



ANNUAL REPORT 2018



NGO Brothers of Charity
International development cooperation

MENTAL HEALTH CARE • EDUCATION • CARE FOR PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

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Cover picture: Centro de Educación Básica Especial ‘Pedro José Triest’ (CEPETRI), Lima, Peru

Chairman’s Message

One goal: a better quality of life for the most vulnerable

2018 was a special year for the Congregation of the Brothers of Charity, Fracarita International’s umbrella. During the six-yearly General Chapter of the Congregation, the operations of Fracarita International were evaluated and approved, and clear guidelines for its further operations were set out. We literally quote one of the motions aimed to express the Chapter’s appreciation for Fracarita International’s work: “The General Chapter appreciates the structure and the work of Fracarita International and recommends that Fracarita International continues to build skills in the different areas of fundraising, project management, capacity building, international advocacy for the different domains of the Congregation.” This clearly highlighted Fracarita International’s four areas of activity and also gave the green light to continue to work in the same way.

These four areas of activity will be discussed in this annual report, and I can only express my appreciation for the commitment of so many in the field who are constantly concerned about promoting, respecting, and restoring the human dignity of those whose dignity is being threatened. Three words are very important here: promoting, respecting, and restoring human dignity.

Promoting: Fracarita International’s mission remains to be the advocate of those who are unable to defend themselves and of those whose human dignity is threatened because of their specific life situation. We think of people with psychiatric disorders, whose environment still regards them as being possessed, who are avoided and isolated. Only a few weeks ago, during one of my visits to the field, I met a patient who had just been admitted to one of our facilities and whose arms were severely wounded because of the irons they had put him in. Another patient could barely walk because he had been chained with his legs under a wooden beam. Yes, this is still a problem in so many places in 2019! Fracarita International wants to be a mouthpiece for these people to society to see them as human beings, to approach them as human beings, and to take care of them as human beings. That is promoting their human dignity.

Respecting: By means of targeted training programmes, we want to draw attention to forgotten groups, to people who live on the periphery and who are marginalized in society. We think of people with severe mental disabilities, which society considers as useless. Or people who, because of extreme poverty, live in inhumane life conditions. It’s our task to help them. Encouraging the broader community itself to show solidarity, is also part of our mission. The fight against poverty must focus on meeting immediate needs, but also on a more systemic approach to the problem. On finding ways how people themselves can be made capable of taking their lives into their own hands.

Restoring: In many places, the Brothers of Charity and their collaborators work to restore human dignity. A child who used to crawl through life on all fours, can now stand upright in life and take control of his own future, thanks to corrective surgery and appropriate aids. I never forget the moment when a young lady literally moved forward to the stage on all fours to receive her diploma for the vocational training she had completed. It was the first time in her life that she felt appreciated as a human being. These are examples that I won’t forget soon.

This is Fracarita International at its best: by means of specific assistance, support, and advocacy, helping people in the South to become partners in promoting, respecting, and restoring human dignity. May this annual report be a small testimony of that. At the same time, this is an opportunity to thank the many people who make the work of the Brothers of Charity worldwide possible through their financial support, their scientific support, the manpower they gladly make available to raise the local care and support to a higher level. All of this has one goal in mind: a better quality of life for the most vulnerable.



Bro. René Stockman, PhD
General Superior Brothers of Charity
President of Fracarita International

“Three words are very important: promoting, respecting
and restoring human dignity.”

Mission

Fracarita International is the **nonprofit organization** of the Congregation of the **Brothers of Charity** whose aim is to support the services of the congregation in **Latin America, Africa, Asia and Europe**. It will exercise this task in line with the mission of the Brothers of Charity which is oriented to radiate God's love in the world, especially in the lives of the most vulnerable people through concrete works of charity in the fields of **mental health care, care for people with a disability and education**.

Fracarita International will fulfil its mission through concrete support to the services developed by the Brothers of Charity with special attention being given to **capacity-building, coaching, exchange of knowledge and expertise, international fundraising and influencing policymakers**. Through the creation of **regional fundraising offices** in several countries, Fracarita International will try to find new funds for projects.

A network of **continental and regional coordinators** has been established in order to improve professionalism in the services and enhance the local capacity for **self-reliance** through better management and a higher level of creativity and skills in setting up initiatives for local fundraising and income generating activities.

As a nonprofit organization with a special consultative status to the **United Nations**, Fracarita International respects a **human rights** based approach and will play its role as an advocate for those whose rights are not respected because of their specific life situation.

In order to achieve these objectives, Fracarita International will always be open to **collaboration** with other groups who share the same vision.

Through its activities, Fracarita International, in line with the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church, will **serve humanity** and especially those whose human dignity is at risk. In line with the mission of the Brothers of Charity, Fracarita International will help to improve the **quality of life** and contribute to a more **humane society** where there is a place for the poor and the weak.



▲ Girl with a physical disability at HVP Gatagara, Nyanza, Rwanda © Joost Van Heesvelde

International Governance

When the governance structure of Fracarita International was developed, special attention was paid to ensure that the organization is not only in word but also in deed a truly **international** organization. Brothers and co-workers from different parts of the world and with different cultural backgrounds are therefore involved in the governance structure and give direction to the organization. Cultural diversity really is a gift for our organization.

Another element that was incorporated into the governance structure is the principle of **subsidiarity**. Fracarita International is convinced that many tasks could be performed more effectively and in a more sustainable way at country level than at international level. That is why the 18 country offices form the centrepiece of our structure and are strongly encouraged to take responsibility with regard to local fundraising, monitoring and training.



Nevertheless, Fracarita International continues to support the country offices by taking up activities that can best be organized at international level such as international fundraising, stimulating the international solidarity within the congregation, providing training in capacity building to the country offices and international representation.

A third element that is typical for Fracarita International's organization structure is that the NGO is still **embedded in the congregation**, unlike many other NGOs founded by religious orders. The leading and decision making positions within Fracarita International are still held by the Brothers of Charity themselves to ensure that the congregation and the NGO act along the same lines.

Governance structure in 2018:

General Assembly:

The General Assembly is Fracarita International's sovereign body. It meets at least once a year.

President: Bro. René Stockman (BEL)

Members: Bro. Jos Mathijssen (BEL), Bro. Jean Mbeshi (DRC), Bro. Victor Hugo Merine Conde (PER), Bro. Adrian Hartotanojo (IDN), Bro. Godfried Bekaert (BEL), Bro. Joel Ponsaran (PHL), Bro. Paulin Kindambu (DRC), Bro. Veron Raes (BEL)

Governing Board:

The Governing Board is the deliberative body responsible for controlling the management activities of the Executive Committee.

President: Bro. René Stockman (BEL)

Members: Bro. Adrian Hartotanojo (IDN), Bro. Jean Mbeshi (DRC), Bro. Victor Hugo Merine Conde (PER), Bro. Jos Mathijssen (BEL)

Executive Committee:

The Executive Committee is the executive body of Fracarita International and supervises the implementation of decisions taken by the General Assembly and Governing Board and represents the organization at international level.

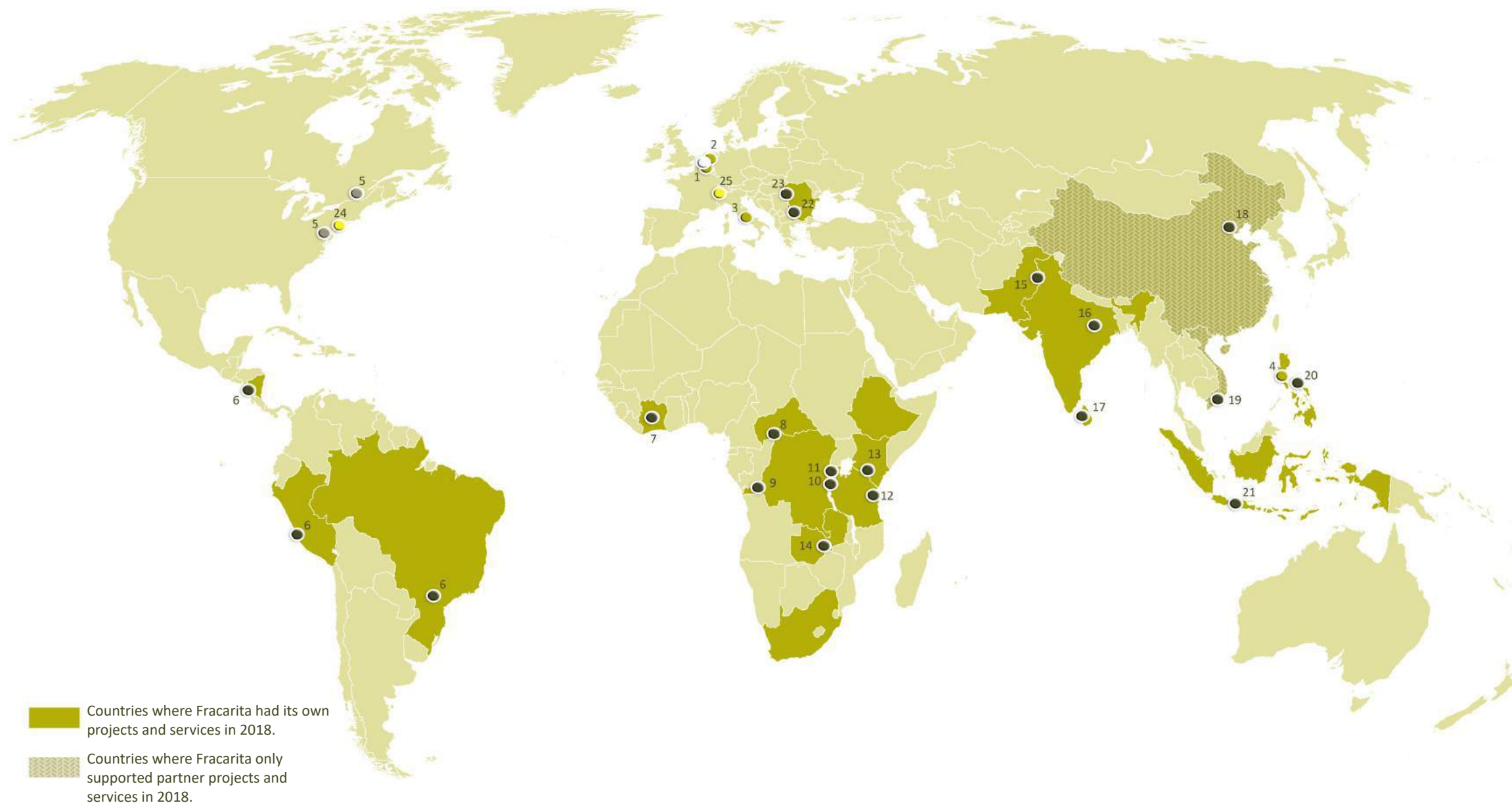
International Development Office:

This body coordinates and supports the different country offices of Fracarita.

