Eternal Spirits. The goal is always to enlighten people through the values of the all-encompassing Ecumenical Spirituality about the consequences of this extreme act, both for the individual who commits suicide as well as for the family members and friends who have to deal with the

painful loss of a loved one and often with a feeling of guilt.

In one of the activities on World Suicide Prevention Day (September 10) we worked in partnership with the Municipal Health Department of Pedralva, a neighboring town. On the occasion, we distributed pamphlets with the article “Preventing Suicide,” by journalist Paiva Netto, from which I quote the following extract: *“Alongside all the psychological support available and the advances in medicine, for those who are thinking about making an attempt at taking their own life, the healthy practice of prayer is essential for strengthening the awareness that life continues after the phenomenon of death.”*

When we returned to Santa Rita do Sapucaí, we developed that same activity in the town’s central square and at city hall, where we suggested that a dialogue with the population about this subject should always to be encouraged.

It is an honor for me to take part in the IBVs’ solidary actions. The experience of working constantly in favor of the people makes me feel certain that it is possible to contribute to the social, moral, and spiritual progress of Humanity.

I would like to conclude with this teaching from the president of the LBV, who invites us to fully practice Fraternity in order to help transform people’s lives for the better: *“Let us always have some mercy along with fair common sense in the way we look at things, in the attitudes towards our fellow beings, whether we know them or not; in the interaction with our neighbors, whether an individual or a country. The so desired Peace can also come out from this understanding.”* ●

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Eduardo Izias

**Héllen Pâmela Silva Rodrigues, 25**, an environmental engineer and graduate student in Environmental Law at the Federal University of Paraná (UFPR). She is a former student of the Good Will Educational Complex in São Paulo.

# THE FUTURE OF THE PLANET AT STAKE

## UN Summit to adopt new global goals in September

BY THE EDITORIAL STAFF

**T**his year will certainly go down in the history of Humanity because, in addition to several remarkable events taking place worldwide, in September, during the United Nations General Assembly, member countries are to adopt a set of new global goals: the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They are to replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which reach their deadline on December 31, 2015.

In contribution to this scenario of analysis and proposals, the Legion of Good Will (LBV) presents its recommendations of good social practices to the participants at the High-Level Segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) (read more about the subject on page 10). In this publication we will show the LBV's work in harmony with the new commitments that will be established.

In the following pages, we present the positive results achieved with some of the LBV's social and educational programs in the seven countries where it has autonomous bases: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Portugal, the United States, and Uruguay.



Instituto de Educação  
José de Paiva  
São Paulo



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ARGENTINA



# TRAINING

## YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULTS

LBV of Argentina expands its services with the construction of a Professional Training Center

In April 2015, the Legion of Good Will of Argentina completed 30 years of work in benefit of the population living at social risk in the country. During this period, the Organization's units have undertaken several initiatives, which include social and educational programs and awareness-raising and social mobilization campaigns, focusing on the complete development of those assisted, promoting citizenship, and valuing life. One of the prominent activities of one of these programs are the professional training courses, which prepare young people and adults for the labor market.

Since these courses started to be offered in 2001, more than 1,220 individuals have been qualified, among them **Vanina Monzón**, who found in the Organization an opportunity to learn a profession. *"Ever since I was a child I've enjoyed cooking. . . . I found out about the course offered from one of the LBV's contributors and I was delighted. . . . Studying culinary arts would have been impossible without the LBV,"* she said. In 2011, she concluded the professional course and now works in the culinary field along with her husband, **Sergio Spitaleri**, who attended the same classes at the Legion of Good Will.

It is worth mentioning that in 2014, the LBV provided 594,045 services and benefits to individuals who live in poverty in Argentina and started offering another nine professional training courses in partnership with the country's Continuous Training Network of the Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Social Security. The courses offered are: accounting assistant, baker's assistant, cook, caregiver for elderly people, waiter, event planner, telemarketing, customer service, and pastry chef.



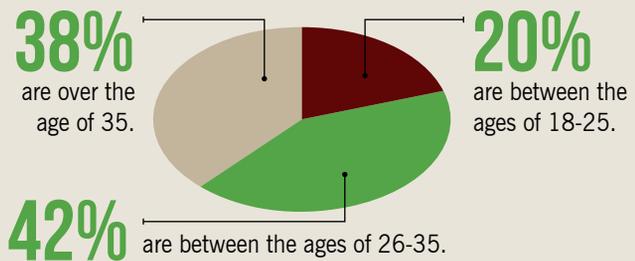
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The LBV built a Professional Training Center with three ample rooms and a 66 m<sup>2</sup> air conditioned fully equipped kitchen for the cooking classes.

