

**milONGa**

Movimiento internacional de ONGs en acción



**MILONGA**  
**VOLUNTEERING**  
**THE CHANGE OF THE WORLD**  
**IS IN YOUR HANDS**

## 1. Mariápolis Ginetta (Vargem Grande Paulista-Sao Paulo) BRAZIL



**PRESENTATION:** We are a training center for young people, teenagers, families, priests, seminarians, religious men and women who spend a period ranging from six months to two years to investigate the lifestyle-oriented promoted by MdF fraternity.

Three elements are the basis of the construction of the Mariápolis: the donation, the job and the communion of goods.

All the inhabitants are maintained with the work, which covers various activities:

- A meeting center with an auditorium for 400 people, and other halls, multimedia equipment, dining room and bedrooms. It 'a suitable place for conferences, seminars and meetings to be promoted by the Focolare Movement, and other groups.
- The bakery Espiga Dourada •artisan workshops
- The publishing group New City that produces books that express the cultural dimension of the spirituality of unity, as well as the monthly magazine New City, which aims to provide a reading of events that occur in society from the perspective of fraternity.
- Social projects developed in the Daisy Garden district in the city of Vargem Grande Paulista, and the Carmo district of San Roque.

- The Spartacus Industrial Center - cot and reference of the Economy of Communion project.

### POSSIBLE AREAS OF SERVICE:

- \* Reception: maintenance of hostel facilities, gardening, administrative procedures of the secretariat, Construction site
- \* Carmo Bairro Project: planning and development activities with children and adolescents, through various workshops (sports, music, arts, crafts, computers, etc.);
- \* Project Daisy Garden: controls the workshops, the preparation of the plan of activities, implementation of activities, monitoring children and adolescents in the events and guided tours. planned activities: sports, crafts, dance, computing, music and literature.
- \* Aurora School: propose and develop activities with the surrounding communities.
- \* IMU: administrative support, construction of visual identity, construction and management of Facebook, the website development projects for international organizations.

### LODGING INFORMATION:

Full board. Possibility to accommodate 6 boys and 4 girls. Available Period: All year.

**Contact: Gilvan David**

## 2. Mariópolis Santa María (Recife) BRAZIL



**PRESENTATION:** On the outskirts of Igarassu - Pernambuco - one of the oldest cities in Brazil there is the Mariapolis Santa Maria. Located in a developing area, where signs of poverty are evident, although in a decent environment, the citadel is characterized by its social function, as evidenced in particular by the school for children and adolescents and Industrial Centre inspired by the Economy of Communion. This center has a very wide range of action, not only for the people nearby, but is open to members of the Movement of all neighboring states, other entities and associations working for human promotion. The school, which has the same name, Santa Maria, has been working for almost 50 years and has trained many generations. Currently, ten of its faculty and staff are former students, while others have followed the most varied professions coming to reach positions of responsibility. The most important thing, however, are the values that remain in them and that constitute a life project: the culture of sharing, foundations of education for peace. Economically, the school is maintained by the national and international solidarity, in particular through the projects of the NGO "Action for new families". The first literacy classes were given to the workers employed in the construction of the Mariapolis Center, Then along came by them the request that the same may be done to their children ... Now our teaching method is also transmitted in other schools in the area and other educational

institutions. A few kilometers away, in a large plot it is the Ginetta Industrial Calliari Center. The Center is a development which favors the concentration of the Economy of Communion companies (EOC), to support growth and promote access to relational assets, encouraging the sharing of operational and productive experiences. On the other hand, the small town is also the place in which children, young people and teenagers spent a period of deepening the life of the evangelical community in the light of the charism of unity.

### POSSIBLE AREAS OF SERVICE:

Possible field: Collaborate in the activities of the School "Santa Maria" and educational activities, but also tasks related to the development of production in agriculture activities and planning.

### LODGING INFORMATION:

Further details: offers lodging, asks 20 euro a day. Jobs: 04 men and 04 women. Available period: all year.