◀ See our organization chart for an overview of our NGO's structure in 2018.

Where does Fracarita International work?

Fracarita supported thousands of people through 124 services in 20 countries in Latin America, Africa, Asia and Europe in 2018.



Head Office:

Central services, based in Bruges, Belgium.



Current

Regional Fundraising Offices

Provide material, financial and professional support to the country offices.

1. Fracarita Belgium, Ghent
2. Fracarita Netherlands, Eindhoven
3. Fracarita Italy, Rome
4. Fracarita Philippines, Manila



Planned

- Planned regional fundraising offices:
5. Fracarita Americas (USA + Canada)



Country Offices:

Monitor the project implementation locally and are responsible for local fundraising and income generating activities.

Latin America

6. Fracarita Latin America, Lima (PER)
(Peru + Nicaragua + Brazil)

Africa

7. Fracarita Ivory Coast, Yamoussoukro
8. Fracarita Central African Republic, Bangui
9. Fracarita DR Congo, Kinshasa
10. Fracarita Burundi, Bujumbura
11. Fracarita Rwanda, Kigali
12. Fracarita Tanzania, Dar es Salaam
13. Fracarita Ethiopia & Kenya, Nairobi (KEN)
14. Fracarita Southern Africa, Lusaka (ZMB)

Asia

15. Fracarita Pakistan, Lahore
16. Fracarita India, Ranchi
17. Fracarita Sri Lanka, Ja Ela
18. Fracarita China, Taiyuan City
19. Fracarita Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh
20. Fracarita Philippines, Tabaco
21. Fracarita Indonesia, Yogyakarta

Europe

22. Fracarita Bulgaria, Sofia
23. Fracarita Romania, Timișoara



International Advocacy

Representation on international bodies

24. ECOSOC, New York, USA
25. International Catholic Centre of Geneva, Switzerland

Three areas, one objective: human dignity

Fracarita International supports services in 20 countries in Latin America, Africa, Asia and Europe in three very specific areas: mental health care, education & formation and care for people with a disability. All 124 services work for different beneficiaries, in different socio-cultural settings and face different problems. But they do share one and the same objective: to restore the human dignity of the most vulnerable people. On the following pages you will find an overview with data for each country where Fracarita International supported services in 2018 in different ways: financially, by supporting their capacity building efforts, by representing them at international fora, by encouraging them to continue the great work of bringing about a change in the lives of so many wonderful people.

MENTAL HEALTH CARE

New figures show that nearly 100 million people worldwide suffer from mental or neurological disorders or addiction problems. However, the investments made in diagnosis and treatment, particularly in developing countries, are still far from commensurate with the problem. However, the consequences for the individuals themselves, their families and society should not be underestimated.

The lack of access to care, combined with the widespread stigma, means that people with mental illness, epilepsy or addiction are often neglected and live in inhumane conditions. Fracarita International supports initiatives for mental health care by focusing on training and breaking the taboo and stigma. The provision of medication and the development of infrastructure are also supported.

Fracarita International manages to restore the human dignity of thousands of men, women and children by providing mental health care in 37 psychiatric facilities in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe.



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EDUCATION

New figures on the number of children out of school worldwide reveal that despite decades of efforts to get every child into the classroom, progress has come to a standstill. According to data from the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), about 263 million children, adolescents and youth worldwide - one in every five - are out of school, a figure that has barely changed over the past five years. The rate of progress, or the lack of it, varies by age group. At primary level, the out-of-school rate has barely moved at all over the past decade, with 9% of children of primary age (about 6 to 11 years), or 63 million, out of school. Across sub-Saharan Africa one in every three children, adolescents and youth are out of school - with girls more likely to be excluded than boys. For every 100 boys of primary age out of school, there are 123 girls denied the right to education.

The new data also highlight a gulf between out-of-school rates in the world's poorest and richest countries, with an upper-secondary out-of-school rate of 59% across the world's low-income countries, compared to just 6% in high-income countries. The new figures reinforce calls for far greater global investment in education at all levels to ensure progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 4, including more resources for data gathering and analysis to monitor the pace and equity of that progress. (Source: <https://en.unesco.org/>)

By giving quality education to more than 14,000 vulnerable children and adolescents in 55 schools in Africa, Asia and Latin America, Fracarita International contributes to make education a dream-come-true for all.



▲ SD Karitas Elementary School in Purwokerto, Indonesia

CARE FOR PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

According to the World Health Organization, about 15 per cent of the world's population, or more than one billion people, live with some form of disability. The vast majority of these people (80%) live in developing countries. The linkage between poverty and disability seems very strong and goes in both directions. Those who live in poverty are more likely to acquire a disability through malnutrition, poor health care and dangerous living conditions. The World Bank estimates that 20 per cent of the world's poorest people have some kind of disability. Those who already have a disability are more likely to become impoverished because they can hardly participate in the economic and social life of their communities and are forced into a situation of dependency. In most developing countries, services and accommodations for people with disabilities are not available. The UN cited a figure of more than 350 million people with disabilities, living in areas where essential services needed to help them in overcoming their limitations are not available. As a result, people with a disability must depend on their families, but they are mostly too poor to give them the support they need.

Living with a disability in the South is often a daily struggle for survival. 80% of people with disabilities in developing countries live in poverty. Often, children with disabilities are locked up, excluded or rejected, and are seen as a burden. With the help of local partners, Fracarita International supports special or inclusive education and day care for children with mental, physical or sensory disabilities. Medical care or training for people with disabilities is also supported. In addition to specific care for the disabled, welfare projects for vulnerable groups, such as prisoners and street children, are also supported.

In 2018, Fracarita International assisted hundreds of children, youngsters and adults with disabilities to gain greater independence by providing rehabilitation programmes and special needs education in 24 facilities. With a focus on their abilities instead of disabilities, they could improve their quality of life.

AFRICA



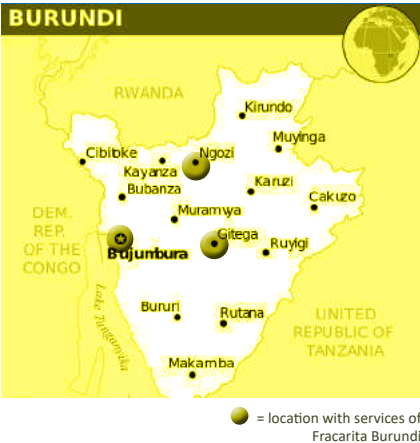
Brother of Charity talking to a patient at Centre de Soins Mentaux St. Camille, Gitega, Burundi
© Joost Van Heesvelde

Burundi

Providing mental health care in one of the world's poorest countries, plagued by ethnic conflicts in the past.

Since:	1979
Coordination	Bro. Hippolyte Manirakiza
Brothers:	6
Co-workers/volunteers	191

SERVICES IN BURUNDI:	PLACE
1. Centre de Soins Mentaux St. Camille	Gitega
2. Centre Neuro-Psychiatrique Kamenge	Bujumbura
3. Centre Neuropsychiatrique de Ngozi	Ngozi



REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 Third psychiatric centre officially opened in Burundi

On Wednesday, 13 June 2018, the completed psychiatric centre in Ngozi was officially opened in the presence of the vice president of the National Assembly of Burundi, who represented the president of the republic, the governor of Ngozi, representatives of various ministries, and the Superior General of the Brothers of Charity.

In 2014, the Brothers of Charity started with ambulatory care for people with mental illness from the northern provinces of Burundi. With the latest extensions, including a number of bedrooms, a refectory, kitchen, laundry, and a well-maintained courtyard, they can now start hospitalizing patients with mental health disorders. We would like to mention that the creation of this new centre was made possible thanks to a benefactor from Spain.

In addition to Bujumbura (Kamenge) and Gitega, Ngozi is now the third psychiatric centre of the Brothers of Charity in Burundi.



Central African Republic

Restoring the dignity of marginalized people and giving new perspectives in a destabilised nation, still facing a large scale humanitarian crisis.