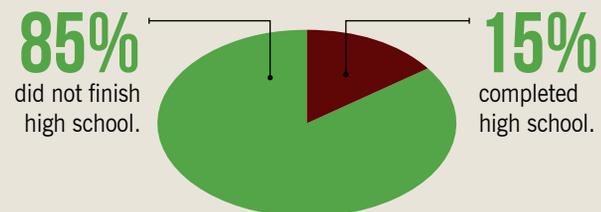
## SUPPORT FOR THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST

Social and educational profile of the people who attend the professional training courses of the LBV of Argentina

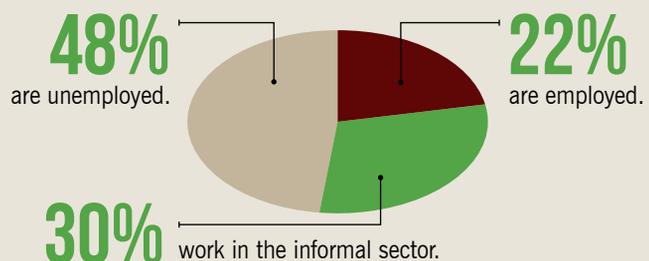
### AGE GROUP



### EDUCATION LEVEL



### EMPLOYMENT STATUS





María Mendes

PARAGUAY



# STRENGTHENING

**LBV's social assistance program in Paraguay encourages women's autonomy**

Promoting the autonomy of women, many of them mothers and heads of family, improving their self-esteem and their ability to overcome challenges and day-to-day hardships are some of the goals of the Strengthening Lives group, an activity of the *Good Will in Action* program. Created in 2011 by the LBV of Paraguay, over the last four years the group has already benefited

hundreds of women by offering them handicraft courses, holding talks on themes of interest to the population, and sharing practices that help promote sustainable development.

For **Zulma Galeano**, 34, member of the group from the San Ignacio de Loyola settlement, taking part in this activity has only brought her benefits. *"Last year I started having crochet*



Photos: Maria Mendes



# LIVES

*lessons. I was surprised to find out that they were offering free courses at the LBV, because in other places if you want to study and learn something you have to pay for it and I didn't have any money for that. The little I earned was to buy food for my children. I thank the LBV for transforming my life and the lives of so many other people for the better,"* she said. Ms. Galeano is currently selling her

own crochet products, which has helped support her and her family.

The *Good Will in Action* program is carried out by the LBV in Asuncion, in the Villa Angélica settlement, in the city of Lambaré, and in the San Ignacio de Loyola settlement, in the city of Ciudad del Este. In all three locations the Organization provides classes in canvas and fabric painting, knitting, and shoe decorating to help remedy the socially vulnerable situation these communities find themselves in. Thanks to the partnership with the National Service for Professional Promotion (SNPP), of the Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Social Security of Paraguay, the Organization also runs courses in manicure and pedicure, hairdressing, among others.

"I was surprised to find out that they were offering free courses at the LBV, because in other places if you want to study and learn something you have to pay for it."

**ZULMA GALEANO**

Member of the Strengthening Lives group from the San Ignacio de Loyola settlement.



Leilla Tonin

PORTUGAL



# SMILE AND HEALTH

**LBV of Portugal provides preventive care and dental treatment for children, teenagers, and adults.**

**T**he *Happy Smile* program was created in 2001 by the Legion of Good Will of Portugal. Its aim is to provide preventive dentistry services and dental treatment in large scale for children, teenagers, and adults who live in communities at social risk. Talks and theoretical and practical

workshops are also held in order to raise awareness of the importance of oral hygiene. The initiative has been achieving excellent results in Porto, Lisbon, and Coimbra.

Since the program was implemented by the LBV, 15,598 children between 4 and 13 years old and

Since the *Happy Smile* program was implemented by the LBV, 15,598 children between 4 and 13 years old and 1,518 adults have been helped.

1,518 adults have been helped. The LBV's work is carried out through mobile units, which go to socially vulnerable locations to provide prophylactic treatment; areas to daily develop oral hygiene practices; solidary clinics, in which the children and teenagers who participate in the *Happy Smile* program receive free dental treatment; and the Community Agents for Oral Health Program (PROASO), which is responsible for training the volunteers who work to develop the activity.

Volunteer **Maria Isabel Antunes** is witness to the difference this program has made in the lives of hundreds of families. *"The program is extremely useful, because appointments are expensive and the regions the Happy Smile program covers are needy. If it wasn't for the LBV, these people wouldn't be able to have this preventive care. It's really very useful,"* she emphasized.

