



Brazil



PURPOSE OF INITIATIVE: CHILD PROTECTION



Project: "Little Butterflies"

cod. BRA005P

The project will provide legal, health and psychological support to children and teenagers who have been victims of sexual abuse. Reporting all cases of abuse to the local authorities is of fundamental importance in order to protect abused children and guarantee their rights. Group sessions with health workers, psychologists and a social worker will help the victims regain their own psychological and physical identities, using a cognitive-behavior therapy. These activities, in partnership with the "Pastoral Familiar", take place at the Luisa Habigzang Psychological Intervention Centre for young sexual abuse victims, a department of the Manaus Archdiocese Psychological Support Service for Families (SAPFAM).

Outside the centre, nursery and primary schools organize play and cultural activities for fun and educational purposes. Practical activities, such as assembling, handicrafts, gardening and contact with animals are all aimed at developing young children's psychomotor skills.

The project has been running in the city and suburbs of Manaus, in the Amazon state, since 2012.



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What does the project aim to achieve?



- To give medical care and provide psychological-clinical treatment via group therapy
- To break the cycle of abuse and ensure better legal protection collaborating with the city's network of organizations
- To strengthen the relationships within the family, offer educational support at home and in school
- To Promote a network of collaboration with groups and social movements which are daily fighting in order to save the children and teenagers from abuse and to protect their rights

Who will benefit from the project?

- 60 children and teenagers between 8 and 14 years of age;
- Families of the victims and/or accompanying adults in the cases of children living in institutional centers

What advantages will the project bring?

The psychological and physical condition of children which have been victims of sexual abuse will improve because of violence elaboration. Furthermore, the experts work hard for the reduction of terrible effects that such trauma can produce on their developing personality.

Through the project, population and local authorities are better informed and more sensitive to the child abuse issue, leading them to take a more active role in the fight against child sex abuse.

How will the project be managed?

The project is managed by the Manaus Archdiocese Psychological Support Service for Families (SAPFAM), that employs about 25 health care workers including 6 psychologists, 4 psychology students, 1 social worker, doctors, lawyers and other relevant figures. Every six months 30 children and teenagers, accompanied by their tutors, are split into 6 groups of 5 – 3 in the morning and 3 in the afternoon.

How can you help?



10\$

will contribute for the teaching material



15\$

will contribute for the poorest families
transfer to the centre and back

20\$

can contribute for the experts salary

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