Since:	2011
Coordination	Bro. Séraphin Tshijika Mbumba
Brothers:	5
Co-workers/volunteers	23

SERVICES IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC:	PLACE
OTHER	1. Social service at Bangui prison
	2. Centre Psychothérapeutique



REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 Psychosocial care and counselling for prisoners

Through an agreement on 16 September 2011 between the Congregation of the Brothers of Charity, the national government of CAR and the archdiocese of Bangui, a provision was built with modest means to offer psychosocial help, encouragement and support to the more than 700 prisoners, who lived in inhumane living conditions.

In the prison of Ngaragba, this daily presence of the Brothers has been extended with a small pharmacy (with periodic delivery of medication) and a small nursing post. Since 2015-2016, a specific form of psychotherapy (individual and in group), literacy and education has been used. Since 2017, these activities were also extended to the prison for women in Bimbo (Bangui) and the annex of Camp de Roux.

2 Community-based psychosocial care for children with PTSD in Bangui

In the same region of Bangui, where the lack of mental health care (as in the whole of CAR) is particularly distressing, the Brothers of Charity started in 2015 an outpatient psychiatric clinic with a focus on children and adolescents with post-traumatic stress syndrome (PTSD). This is the first phase in a broader plan for the organisational development and anchoring of professional mental health care in CAR.

In accordance with current scientific insights in terms of humane and expert psychiatric care, maximum use is made of the concept of a rehabilitating and integrated 'community-based approach'. A strongly developed outpatient work, an active involvement of the family context and an outreach approach to the local communities, especially with regard to the general image of the mentally ill, are important pillars in this respect.

There are intensive training courses for both employees and family members and psycho-education via various channels: in schools, in the local communities, through radio programmes, etc. These psycho-educations are strongly based on the 'strength-based' principle, in which a conscious and active appeal is made to the respectful reinforcement of the competencies that are already present, both on an individual level and within groups and communities.

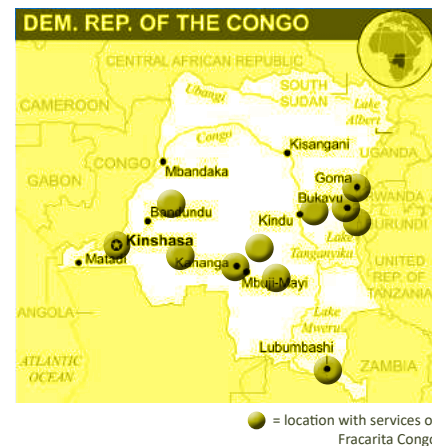


DR Congo

Mental health care, care for people with disabilities and education for a vulnerable but resilient population.

Since:	1911
Coordination	Bro. Ernest Ciza
Brothers:	96
Co-workers/volunteers	869

SERVICES IN DR CONGO:	PLACE
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tulizo Letu Goma 2. Jukayi, département Santé Mentale Kananga 3. Centre Neuro-psychiatrique Pierre Joseph Triest Lusanga Kikwit 4. Centre Neuro-psychiatrique Dr. Joseph Guislain Lubumbashi 5. Centre Psychiatrique Shabunda Shabunda 6. Centre Psychiatrique SOSAME Bukavu 7. Centre Psychiatrique Uvira Uvira 8. Simama, département Santé Mentale Kisangani 9. Nioki Centre Elikya, département Santé Mentale Nioki 10. Peter Joseph Triest Psychiatric Centre Kikwit
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Centre de Rééducation et Handicapé Physique Jukayi (CRHPJ) Kananga 12. Centre de Rééducation pour Handicapés Physiques (CRHP) Kinshasa 13. Elikya Nioki 14. CHP Shirika la Umoja Goma 15. Centre Simama Kisangani
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. Ecole de Vie Goma 17. Ecole pour assistants kinésithérapeute Goma 18. Ecole primaire Ditaba Lusambo 19. Ecole primaire Ditekemena Lusambo 20. Ecole primaire Kintu Kimune Kabinda 21. Ecole Soins Infirmiers Psychiatrique Goma 22. Institut Bumune Kabinda 23. Institut Dinanga Lusambo 24. Institut Professionel (IPRO) Kifulo Kabinda 25. Institut Technique Fundi Maendeleo Bukavu 26. Institut Technique Professionel (ITP) Lusambo 27. Ecole spéciale Monzoto Kisangani 28. Ecole spéciale Rafiki 1 Kisangani 29. Ecole professionnelle Rafiki 2 Kisangani



▲ Care of children with cerebral palsy at Centre pour Handicapés Physiques Shirika la Umoja, Goma, DR Congo
© Joost Van Heesvelde

TESTIMONY

Bro. Bernard Ntambwe, Director of the Centre Hospitalier Jukayi in Kananga



From the private donations received by Fracarita Belgium, funds were released in 2018 for the purchase of an X-ray device for the Centre Hospitalier Jukayi in Kananga, Congo.

“I am convinced that having a radiology device is just as important for orthopaedic care as having an EEG device for mental health care”. Br. Bernard Ntambwe, director of the centre, is speaking. “The whole team was therefore very pleased that on 13 February 2018 we were able to pick up seven parcels weighing about 770 kg in total at the local airport. With the help of two engineers, the RX unit was unpacked, installed and tested. A caretaker was trained to work with the device. At the beginning of March, everything was operational. On average, the device is used 10 times a week to make the correct diagnosis for patients who come to our orthopaedic service. A real step forward for our centre!”

“On average, the X-ray device is used 10 times a week to make the correct diagnosis of patients who come to our orthopaedic service. A real step forward for our centre!”

IMPACT

Further expansion of epilepsy care, thanks to Fracarita Belgium’s South Action

Ernest (picture) is waiting impatiently for his EEG scan. An EEG is an examination in which brain activity is measured electrically. Thanks to the South Action 2017, Fracarita Belgium was able to roll out its epilepsy care in Africa in 2018. In Kikwit, Congo, the psychiatric hospital of the Brothers of Charity was able to start using an EEG device. Ernest and his parents want to know if he suffers from epilepsy and needs medication. As you can see, Ernest finds this quite exciting!



KNOWLEDGE IS POWER



“Thanks to my training as a nurse coach, I can contribute to quality care in our Sosame psychiatric centre in Bukavu, every day. I contribute to better team consultations and cooperation between the nurses. This results in better information exchange and thus better care for the patients. I am happy to be a role model for this!”

Francisco Habamungu

Ethiopia

Pioneers in a country with widespread prejudice against people with mental disabilities.

Since:	2011
Coordination	Bro. Edouard Manda
Brothers:	6
Co-workers/volunteers	133

SERVICES IN ETHIOPIA:	PLACE
1. Gefersa Mental Health Rehabilitation Centre	Addis Ababa
2. Day Care Centre for Children with Intellectual Disability	Yirgachaffe



REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 Start up of a day care centre for children with intellectual disabilities

In January 2018, the first important step was taken in the development of a small-scale day centre for children with intellectual disabilities in Yirgachaffe, Ethiopia. In a resourceful way, the brothers started provisional day care for children with intellectual disabilities, who until now received no attention whatsoever.

Two rooms were set up in a converted container, a classroom and a therapy room. The parents of the children who were there for the ceremony spontaneously expressed their joy. From now on, their child, which was kept hidden in their home or, even worse, locked up, is able to get proper care and support. With this project, the Brothers of Charity really bring something new to this region where the care for children with intellectual disabilities is almost completely lacking. The Brothers of Charity's South Campaign in Belgium focused on finding support for the further development of this new project in 2018.



Ivory Coast

Introducing mental health care in a country where mental disorders are still believed to be the result of evil spirits.

Since:	2003
Coordination	Bro. Félicien Ngendahimana
Brothers:	4
Co-workers/volunteers	32

SERVICES IN IVORY COAST:	PLACE
1. Maison de Soins Psychiatriques Saint Vincent de Paul	Yamoussoukro



TESTIMONY

Stéphane, epilepsy patient in Ivory Coast



Stéphane Yao Konan, a 25-year-old Ivorian, lives with his grandmother in the countryside in the Yamoussoukro region. In 2013, he was diagnosed with epilepsy and was prescribed appropriate medication. The social assistant of the psychiatric hospital Saint Vincent de Paul observed during a home visit that Stéphane's epileptic seizures were not treated correctly because of a lack of money to buy the medication. In addition, he was neglected by his family and barely given any food. His mental and physical condition was worrying... The hospital decided to follow him up and pay for his treatment. Gradually Stéphane gained strength and thanks to the medication the attacks decreased.

"I am grateful to the hospital staff for taking good care of me. Thanks to the medication, I can take my life back into my own hands and rebuild a dignified life. I learned how to repair shoes and go hunting every now and then, so I can make a living for myself. I also get more respect from my family members. I sometimes take the proceeds of my hunt with me when I go for a consultation with the Brothers, that way I can show my gratitude."

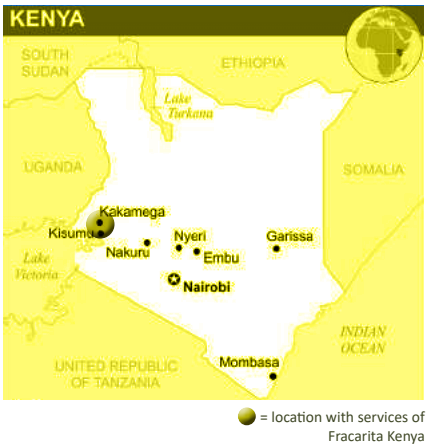
"I can live a decent life again thanks to the care I received in Yamoussoukrou."

Kenya

Pioneering a small-scale health care initiative in the East African country of Kenya.