**Vera**, who has two children being assisted by the LBV, pointed out the Organization's work towards their well-being and that of other people. *"It's an encouragement for children to begin brushing their teeth when they're young as well as for the parents who also need to have this concern with their children. . . . I'm very happy. . . . Oral hygiene is essential, both for improving the appearance and for health in general."*



Leilla Tonin

LBV's community agents for oral health teach children how to brush their teeth properly.



Leilla Tonin



Ricardo Ribeiro

In 2014, the LBV of Portugal was awarded the Social Solidarity Prize by *Saúde Oral* magazine for the excellent results obtained with the *Happy Smile* program. On the right, Haroldo Rocha (L) and dentist Cassiano Scapini, representing the LBV at the event.



Ricardo Ribeiro



Adriana Rocha

UNITED STATES



# SUPPORT FOR FUTURE MOTHERS

**Program of the LBV-USA reaches out to homeless women**

One of the goals of the United Nations is to put an end to gender inequality by 2030. Despite the progress made over the last few decades,

we still have a long road ahead of us. Opportunities for women are still limited, which makes them more likely to remain on the margins of society.



Adriana Rocha



Adriana Rocha



Adriana Rocha



Alex Tamasean

Concerned about this situation, the Legion of Good Will of the United States has expanded the services provided by its *Baby Citizen* program. In addition to serving the needs of mothers-to-be who attend the LBV's Social Service Center in Newark, New Jersey, this year the initiative started supporting pregnant women helped by the YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association), also in Newark. It shelters a large number of homeless women, many of them pregnant and without material or emotional conditions for having the baby.

The LBV's program assists these women by holding talks on the benefits of breastfeeding and healthy nutrition during pregnancy and the care and procedures before and after childbirth.

This initiative also provides participants with a layette for the baby and routine medical appointments, among which taking their blood pressure and measuring glucose levels.

**Widel Lopez**, one of those assisted by the program in the YMCA, highlighted the help she received from the Legion of Good Will. *"I had a lot of questions about the baby, how she was developing. I wanted to know more. The doctor that you [LBV] brought explained a lot of things about the birth and answered my questions. I want to say thank you. The LBV does a lot for us. You come here not to just give us a basket full of baby things but you guys also come here every week to serve us healthy food that we don't have the opportunity to buy."*

**"The LBV does a lot for us. You come here not to just give us a basket full of baby things but you guys also come here . . . to serve us healthy food."**

**WIDEL LOPEZ**  
Assisted by the *Baby Citizen* program in the YMCA.



Leilla Tonin

BRAZIL



# TO EDUCATE WOMEN IS TO INVEST IN CHILDREN

Son of a former waste picker, who was taught to read and write by the LBV of Brazil, came in 1<sup>st</sup> place in the selection process for public university education.

In March 2015, **Thompson Vitor**, 15, was accepted for the multimedia course of the Federal Institute of Education, Science and Technology of Rio Grande do Norte (IFRN). He placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the general selection process, with 846 points out of a possible 1000.

Coming from a simple family, his mother was the one who most encouraged him to study. **Rosângela Marinho**, who is currently working in a supermarket, tried to give her son what she never had. She was illiterate until the age of 16 and provided for herself by collecting recyclable material. It was only when she came across the Legion of Good Will in the city of Natal in the 1990s that her life changed. *"In the LBV, I not only learned how to read and write, I was also given food. I remember that everything was very clean and organized. Those who donate must keep on donating because they're giving opportunities to the poor,"* she said.

The encouragement to read she received at the Legion of Good Will, she made sure to pass on to all her children. As she collected recyclable material from the garbage dumps, Rosângela separated the books she found and took them home for her kids.

For her, the LBV's support was fundamental, since it helped her bring up her boys. *"As a mother I feel really good, because I get a lot of 'congratulations.' Society has recognized the objective of my struggle: to show that the children of poor people are not only fit to be criminals. The children of poor people also succeed in life. This has nothing to do with poverty, but with the choices we make."*

Even nowadays, this mother always makes good use of any book she finds lying in the streets. She is also planning on writing and publishing her life story.



Natal (Brazil)

Leila Tonn



Rosângela Marinho and her son Thompson Vitor

Personal Archive



The encouragement to read, followed by the complete assistance (including food) that Rosângela Marinho also received in the LBV, was passed on to her sons, who used to read the books she found in the garbage dumps.