**Contact: Francisca Norma Queiroga**

## 3. Casa do Menor São Miguel Arcanjo (Fortaleza) BRAZIL



**PRESENTATION:** accommodate children, adolescents and young people at risk while collaborating with the families in view of their future family and social reintegration and active role. Through the encounter with the youth in

the streets and by welcoming their actual needs, the volunteers help them create baseline reports and offer them a possible and attractive alternative to the situation of street life by connecting them to relevant institutions and social programs or by encouraging their return to the biological family.

The project aims at gradually creating a family atmosphere through the presence, when possible, of social parents, and establish in this way a climate of attention and affection that can restore some landmarks in the life of these young people.

#### ONGOING PROJECTS:

First accommodation in Casas-Lares: a structure that offers support, family reintegration, substitute family care and social integration.

Professional education: aims to give a cultural foundation and provide both professional and ethic training courses for teenagers and young people housed or residents of our neighbourhoods. By enhancing their leadership skills, managerial autonomy and active citizenship, we aim to promote their insertion in the labour market.

Basic Health Units Padre Gärtner: in collaboration with the Municipality of Nova Iguaçu, we promote disease prevention programs, health laboratories, clinical accompaniment – pediatric, dental treatment, monitoring of women during pregnancy, immunizations, home visits, medications. The program is addressed to children, teenagers, young people and their families; <http://www.casadomenor.org.br/site/>

#### POSSIBLE AREAS OF SERVICE:

- Collaborate in the operating of "Santa Maria" school: educational activities but also tasks related to the development and planning of the agricultural production sustained.

- Working with children and teenagers at social risk, with an emphasis on working with their families.

#### LODGING INFORMATION:

- Further details: accommodation and full board are provided
- Available period: all year.

#### Contacts: Lucia Ines

### 4. Fazenda Esperança - BRAZIL



PRESENTATION: The Farm of Hope is a therapeutic community with over 30 years of experience in the recovery of young drug addicts. It rates as the major Latin-American initiative in this field. It has helped thousands of families and is currently present in 15 countries in different continents. Its activity is based on three pillars: family life, work seen as a pedagogical process and the encouragement of the inner search; [www.fazenda.org.br](http://www.fazenda.org.br)

#### POSSIBLE AREAS OF SERVICE:

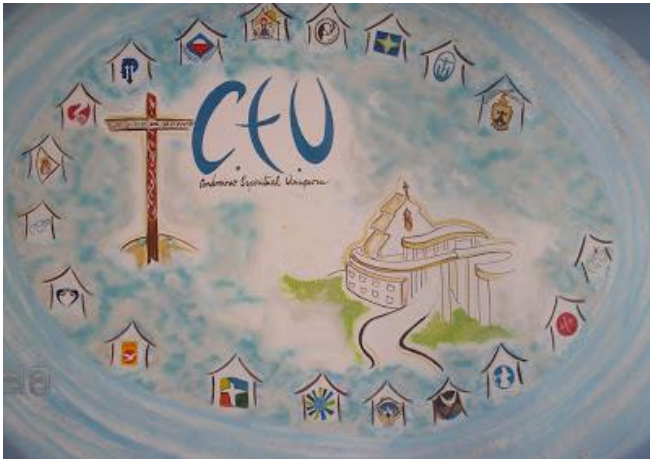
Participate in and contribute to the organization of our activities in the various places where we train young people who have experienced drug addiction.

#### LODGING INFORMATION:

Further details: accommodation and full board are provided. Work: no limits. Available period: all year.

**Contacts: Rita**

## 5. CEU - Condominio Espiritual Uirapuru (Fortaleza) BRAZIL



**PRESENTATION:** The Spiritual Condominium Uirapuru - CEU was founded in 2000 thanks to the donation of the Uirapuru Farm by Craveiro Macêdo family. In 2007 it was recognized as an Institutional Area by the City Council: it aims at bringing together non-profit organisations whose activity is grounded on the Christian moral principles. However, throughout the years CEU has started to adopt also an interreligious perspective.