Since:	2016
Coordination	Bro. Patrick Maloba
Brothers:	4
Co-workers/volunteers	14

SERVICES IN ETHIOPIA:	PLACE
1. St. Lazarus Buyangu Mission Health Centre	Kakamega



REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 St. Lazarus Buyangu Mission Health Centre: state of affairs

Preceded with the assiduous integration of the services that were being offered before in the facility, 2018 had its own reality to add on the achievements. St. Lazarus Buyangu Mission Health Centre got registered and recognized by the ministry of health in Kenya with the Centre number MFG 15839. It is now under the supervision of the Vihiga County Health Department. Monthly reports/records are sent to the department of health services at the county level and monthly inspections are done by the County Health Committee. The government started to supply treated mosquito nets, malaria medicine, and vaccinations for free to the centre, though this depends on its financial status within a given period. There has been renovation of the Servants' Quarters for our three Nurses, improvement in the Centre's laboratory with vital apparatus for its function. It is very positive that the number of clients has increased. This gives hope for the future planning of the Centre.



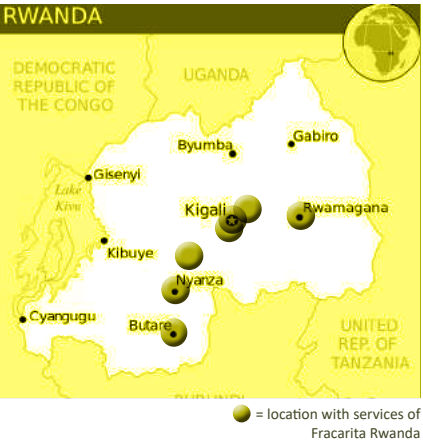
Girl at the Ecole Maternelle, Ndera, Rwanda
© Joost Van Heesvelde

Rwanda

Providing mental health care, education and care for persons with a disability in a country trying to come to terms with its past.

Since:	1929
Coordination	Bro. Kizito Misago
Brothers:	24
Co-workers/volunteers	632

SERVICES IN RWANDA:	PLACE
<div>  </div> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Centre Psychothérapeutique Icyizere Centre Psychiatrique Caraes Butare Hôpital Neuropsychiatrique Caraes Ndera 	<div>  </div> <p>Kicukiro Huye Gasabo</p>
<div>  </div> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Centre de Jour Humura Home de la Vierge des Pauvres (HVP) Gatagara/Gikondo HVP Gatagara/Nyanza RBC Ruhango 	<div>  </div> <p>Gasabo Kicukiro Nyanza Ruhango</p>
<div>  </div> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Groupe Scolaire HVP Gatagara HVP Gatagara TVET School School for the blind and visual impaired School for Mentally Challenged Children/Gikondo Groupe Scolaire Gatagara Ecole Maternelle la Charité Maman Andrea 	<div>  </div> <p>Nyanza Nyanza Rwamagana Kicukiro Huye Gasabo</p>



▲ Centre de Jour Humura, Gasabo
© Joost Van Heesvelde

REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 Golden Jubilee for Caraes Ndera

Fifty years ago, the Caraes Ndera psychiatric centre was founded by the Congregation of the Brothers of Charity. This was celebrated on 15 June 2018. All speakers stressed the importance Caraes Ndera played in the development of mental health care in Rwanda.

In 1968, a unique structure of collaboration was set up to realize a plan and to develop solid mental health care for psychiatric patients in Rwanda. The Rwandan government, the Belgian government, the Brothers of Charity, and the Catholic Church of Rwanda set up a consortium, called 'Caraes', which means 'loving care of the sick', with legal foundations in both Rwanda and Belgium. It was the first time in history that the congregation entered into this kind of collaboration. Every one of the four partners took their responsibility, which resulted in the construction of the first psychiatric hospital in Rwanda, on the hill of Ndera. The first stone was laid on 4 July 1968.



▲ Hôpital Neuropsychiatrique Caraes Ndera, Gasabo
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TESTIMONY

Neillah (6) follows intensive physiotherapy in Centre Humura



This is Neillah Ashimwe. This summer she will be six years old. A tough girl, who had a hard time at birth and is physically as well as mentally quite behind. The toddler could sit upright only very late and she couldn't walk. She was living with her family in the hills around Kigali.

Almost 2 years ago she was taken to the Humura Centre and started intensive physiotherapy. With success, because now Neillah walks without aids. She even dares to dance! In the meantime, she has also been enrolled in the daycare centre for special education, so that her cognitive development is further stimulated.

A world of difference for this little girl!



South Africa

Mental health care, care for people with a disability and education with a special focus on the most vulnerable people.

Since:	1929
Coordination	Mr Benjamin Kazule (since 2018)
Brothers:	12
Co-workers/volunteers	182

SERVICES IN SOUTH AFRICA:	PLACE
 1. Thandanani Centre	Johannesburg
 2. Triest Training Centre	Klerksdorp
 3. Pax Hostel	Polokwane
4. Pax Institute	Polokwane
5. Pax Skills Development Centre	Polokwane
6. Paxajana	Polokwane
7. Paxana	Polokwane
8. Saint Conrad's Primary School	Klerksdorp
9. St. Conrad's High School	Klerksdorp
10. St. Conrad's Little Saints	Klerksdorp

REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 Thandanani Centre joins fifth Global Mental Health Summit in Johannesburg

The Movement for Global Mental Health (MGMH) and the South African Federation for Mental Health (SAFMH) as the Secretariat of the MGMH, hosted the 5th Global Mental Health Summit at the University of Witwatersrand, School of Public Health, in Parktown, Johannesburg on 8 and 9 February 2018.

The 5th Global Mental Health Summit was themed “Leaving no one behind” as per the aspirations of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Summit incorporated a strong focus on the inclusion, empowerment and human rights of persons with psychosocial and intellectual disabilities, globally.

The Summit concluded with the official launch of the Global Mental Health Peer Network (GMHPN), a mental health care user organisation that will facilitate the establishment of a global network of persons with psychosocial and intellectual disabilities and the advocacy groups representing them.

Thandanani Centre, a service of the Brothers of Charity in South Africa, presented a play on the theme ‘Equality + Equity = Dignity’ at the summit to highlight the disparity between people living with a physical disability versus people living with a psycho-social disorder. The play also highlighted life in the centre, in the workplace and in social life.



▲ Pax Hostel, Polokwane



▲ Pax Skills Development Centre, Polokwane



▲ Paxana, Polokwane

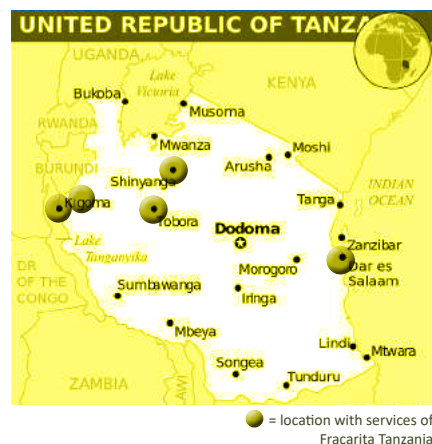


Tanzania

Dynamic projects in one of the poorest regions of the country, home to generations of refugees from neighbouring states.

Since:	1994
Coordination	Bro. Gilbert K. Kilassa
Brothers:	100
Co-workers/volunteers	158

SERVICES IN TANZANIA:	PLACE
1. Saint Cornelius Mental Health Centre	Kigoma
2. Saint Dymphna Psychiatric Centre	Kasulu
3. Rumonge Deaf Cooperative	Kigoma
4. School for the Deaf and Centre for Audiology and Speech	Tabora
5. Sheltered Home Bangwe	Kigoma
6. Mount Tabor	Tabora
7. Care for People with Albinism	Shinyanga
8. Maendeleo Youth Centre	Kigoma
9. Ahadi	Kigoma
10. Educational Resource Centre	Kigoma
11. Kigoma Training College (KTC)	Kigoma
OTHER	
12. Father Triest Dispensary	Dar Es Salaam
13. Aqua Lodge Hotel (Income Generating Activity)	Kigoma
14. Mwanga Hostel	Kigoma



▲ Care for People with Albinism, Shinyanga



REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 Belgian youngsters visit projects in Tanzania during tenth immersion trip

In the summer of 2018, Fracarita Belgium organized a successful tenth immersion trip to Maendeleo, the youth centre for street children in Kigoma, Tanzania. The concept is a 14-day trip for Belgian youngsters, where they get to know their peers in the South. It concerns 10 pupils and 2 supervisors from the third year of secondary education.

It was a very moving and inspiring journey for the participating youngsters. Once back, the former immersion travelers organized a lot of activities to raise funds for the Maendeleo Youth Centre and the other projects of the Brothers of Charity in the region.

Testimony evenings were set up, there were many actions in the Belgian schools, there was the successful Warafiki-Walk, etc. A total of no less than 37.780 euros was collected by the young people! Africa will always remain in the hearts of the participating youngsters!

TESTIMONY

Moses was able to build a professional career thanks to the Maendeleo Youth Centre

“As a child, I came from a broken family. I actually lived more on the street than at home. One day, in my city, I walked into the Maendeleo Youth Centre for street children. Without many expectations. Just because I was hungry and also needed some hope... In Maendeleo I found a real home. I grew up there and took part in the activities. As a teenager, I took on my own tasks and responsibilities within the youth centre. That gave my confidence a boost. Until then, I had really believed what I had always heard: that I was worthless. Which wasn’t!”

“The Maendeleo scholarship fund allowed me to study. I graduated and started teaching. The first salary I earned was something I was incredibly proud of. Through my own efforts, I could now start a family, which I did. Doing good for others was something I learned in Maendeleo. My social commitment did not go unnoticed and after a while I ended up in politics. First, I was elected as a representative of the people and in 2018, I was appointed district commissioner. Not bad for a former street kid, isn’t it?”