Natal (Brazil)

Arivaldo Oliveira



Bettina López

URUGUAY



# TECHNOLOGY FOR INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

**CEIBAL Communication Room in the LBV of Uruguay expands its services to the community and students' family members**

In order to contribute to the fulfilment of the United Nations proposal of promoting access to an effective education for all children and young people, the Legion of Good Will of Uruguay is concerned with fostering technology as an instrument of digital

and social inclusion, while paying close attention to the coverage and quality of this service. This undertaking began two years ago with the creation of a communication environment that was inspired by the implementation of the Uruguayan government's Plan



Photos: Betinha López

CEIBAL [Educational Basic Connectivity for Online Learning], which distributes laptops to students in primary public schools.

Initially, this initiative benefited boys and girls of the Jesus Nursery School and participants in the *Children: the Future in the Present!* program, both services offered by the LBV in the José de Paiva Netto Educational and Cultural Institute, in Montevideo. It aims at giving these children free Internet access and general support with regard to the use and care of a computer, as well as sharing experiences and concepts related to information technology and communication and their application in education.

At the beginning of 2015, the facilities at the LBV received new computers, enabling the Organization to expand the work carried out. Now, this service, which was previously offered only to children and

teenagers, can also be used by their family members and local residents.

**Betty Natalia Larrosa**, 35, emphasized the importance of this project. *“It’s a great help for me and my family because it allows us to evolve. Technology today is necessary for many activities in daily life. A good example of this is using it to help my children with their school work. Thank you Legion of Good Will for giving us this opportunity.”*

According to **José Luis García**, 9, attending the classes is very good. *“The teacher gives us a lot of information, which helps us in school and at home. Here we learn to share our knowledge with our classmates in order to meet the requests of our teacher. My mother tells me that this will be useful in the future when I’m working, and also to teach others.”*



“Technology today is necessary for many activities in daily life. A good example of this is using it to help my children with their school work.”

**BETTY NATALIA LARROSA**





El Alto (Bolivia)

Archive GW

BOLIVIA



# NOURISHING A BETTER FUTURE

Program of the LBV of Bolivia against hunger and poverty  
celebrates 21 years of activities



El Alto (Bolivia)



Photos: Archive GW

The *Charity Round* program—inspired by a permanent campaign of the Legion of Good Will against poverty and social exclusion that started back in the 1940s in Brazil—takes hot meals, clothes, moral support, and spiritual comfort to individuals and families who live in a socially vulnerable situation.

Even though important steps have been taken in Bolivia to fight hunger, thousands of people still have no guaranteed access to food with regard to the amount, quality, and regularity recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO). With the purpose of helping reverse this sad scenario,

since 1994 the LBV of Bolivia has been running the above program, which began in the city of La Paz. As a result, the Organization has expanded its work, paying special attention to children who come from low-income families and the destitute.

The initiative currently takes place three times a week in the Bolivian capital and every day in Santa Cruz de La Sierra. Around 400 boys and girls are benefited every year from the service provided by this program and its activities. The Organization offers their mothers professional training and literacy courses, with the objective of enabling them to contribute towards increasing household income.

“Today, with the LBV’s *Charity Round*, parents manage to save money in order to buy food for a meal rich in vitamins.”

**JENNY MANCILLA**  
LBV’s Social Worker

## —o COMPLETE CITIZENSHIP

Photos: Archive GW



**Celestina Aguilar Chuquinia**, from La Paz, with her three children.

After the implementation of this program, residents from the communities that were helped started adopting healthier eating habits, as the LBV's social worker **Jenny Mancilla** explained: *"Their diet before was restricted to what they produced, which on its own didn't contain the nutrients they need for their development. Today, with the LBV's Charity Round, parents are able to save money in order to buy food for a meal rich in vitamins, thus improving*

*the eating habits of the whole family."*

According to **Celestina Aguilar Chuquinia**, from La Paz, her three children have complete meals, with vegetables, greens, fruits, and proteins, thanks to the Legion of Good Will. *"The food served is very nutritious. I thank the LBV, because my children are healthier; they don't get sick like they did before. Thank you very much for this help, which is very important for us!"* she stressed. ●



"I'm very happy on the days when the LBV's program comes to us. I like the food that's prepared very much, because it's very rich. I can eat fruit, drink juice . . . I used to feel bad because I was very short; but I've noticed that I'm growing now that I started eating better. I thank both the LBV for giving us this food and the kind ladies who prepare it."

**OMAMAR MAMANI MAYTA (11)**

A participant of the *Charity Round* program in La Paz.

5 de Junho é Dia do meio ambiente.  
Para nós, os outros 364 também são.



O GRUPO RIO TÓKIO/ NARITA FAZ A DIFERENÇA PARA O PLANETA DURANTE TODOS OS DIAS DO ANO COM DIVERSAS AÇÕES DO PROGRAMA DE GESTÃO AMBIENTAL.

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