**Main activities:**

- Meet people who experience some kind of social disadvantage such as drug addiction
- Accomodate children and youth at risk; adults and children with HIV
- Initiatives that promote participation, educational and cultural activities; counseling and spiritual events
- Reception of young girls victims of sexual abuse or exploitation
- Integration of ex-offenders, monitoring of them and their families

Currently a hospital that will be dedicated to the correction of facial deformities for people in need is under construction. Over the years, CEU has been transformed into a social project with unique features, that brings together volunteers, employees and assisted people who live inside the condominium.

<http://ceufortaleza.org.br>

**POSSIBLE AREAS OF SERVICE:**

There are various possibilities to collaborate in our activities. Our condominium bring together different non-profit organisations based on the values of Christian commitment Our initiatives are, however, managed in an interreligious perspective and serve people with different social needs: youth and children at risk, HIV carriers, recovering addicts, through educational, cultural and spiritual activities.

**LODGING INFORMATION:**

Further details: accommodation and full board are provided. Work: no limits. Available period: all year.

**Contacts: Carlos Monteiro**

## 6. Asociación Casa de los Niños (Cochabamba) BOLIVIA



**PRESENTATION:** Our center was founded in 2007 and became a little town with more than 400 people (100 families), including more than 250 children. We live with the children, many of them sick. There is a school, a dining room, a wellness center, a bakery, a garden, houses under construction. Throughout the year we receive volunteers from different countries

participating with us in everyday life. Our center also provides other outdoor activities to support people in the street, prisoners, a native tribes, families of the two highland villages. <http://www.casadelosninos.it/>

#### VOLUNTEERING POSSIBLE AREAS:

Being with children, go to school in our center, creative activities for the children to think about and organize thinking based on experience or personal skills

#### LODGING INFORMATION:

Additional information: It offers accommodation and food  
Available period: All year.

**Contact: Aristides**

## 7. Fundación UNISOL (Cochabamba) BOLIVIA



#### PRESENTATION:

Created in 2006, inspired by the thought and work of Chiara Lubich. It has two centers: one in the city of Cochabamba, the center Rincon de Luz, which provides comprehensive care of children and youth at risk; the second in the city of Santa Cruz, Clara Luz Center, which provides assistance and comprehensive care for disadvantaged children from 0-12 years. The project also supports microcredit projects and improvement of housing.

<https://www.facebook.com/FundacionUnisol/>

#### POSSIBLE SERVICE AREA:

Education (school support: education, sports, special education, the strengthening of the family and other related activities); productive activities: (basic accounting, productive projects, business plan, economic feasibility analysis and others

#### Lodging information:

It offers accommodation only. Rincón Centro de Luz 4 men and 2 women, Clara Luz 4 women. Available period: from February to November

**Contact: Ani Ceballos**

## 8. Asociación Civil La Perla (Caracas) VENEZUELA



**PRESENTATION:** In 2002, a group of professionals and some citizens of Junquito, driven by a strong social commitment, they wondered what could be their concrete contribution to transform Venezuelan society. Thus was born the association whose purpose is to contribute to the dialogue between peoples and the different human realities capable of promoting the values offered by the universal fraternity, such as solidarity, tolerance, equality, the practice of human values and the common good, as the pillars of human development. The basic tool is the pedagogy of reciprocity. We focus on three main lines of action: the child and their learning environment and leisure after

attending the school, through our direct initiative tasks; the follow-up of the parents in supporting the education of their children; and a feeding program. <http://www.ac-laperla.org/>

**POSSIBLE AREAS OF SERVICE:** You will be able to work on educational projects related to improving student achievement and educational projects with community awareness, promotion and prevention in oral education for schools. Spreader is to participate in the feeding program for the children we serve, as well as recreational programs for children. There are also training programs for families and the creation of supporting environmental initiatives

**LODGING INFORMATION:** provides a single meal a day.

Number of places available: 1 man and 1 woman. Available period: FEB-Ag

**Contact: Maria Carolina**

## 9. Asoc. Civil UNIPAR - Unidad y Participación- (Asunción) Paraguay



### PRESENTATION:

Units - Participation is a civil association inspired by the charisma of unity OF THE Focolare Movement. In more than 30 years of business he has done many projects, initiatives and projects with the aim of contributing to the formation of values and the development of the culture of fraternity in Paraguay as a response to

the problems and needs of the Paraguayan society.