“However, I never forget where I come from and I am very grateful for the opportunities I received in Maendeleo.”

“Taking the oath as district commissioner. Not bad for a former street kid, isn’t it?”

Moses M.



IMPACT

Bahadi has an intellectual disability and receives adequate care at Sheltered Home Bangwe

Bahadi is seventeen years old and has been receiving daycare in Sheltered Home Bangwe every day since he was nine years old. Bahadi’s birth was difficult. Three days after he was born, it was clear that Bahadi had suffered brain damage due to lack of oxygen. Luckily Bahadi comes from a warm family: his parents and two older sisters have always accepted him and looked after him as well as possible.

As he grew older and more active, it became more difficult to find someone who could look after him for a whole day. His father works as a bricklayer and his mother is an educator in an orphanage. They can’t take care of him during the day. The social services of the city referred them to Bangwe. He is learning some basic skills now and can explore the big terrain all day long, because sitting quietly is not his cup of tea!



“We are very hopeful because Bahadi is learning a lot of life skills that he will need in future. We are very grateful to Sheltered Home Bangwe for the support they give us to take care of our son!”

Bahadi’s parents

ASIA



Children at the TK Karitas Kindergarten School in
Purwokerto, Indonesia

India

Small-scale initiatives in mental health care and education for vulnerable people in India.

Since:	1992
Coordination	Dr. John Tharakan
Brothers:	35
Co-workers/volunteers	32

SERVICES IN INDIA:	PLACE
1. Jeeva Vihar Psycho-Social Rehabilitation Centre	Calicut
2. Param Mitra Sadan	Ranchi
3. Saint Giuseppe Moscati Psycho-Social Rehabilitation Centre	Sivagangai
4. Saint Peter's School	Ranchi



▼ Jeeva Vihar Psycho-Social Rehabilitation Centre, Calicut



REMARKABLE IN 2018:

① Vulnerable tribal youngsters get introduced to science classes

At the Saint Peter's School in Simalia, biology, chemistry and physics are no longer merely theoretical subjects. Thanks to the purchase of laboratory equipment, three chambers could be converted into classrooms. Fracarita Belgium volunteer André Ornelis raised the necessary funds for this.

Young people who belong to the ethnic minorities (= tribals) and who used to do child labour in the local quarries, now have every opportunity to get to know the wonders of science. Thanks to the tests, they are able to master their subjects even better and are optimally prepared for the final exams of secondary education.

The ultimate goal for the students in Simalia is a diploma in secondary education. This will enable them to find a fair paid job later, which will help them and their families out of the vicious circle of poverty. This is not evident in the Indian caste society, but thanks to the enthusiasm of both pupils and teachers, the impossible becomes reality in this school of the Brothers of Charity.



▼▲ Saint Peter's School, Simalia, Ranchi, India



IMPACT

Selvam (49) lived confused on the street and is now receiving an adapted treatment

Selvam is a 49 year old man who was found on the streets in 2018 by the Indian brother Swamynathan Wilfred. Bro. Wilfred took him to the Saint Giuseppe Moscati Psycho-Social Rehabilitation Centre and tells us the story of Selvam.

"Selvam actually comes from a wealthy family, but due to family circumstances, he lost all his possessions. Like his brother, he has a mental illness. Both were first taken to the state hospital, but his family abandoned Selvam after a while because they couldn't cope with his behavior. He was transferred to our center of the Brothers of Charity in Sivagangai, where he received the necessary care."

"Selvam had to be convinced to stay with us for a while. He preferred to live on the streets. Now, he gets the necessary structure and can participate in the daytime activities."



Indonesia

Providing mental health care and ensuring quality education on the islands of Java and Flores.

Since:	1929
Coordination	Bro. Polikarpus Manao
Brothers:	36
Co-workers/volunteers	319

SERVICES IN INDONESIA:	PLACE
 <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Kunci2. Renceng Mose3. Sahabat Kita	Yogyakarta Ruteng Purworejo
 <ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Don Bosco Institute of the Deaf5. SLB-C Karya Bhakti centre (School for students with a learning disability)	Wonosobo Purworejo
 <ol style="list-style-type: none">6. Junior Boarding School7. Senior Boarding School8. SMP Bruderan Yunior School9. SMA Bruderan Senior School10. TK Karitas Kindergarten School11. SD Karitas Elementary School12. SD Bruderan Elementary School13. SMP Bruderan Junior School14. SMA Bruderan Senior School15. TK Karitas Kindergarten School16. SD Karitas Elementary School17. SMP Karitas Junior School	Purworejo Purworejo Purworejo Purworejo Purwokerto Purwokerto Purwokerto Purwokerto Purwokerto Yogyakarta Yogyakarta Yogyakarta



▼ Don Bosco Institute of the Deaf, Wonosobo



▼ SMP Karitas Junior School, Yogyakarta



TESTIMONY

Hermien (Fracarita Netherlands) visits the apostolic works in Indonesia

“On 25 April 2018, Bro. Wout Lips and I were off to Indonesia to visit the apostolic works of the Brothers of Charity; Bro. Wout as board member of Fracarita Netherlands and I as fundraiser. With the 2014/2015 annual campaign, Fracarita Netherlands focused on renovating the roof of the Deaf Institute in Wonosobo, Java. In 2016/2017, there was an annual campaign for the Psychiatric Centre in Ruteng, Flores. An important goal of the work visit was therefore to see the result of both campaigns with our own eyes and to meet the brothers, students, and patients in person.”

“In addition to that goal, there was also a broader objective: getting to know all of the apostolic works in Indonesia... and there are a lot of them. In two weeks time, we travelled from project to project, across two islands, Java and Flores, in the company of Bro. Martin de Porres (Fracarita International) and Bro. Polikarpus Manao. These were busy, yet very valuable weeks. Nursery schools, primary schools, secondary schools, schools for special education, an institute for the deaf, two rehabilitation centres for psychiatric patients, and a shelter for youngsters struggling with addictions... Each and every one of them is very impressive.”



“We appreciated the considerable amount of good work that the brothers and staff members in Indonesia are doing, with such incredible dedication and love. They are there for the poor, deaf, and disabled children where a good education is available for them... For psychiatric patients who were previously hidden in cages behind the house... For young people who want to get their lives back on track after addiction. The Brothers of Charity really make a difference for all these people in Indonesia. We have now seen with our own eyes that fundraising for all these projects is extremely useful; that the money that has gone from the Netherlands to Indonesia in recent years has been very well spent. Fracarita Netherlands, extra inspired and motivated, will continue to show its commitment!”

Selamat Tinggal, Indonesia. Goodbye, Indonesia.

“We have now seen with our own eyes that fundraising for all these projects is extremely useful; that the money that has gone from the Netherlands to Indonesia in recent years has been very well spent.”

Hermien Smits-Staals, fundraiser at Fracarita Netherlands

▼ Hiermien Smits-Staals (left) in Psychiatric Centre Renceng Mose, Ruteng



Pakistan

Mental health care and education for all, in an environment of religious tensions and social injustice.

Since:	1990
Coordination	Mr. Ashraf Rahmat
Brothers:	7
Co-workers/volunteers	47

SERVICES IN PAKISTAN:	PLACE
1. Holy Rosary Hostel	Gujrat
2. Canon Triest Middle School for Boys Primary Section	Lahore
3. Canon Triest Middle School for Girls Primary Section + Middle Section	Lahore
4. Canon Triest Middle School for Boys Middle Section	Lahore
5. Canon Triest Primary School	Eisa Nagar

REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 New furniture for Canon Triest Middle School for Boys Middle Section

In 2018, 213 boys were registered at the Canon Triest Boys School in Lahore, Pakistan. All these young people come from poor families in the neighbourhood of the school. In order to prevent these boys from leaving school due to a lack of financial means, the school only charges a very small contribution. As a result, it is, of course, very dependent on external financing for investments. Thanks to a generous donor, new classroom furniture could be purchased.

2 'Canon Triest Schools' as umbrella name for schools in Lahore

The former Umeed-E-Nau Middle School and Friends Public High School in Lahore were added to the Canon Triest School. Currently, these three schools are run by the Brothers of Charity under the umbrella name of 'Canon Triest Schools'.

3 Universal Children's Day

Fracarita Pakistan celebrated Universal Children's Day on 20 November 2018 by organizing activities (events, games, festivities) in the Canon Triest Schools in Lahore.

United Nations Universal Children's Day was established in 1954 and is celebrated on November 20th each year to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children's welfare. The theme of UCD 2018 was "Children are taking over and turning the world blue". The United Nations asked individuals, schools and corporates worldwide to go blue to help build a world where every child is in school, safe from harm and can fulfil their potential.



Philippines

Reducing the stigma associated with mental illness and disability by offering sensitization and professional care.

Since:	1981
Coordination	Bro. Edcel Lacierda
Brothers:	9
Co-workers/volunteers	29

SERVICES IN THE PHILIPPINES:	PLACE
1. Holy Face Rehabilitation Centre for Mental Health	Tabaco
2. Saint Dymphna Mental Health Rehabilitation Centre	Gingoog
3. Orthopedagogical Institute	Manila



REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 Psycho-social assistance after volcano eruption

In February 2018, the Mayon volcano erupted in the Philippines. Thanks to funds from several partners, we were able to help our Filipino partner Holy Face Rehabilitation Centre for Mental Health to provide relief supplies for the 100,000 people who were evacuated. Special teams from Holy Face concentrated on providing the necessary psycho-social assistance in the evacuation centres.



IMPACT

Chained young man with mental health issues now receives adapted care in Saint Dymphna

Every Wednesday and Friday, nurses and brothers of the Saint Dymphna Mental Health Rehabilitation Centre in Gingoog pay a home visit to patients who no longer come to the centre. They look at the reason for their absence and help the patient and his family further.




A nurse of Saint Dymphna testifies: *"We found one of our former residents chained under a bridge, sleeping in open air. His father, who was with him, had tied him up so that his son wouldn't walk on the public road and wouldn't die in a car accident. He was crying. We often experience these heartbreaking situations. We have brought his son back to our centre, where he now receives the necessary adapted care. The father gets guidance on how to deal with his son's behaviour."*



Sri Lanka

Reducing the widespread stigma associated with mental illness and mental disability by offering professional care.

Since:	1988
Coordination	Lucian Ranasinghe
Brothers:	15
Co-workers/volunteers	70

SERVICES IN SRI LANKA:	PLACE
 1. Saint Benedict Menni Mental Health Rehabilitation Centre	Kalmunai
 2. Nisansala Special Training Centre	Ja-Ela
3. Nisansala Special Training Centre	Negombo
4. Saint Joseph Special Education Centre	Batticaloa
5. 'Theeraniyam' Centre for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder	Batticaloa
 6. St. Mary's Boys Home Kalmunai	Kalmunai
7. St. Joseph's Technical Institute	Trincomalee
8. Pre-school	Kalmunai

REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 Medical team visits children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Batticaloa

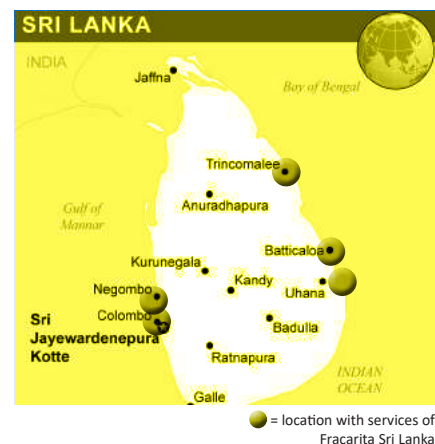
On 31 January 2018, a medical team of 5 doctors, 2 therapists, 4 helpers and the Child Probation Officer came to Theeraniyam Centre in Batticaloa, to do a medical check-up on the children. This is the first time a team of specialized doctors visit the centre since its foundation in 2017.

Theeraniyam is located on Sri Lanka's East coast and provides education and therapy to children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). In the past, these specially talented children remained at home, attended common schools without guidance or were sent to centres for children with a mental disability, but did not receive any adapted care.

In Theeraniyam, specialized teaching methods are being used and specific support is given to allow these children to develop themselves and learn how to cope with their disorder.

Adolescents with mild ASD can continue to go to common schools under supervision of Theeraniyam. The more severe cases can follow a vocational training at the Brothers of Charity's St. Joseph's Special Education Centre in the same city when they reach the age of 15. On Saturdays, parents are invited for counselling and group activities.

This project received support from the US based International Medical Health Organization and has its classrooms on the property of the Brothers of Charity.



▼ 'Theeraniyam' Centre for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Batticaloa





▼ St. Joseph's Special Education Centre, Batticaloa



Vietnam

Pioneer work of mental health care, care for persons with a disability and education for children with autism in southern Vietnam.

Since:	2003
Coordination	Bro. Dominic Maria Tam
Brothers:	12
Co-workers/volunteers	3

SERVICES IN VIETNAM:	PLACE
 1. Psychiatric Rehabilitation Centre of Hope	Bảo Lộc
 2. Day Care Centre for Children with Autism	Hồ Chí Minh



REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 First residents at Psychiatric Rehabilitation Centre of Hope

Good news for the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Centre of Hope in Bảo Lộc! On July 18 2018, it was granted permission by the government to officially open its doors. After the approval, the brothers started repairing the main building of the centre. Thanks to the help of many people from the parish, the works could be completed in October 2018. A few days later, the first psychiatric patients were welcomed by the Vietnamese brothers. They now receive the necessary guidance, medication and care in the centre. It is the first step in the long journey to help and restore human dignity to the residents of this centre!

2 Guidance for children with autism in Hồ Chí Minh

The Day Care Centre for Children with Autism, which is located in Hồ Chí Minh, is run by two brothers and some volunteers. During three active years, the centre has already supported dozens of children with autism through a comprehensive programme. One-to-one tutoring is provided, the children do different exercises, they learn a sport and they get to know and develop their talents. They follow these lessons very intensively, sometimes in the presence of their parents. The centre receives a lot of credit for their way of working!



EUROPE



Bulgaria

Addiction care in one of Europe's top 10 poorest countries, where more than 240,000 persons have an addiction.

Since:	2017
Coordination	Roel Geboers
Brothers:	/
Co-workers/volunteers	15

SERVICES IN BULGARIA:	PLACE
1. Solidarnost	Sofia



REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 The functioning of Fracarita Bulgaria (Solidarnost) in 2018: some figures

The Solidarnost Info-Line is the only one in Bulgaria that exists to answer questions about drug, alcohol and gambling addiction.

In 2018, 1072 contacts were made with the Solidarnost Info-Line. This is an increase of 18.32% compared to 2017. Contact was made by telephone (529), chat (496) and e-mail (47).

In 2018, 66 people with addiction problems were consulted by the treatment team of the therapeutic day centre of Solidarnost. The intention was to motivate these people to seek treatment, either in the day-care centre or elsewhere. Also 25 family members were seen, with the intention of supporting them and telling them how they could best convince their addicted family member to get help. Twenty people with addiction problems were treated in the therapeutic day care centre itself. Family members were also involved in this treatment.

Finally, 120 people with a drug or alcohol addiction visited the Posoka House, an accessible shelter located in a district where many addicts are present. The Posoka House is open three times a week, from 10 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. More is currently not possible due to the lack of financial resources.

2 Jubilee year for Solidarnost

2018 was a celebration year for Solidarnost! The therapeutic day centre celebrated its 15th anniversary and the Info-Line celebrated its 10th anniversary.

Solidarnost plays an important social role in Sofia, even in the entire country. This almost entirely with private sponsoring. The financial contribution of the Bulgarian government is very limited and is a major problem.



▼ Posokahouse in Sofia



Romania

Small-scale initiatives for abandoned, underprivileged children and residential care for ill elderly people.

Since:	1994
Coordination	Roel Geboers
Brothers:	/
Co-workers/volunteers	40

SERVICES IN ROMANIA:	PLACE
OTHER	1. Effata Educational Centre (Guidance Centre for Underprivileged Children) Timișoara
	2. Home for Abandoned Children Butea
	3. Residential Care Centre for Ill Elderly People Butea



REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 The Effata Educational Centre in Timișoara: state of affairs

For many years, this project, which focuses on after-school supervision of vulnerable children from the neighbourhood, has been financially supported by the Belgian volunteer group 'Mariakerke Helps Romania' (Ghent). Annually, this amounts to 24,000 euros. In addition, there is also the financial contribution of United Way Romania, an organisation that sponsors social projects in the region of these companies with funds from companies in Romania.

In 2018, limited financial support was also provided by another Flemish volunteer group, the Romania Group Tessenderlo. For the first time in the past year, Effata was subsidised by the Timișoara city council. Private sponsoring also remained necessary for the centre.

The Effata support team would like to start an initiative to teach the children a number of social skills during the school holidays. An application for a subsidy from the province of East Flanders (Belgium) is in preparation.

2 Support for the projects of the Missionare Dello Passione Sisters in Butea

During the last week of April 2018, four volunteers from the Romania group Hasselt (Group Humanitarian Aid Hasselt) travelled to Butea with a load of relief supplies. The goods were destined for both the children's home and the residential care centre of the sisters. During the stay, the volunteers and coordinator Roel had several conversations with sister Elisabetta Barolo, the person responsible for the projects in Butea, about support in the near future.

In the autumn of 2018, the children's home in Butea was evacuated for repair and renovation works. The children of the home were placed in facilities of other organizations. The future of the children's home is currently uncertain. The sisters plan to use the home after the renovation works for temporary care of mothers with children who are victims of violence in the family.



LATIN AMERICA

Brazil

Giving a warm home to vulnerable children in a country with one of the highest degrees of income inequality in the world.

Since:	1998
Coordination	Bro. Eric Verdegem
Brothers:	2
Co-workers/volunteers	8

SERVICE IN BRAZIL:	PLACE
 1. Aldeia Infantil Estrela da Manhã	São Sebastião de Amoreira

REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 After-school care in a separate classroom for the children in Amoreira

Building a classroom for homework guidance: a dream that the Estrela da Manhã in Amoreira, Brazil, has long cherished. The country has a ‘half-day school system’. This means that children and youngsters spend the other half of the day on the streets. Their parents work full-time. Unfortunately, this means that the Brazilian youth who has nothing to do for half a day, easily ends up in street gangs, drug trafficking, prostitution, serious crimes, etc...

But not in the town of Amoreira! There, the Belgian brother-missionary Eric Verdegem (photo) has a youth centre that takes care of the local youth in the morning or afternoon (depending of their school system). We would call it after-school care. In addition to typical activities as we know them for playgrounds, there is also tutoring and homework support for the children and youngsters. Until recently, these activities took place in the main hall between the other children. Thanks to the support of many donors, a separate classroom at the youth centre could be built and solemnly opened in 2018.