**POSSIBLE AREAS OF SERVICE:** We can work in teaching beginners to enhance their curriculum, so we seek professionals or students of psychology and social work, nurses, doctors, dentists. Also we carry out vocational training courses for small business owners.

<https://www.facebook.com/escuela.unipar?fref=ts>

**INFORMATION ON THE STAY:** room only.

Quote: 1 man and 1 woman. Available period: February-November board and lodging paid by the participant.

**Contact: Maria Estela**

## 10. Centro de Atención Integral Las Águilas (DF) MÉXICO



### PRESENTATION:

The center has been active for over 30 years. In 1987 has built a social center to provide various services for the community. It offers medical, dental, psychological services, etc. Laboratory activities of: cooking, computer, sewing, first aid, culture of beauty, etc. Support activities, monitoring of families, distance support, etc.

## POSSIBLE SERVICE AREA:

The service in the health field: medical and psychological support for children, the dental for children and adults. But also school support, home visits, etc.

## Lodging information:

It does not provide accommodation and meals.  
Seats: 3 persons. Available period: All year

**Contact: Maria Teresa**

## 11. Centro Educativo "Nueva Vida" (Montevideo) URUGUAY



## PRESENTATION:

Codest civil association was created with the support of the Archbishop of Montevideo that takes over this social work to develop an educational project for human promotion.

On 12 December 2001 was born the Education Centre New Life for the comprehensive care of children and adolescents in the context of their families.

And 'therefore a non-formal education center. essentially it comprises three projects, which aim to work with: different ages:

CAIF: it works with young children, 0 to 3 years, children's club

School children from 5 to 12 years and youth center, youth aged 12 to 18 years.

The three projects work with combined educational systems trying to accompany on one

hand the formal system and on the other, expanding and enriching the educational provision with non-formal activities such as through workshops.

All these products are realized in one of the suburbs of Montevideo along with a network of organizations working in the neighbourhood

<http://codeso.focolar.org.uy/>

## POSSIBLE SERVICE AREAS:

It aims to integrate the educational processes according to the inclination or volunteer preference in any of the three projects in which we work, infancy, childhood and

## LODGING INFORMATION:

No accommodation and food

Positions available: 2 men and 2 women.  
Available period: March to November

**Contact: Luis**

## 12. Centro Comunitario "Nuevos Horizontes" (Punta Alta) Argentina





## PRESENTATION:

In 1993 a group of young people of the city of Punta Alta motivated by the ideal of building a more united world, began working with children of Fonavi neighborhood where people are at risk and marginalization. Thanks to the work with the community comes the need for a physical space that can act as a factor of encounter, where children, youth and adults can channel their talents, discover the values, recognize their abilities, feel part of society and of a project for the future.

In 1995, the initiative is presented in "New Families" (branch of the Focolare Movement), in particular the international project "Solidarity Distance". The response was very fast and 100 sponsors have begun to contribute through a monthly fee.

Therefore a land was bought in front of the district where the building of the Social Centre "New Horizons" has begun to be built

**STRUCTURE:** The center consists of a multi-purpose room (SUM), kitchen, bathroom, medical room with a waiting room, 2 work cabinets, and then, a house where the caretaker lives in the place; Additional space for storage

and laboratories. There is a 40m x 30 m green space for outdoor activities.

**ACTIVITY:** Workshops: ecology - the prevention of child sexual abuse - Values - dialogue with adolescents - school support/painting. **Services:** Delivery of clothing. **Health:** Nursing - Clinical care - psychology.

The center has several recreational areas, sports, games, toy library; There is also a very intensive work with families in the neighborhood who lets you know their needs, social needs, and to accompany them

## POSSIBLE SERVICE AREAS

The volunteers will be placed in the existing activities aimed at school children and social risk.

## Lodging information:

Food and accommodation are paid by the volunteer. **Positions available:** 2 men and 2 women. **Available period:** from February to December

**Contact: Teresa**