Children who were abandoned by their own families or who need to be placed in an institution upon request of the juvenile judge, are provided with new opportunities to grow into responsible adults within a family setting in the children’s village. Young people and adolescents are encouraged to follow a special training programme (career counseling) that endeavours to help them to find them a suitable job. The goal is to accommodate young people from a risk environment and to create the necessary conditions to help them develop in all areas so that they can make headway in society.




Given the small scale, the project is not recognized as a fully-fledged NGO, which means it does not receive any subsidies. Local authorities provide minimal material support. It therefore mainly relies on the financial contributions of friends and associations from abroad for its operation. Despite the limited resources, but thanks to the support of many, it is able to achieve its goals.



Peru

Providing care to children and adults with a mental illness or disability in a region recovering from years of fear and terror.

Since:	1962
Coordination	Bro. Jimi A. Huayta Rivera
Brothers:	2
Co-workers/volunteers	77

SERVICES IN PERU:	PLACE
 1. Centro Especializado de Salud Mental de Ayacucho (COSMA)	Ayacucho
 2. Centro de Rehabilitación en Adicciones ‘Escuela de Vida’	Lima
 3. Centro de Educación Básica Especial ‘Pedro José Triest’ (CEPETRI)	Lima

REMARKABLE IN 2018:

1 Extended alliance with the User Guidance Service for EdV

For “Escuela de Vida”, 2018 was the year in which the recognition of its work in the treatment of addictions in Lima was extended with the signing of an alliance with the “SOA - Servicio de Orientación al Usuario” - (User Guidance Service). This is a service of the Ministry of Justice of Peru, which deals with adolescent transgressors of the law, whose task is to provide guidance and advice for the fulfillment of their social and educational programs. “Escuela de Vida” is an important partner in providing the appropriate treatment for the different cases, the institution is part of the rehabilitation of those adolescents. It provides them with residential and outpatient services and counseling, as well as voluntary activities for the community as a restorative action.

In 2018, ten adolescents have been treated under the Residential Modality of Treatment and more than fifty in outpatient and counseling. “Escuela de Vida” maintains active communication with them and monitors the fulfillment of their socio-educational goals.



TESTIMONY

Alejandro (19) had fallen on the wrong track but found his values back in Escuela de Vida

“At the age of 13 I left my home; I lived on the street, met bad friends and began to steal. One day I was arrested by the police and the judge gave me a sentence of one year of preventive imprisonment. I also had to join the workshops given by SOA. Since I arrived at Escuela de Vida, I discovered the value of life and the importance of fulfilling my treatment with the professionals who were part of my process. Now that I have finished my treatment I believe that the most important thing I learned, was to love and value myself. I have recovered the values I had lost in the streets and the most important thing: I have recuperated my family, I have many plans to study and move forward totally renewed. Thank you Escuela de Vida, for being my Family!”

Nicaragua

Bringing hope to children and youth affected by exploitation, in a country where tensions are still running high.

Since:	2009
Coordination	Bro. Jimi A. Huayta Rivera
Brothers:	1
Co-workers/volunteers	19

SERVICES IN NICARAGUA:	PLACE
1. Programa de Intervención Psicosocial 'Jesús Amigo'	Granada
2. Programa de Reintegración Socio-Familiar 'Casa Amanecer'	Granada



▼ Programa de Reintegración Socio-Familiar 'Casa Amanecer', Granada



IMPACT

The need of psycho-social support has drastically grown since the crisis started in 2018

In 2018, Nicaragua plunged into a deep socio-political crisis. In April, protest against pension reform plans in the Central American country led to a widespread anti-government movement. The nation almost slid into a civil war, when paramilitary commandoes violently tried to put down the protests. Hundreds of people lost their lives and thousands were exiled or detained. The economy collapsed, hundred thousands of jobs got lost. The 47% of the population that was already living below the poverty line, was hit hardest. But Fracarita Latin America brought hope in the dark...

In the city of Granada, the Brothers of Charity run two projects for street children and children who are at risk of ending up in the streets. Granada was severely hit by the crisis as it largely depends on its tourist industry, which totally collapsed as foreign tourists stopped travelling to Nicaragua.

"In our centre "Casa Amanecer" we support children and their broken families by giving them homework support, free meals, medical aid and counselling for both children and their parents to reintegrate them."

Diana (23 years old), works as a qualified psychologist in one of the two centres. She is convinced that the need of psycho-social support has drastically grown since the crisis started: ***"If people lose their job and are no longer able to take care of their family, are no longer able to buy food and medication for their children, are no longer able to send them to school, people become desperately frustrated. They feel they have failed as a parent. People try to find a way out and start drinking or taking drugs. This exacerbates the problem, and violence often enters families that were peaceful before. Domestic violence causes children to flee their home and search for a better life on the streets."***

"In our centre 'Casa Amanecer' or 'House of Sunrise' we support children and their broken families by giving them homework support, free meals, medical aid and counselling for both children and their parents to reintegrate them. Step by step, our team tries to stop their slide into ever deeper misery and reverse their situation for the better, making them regain their self-confidence as a parent and giving them guidelines on how to cope with the problems they are facing. We're all affected by this crisis in our daily lives, but here in Casa Amanecer, we consider it as our mission to help those who are most affected and don't see any way out. We give them new perspectives."





Policy on Income Generating Activities (IGAs)

1. Strengthening financial self-sufficiency: a phased action plan

In line with the 2012 edition, the principle of **strengthening the financial self-sufficiency** of the regions was formulated and refined by the General Chapter of 2018, the highest policy-making body in the congregation (which is convened every 6 years in Rome). In the formally proclaimed policy statement, the concepts of **responsability, accountability, transparency, budgeting and auditing principles** were seen as vital elements that deserve special attention, concretisation and follow-up in the coming years.

The proclamation also stressed that our congregational apostolic work requires also new financial resources. Fracarita International was therefore encouraged **to develop and to coach the implementation of a policy of Income Generating Activities (IGAs)** as the most appropriate methodology to achieve this goal.

In a rapidly evolving and globalising world, where a number of international trends are emerging that should be taken into account, also in the field of fundraising for apostolic-Christian initiatives, a well-considered integration of (more) appropriate **management concepts** through **social entrepreneurship** and **win-win partnerships with profit-oriented companies** is becoming increasingly important.



▲ Aqua Lodge Hotel in Kigoma (Tanzania) as an Income Generating Activity (IGA), October 2018.



For this reason, and in addition to its already ongoing assignment to provide regular support and management advice in setting up and managing local income-generating initiatives, Fracarita International started in 2018 with the **application of a phased policy action plan** that explicitly assumes a **process-oriented approach**. This starts with the core values of our **Mission**, the **P-D-C-A quality-circle of Deming** and the insights of the **Sinek's golden circle** about motivational leadership.

2. Framework: the “Code of Ethics & Conduct”

Driven by the challenge of **linking** a number of purely business related management topics and the principle of good governance to the basic core values of our Mission as congregation, an important and framework-creating step in this methodological development was the writing and promulgation of a **“Code of Ethics & Conduct”** that is applicable to all income generating activities and to all the members of the Congregation and lay staff members who are involved in these IGAs.

This Code of Ethics and Conduct contains **ten propositions** in which terms such as social responsibility, empowerment, law-compliance, transparency, respect for human rights, sustainability, and a strong rejection of any form of illegality or corruption are translated into **clearly verifiable rules of conduct**.

After its formal announcement, this is now used as a **mandatory ethical framework**, both for developing local IGAs as for setting up larger win-win partnerships with external profit-oriented partners.

Income generating activities Congregation of the Brothers of Charity CODE OF ETHICS & CONDUCT

Fracarita International, as the non-for-profit organisation of the Congregation of the Brothers of Charity, executes its mission to support the apostolic services of the Congregation through coaching, exchange of knowledge and expertise, internal capacity-building, international fundraising and influencing policymakers. In particular in Africa, Latin America and Asia with an explicit focus on the most vulnerable people through concrete works of charity in the fields of mental

3. Process-oriented and outcome-focused approach: the first steps

In line with Fracarita International's Mission, in 2018, the development of this specific policy area was emphasised on **three key strategies** (simultaneously operationalised):

1. ‘Mental switch’

In particular, the internal “mental switch” to sharpen the **“sense of urgency”** and to actively promote shared **co-ownership**, throughout all operational levels of the organisation, counts as a basis for strengthening the motivation for the development and expansion of these IGAs, while becoming aware of the existing (or to be trained) competencies.

2. Internal competence development

As a second strategy, a number of **targeted training courses** were followed by the staff of Fracarita International about (e.g.):

- international entrepreneurship
- the relationship between development aid and IGAs
- integration with the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN
- financing and funding methods
- microcredits and the setting up of international cooperatives
- managerial methodologies for IGAs in developing countries

The outcomes or insights gained were **translated** each time towards - and connected with - the specific realities and challenges in the various regions. They were shared as much as possible with those responsible for the operational management of local and regional IGAs, or integrated into concrete supportive actions and instruments developed.

3. Network and platform development

In 2018, Fracarita International invested strongly in the **development and expansion of a network of (international) entrepreneurs**, through well-prepared personal conversations, examining their willingness **to develop local win-win partnerships** with the congregation. This always with the same basic objective and respecting the “Code of Ethics & Conduct”, as well as about the **legal structures** within which these partnerships could take shape. These conversations also functioned as a form of internal **expertise and competence development**, whereby a number of “lessons from the private sector” were systematically integrated into the internal operational plans.

At the same time, Fracarita International has also registered in a number of **specific platforms**, such as *Entrepreneurs for Entrepreneurs*, *The Shift*, etc. with which principal agreements for cooperation have been concluded.

4. The next step: a more methodological elaboration of the IGA policy



In parallel with a number of realities and international trends in this field, with which comparable international organisations and congregations are also struggling, the importance of these IGAs as an alternative method of financing (mainly of the running costs) rapidly increased.

A reality – and a challenge - that is being emphasised by an increasing number of leading international institutions (OECD, UNCTAD, UN, etc.) and expressed during at a number of conferences attended by Fracarita International's staff in 2018.

Simultaneously with this, also the expectations for targeted support and guidance by the team of Fracarita International soared rapidly, with a.o. the need for methodological elaboration, structured organisational steering, active research for feasible opportunities, adequate financing or funding start-up IGAs, training and adapted coaching.

4.1. Development of specific supporting management tools

In order to support the IGAs that have already been developed and - at the same time - to be able to support more efficiently the development of new proposals for the development of new IGAs, a number of supporting **management tools** were developed in 2018.

Including the development of an **organisation-specific business plan template** (two versions) that has already been presented, discussed and approved by a number of reputable organisations, including the Belgian organisation *Entrepreneurs for Entrepreneurs* as an adequate instrument for the conceptualisation, elaboration and follow-up of IGAs.

A second example of this toolbox was the development of a **standardised screening tool** based on a set of objective criteria and ratios that would allow new proposals from the regions for elaborating new IGAs to be evaluated in a more transparent well-founded way. For example about the following ratios:

- economic viability
- profitability
- sustainability
- financial basis
- day-to-day management
- business risks
- market position
- Etc.

This also in in the perspective of the dialogue with external partners.

4.2. Organisational embedding and steering

To support the implementation of the policy on IGAs, an **internal organisational structure** was set up in 2018, consisting of an **“IGA Steering Committee”** (semi-annual meeting), which, in addition of being charged with the creation of a framework, vision development and strategy, also wants to be a sounding board for the **“IGA operational cell”** (two-weekly meeting) that concretises and monitors the policy.

At the **kick-off meeting** of the Steering Committee on 20 March 2018, a **‘stepped system’ to enhance financial self-sufficiency was integrated into our phased policy plan.**

In order to make these policy options operational, a number of actions were taken, including the instruction to the operational cell to draw up an **updated listing** (June 2018), in order to make an **overview** based on a number of **substantive and business-economic criteria**. This allowed the steering committee, with a view to the future, to take a number of **strategic policy directions**, but also to give further **orientation** to the realization of this policy area.

4.3. Internal auditing as a dynamic and empowering management tool (2019)

In line with the further operationalisation of this IGA policy, it's Fracarita International's intention to develop a **method of internal auditing in 2019**. This is also the third and necessary process step (check (C)) in the mentioned P-D-C-A circle on page 46, needed to take and/or adjust the next steps about IGAs.

This always with the **ultimate goal**: a structural increase in the structural self-financing and the financial strength of the apostolic works of the Congregation.



International Advocacy

Bro. Dr. René Stockman - President of Fracarita International - General Superior of the Congregation of the Brothers of Charity



“Envisioning a world in which every person lives with dignity, freedom, justice, equality, and peace and out of the shadows, Fracarita International believes that each one of us has a part to play in building respect for human rights and expanding human dignity based on Christian values and the Social Doctrin of the Church. The mechanism of International Advocacy provides Fracarita International with opportunities to make this visible at the international levels of the UN-system but also by organizing conferences and reflection programs.”

“Total ending of poverty is an utopian idea maybe that goes beyond human capabilities. Nevertheless we cannot ignore that the poorest of the poor are people suffering of mental illness and that in extreme poverty conditions. We aim to tackle the underlying causes of poverty and social injustice to bring lasting change to the lives of poor and vulnerable people, leaving them better prepared to face the future. They need our support through inspired and professional care. To serve them but also by giving voice to them is the mission of the Congregation of the Brothers of Charity and this through Fracarita International.”

“2018 was a special year for our Congregation. We celebrated 400 years of our Patron Saint Vincent De Paul. His serving example remains very actual for our work and for our mission especially in the field of International Advocacy. To achieve our mission, we need to adapt to a rapidly changing world. Fracarita International's stewardship and technical expertise is therefore constantly guided by the people with whom we work across the world.

“One of the most exciting developments in the past year is our new governance structure designed to promote efficiency, effectiveness and greater diversity. We at Fracarita International would like to thank all our donors and partners who have provided the invaluable support that has enabled us to keep our commitments and deliver our mission.”



Fracarita International, which has a **consultative status** at the **Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)** of the **United Nations (UN)**, called for continued attention to the campaign ‘Breaking the Chains of Stigma in Mental Health’ and to the campaign ‘No Health without Mental Health’. Fracarita International is in its work fully committed to the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** of the United Nations. By implementing a global and coordinated advocacy strategy, Fracarita International believes that we can multiply the scope of our impact beyond programme funding and technical support to influence the national and international policies that affect the lives of the poorest and most vulnerable communities around the world.

There is no health without mental health! The Lancet Commission on mental health was clear about this. There is more and more evidence that physical health can only be fully growing if mental health is provided.



We are honored and proud that the Kingdom of Belgium and especially **our Majesty Queen Mathilde** (picture), is taking the lead for this on international level. She is Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations Global Goals for Sustainable Development with a special focus on mental health and wellbeing and her concern to children and young vulnerable adults. The congregation of the Brothers of Charity is working for more than 220 years in the field of mental health and therefore Fracarita International fully endorses the personal commitment that the Kingdom of Belgium is taking in the field of mental health. Prevention, treatment but above all understanding, listening, quality of professional care and inspired compassionate presence is the essence of good mental health care!

Overview of the activities in which Fracarita International participated at international level in 2018:

1. International conference ‘Trauma and What it Means to be Human’ in Geneva (Switzerland - May 2, 2018) – Webster University

The aim of this conference was to consider what may be the most important challenge of our times: how can we retain our humanity in the face of devastating and sometimes even dehumanizing experiences, as well as how best to protect and promote the human dignity of the devastated other. This conference therefore sought to open a dialogue for exploring the contested narratives about trauma, as well as to consider what those narratives reveal about a core issue of our lives: what it means to be human. Fracarita International has used the outcomes of this conference in the capacity building of brothers and staff in the mental health services of the Brothers of Charity.

2. Third Annual Education Solutions International Conference and Training in New York (USA – April 2018)



Fracarita International participated at the Third Annual Education Solutions International Conference and Training in New York (USA) from 19 till 21 April 2018. This conference was organized by the UNESCO Centre for Global Education and the New York Institute of Technology, Teacher Education Department.

In addressing the 2030 Development Agenda successes, UNESCO emphasized that education is the major key to achieving the development agenda. This implies that efforts must be geared toward ensuring that the Sustainable Development Goals are provided with operational tools to aid implementation success. The purpose of participating at this conference was to see how the international trends are in social inclusion and diversity in a class and school context.

In Western countries, inclusion mainly focuses on disabilities and the integration of children with special needs into the mainstream schools. In other parts of the world and by consensus in UNESCO the diversity in (dis)abilities and integration of minority groups seems also been understood in ‘inclusion’. Therefore, in the international context, educators speak more and more about social inclusion and diversity.

Fracarita International used the outcomes of this conference for further internal reflection on the Pedagogy of Education given by the Brothers of Charity worldwide. More information: <https://www.unescocforgeeducationsolutions.org>

Picture: from left to right: Mr. Prakash Goossens (Fracarita International), Dr. Sanchez Monica (UNESCO Institute for Fashion Education), Brother Jos Mathijssen (Fracarita International)

3. Seminar on prophetic inspiration of Saint Vincent a Paulo for the modern world, organized by Fracarita International in collaboration with the diocese of Bruges (Belgium - May 2018)



This seminar was a reflection about the Vincentian spirituality in Belgium and the world, including examples of the Congregation of Brothers of Charity. Saint Vincent de Paul: still highly topical after 400 years!

The Congregation of the Brothers of Charity is member of the alliance of the International Vincentian Family. In the fall of 2017, the Vincentian Family began an initiative to address the problem of Homelessness. The General Administration of the Brothers of Charity participated in Rome on this topic because working in the field of mental health, the Brothers of Charity are confronted with increasing homelessness of psychiatric patients. In 2020, the Commission for Economic and Social Development (UN) will make Homelessness as the prime topic of the Commissions agenda. For more information: <https://vhomelessalliance.org>

4. Fracarita International participated in the very first Belgian SDG-Forum in Brussels (Belgium - October 2018)

Fracarita International considers it very important to keep its finger on the pulse of international developments at the United Nations with regard to the Sustainable Development Goals. It was a day with international speakers, debates, interactive sessions and information stands leading the participants from the global to the local level.

5. Presentation about 50 years of inspired commitment of the Brothers of Charity in Rwanda during the Healthier Longer Lives International Conference in New York (USA - November 14, 2018)

Fracarita International attended and presented the case of Rwanda during the Healthier Longer Lives International Conference (8-9 November 2018) in New York, organized by Fountain House. A presentation was given on 50 years of commitment of the Brothers of Charity in Rwanda. The major focus of his intervention has been the inspired work of the Brothers of Charity in mental health that helped so many persons with severe mental illness through rehabilitation and helped them to enter into healthier lives. Fracarita International is an active supporter of the growing global efforts to improve access to mental health services, protect human rights, and achieve full social inclusion of persons with psychosocial disabilities. Fracarita International specifically mentioned the vision, mission and the values of the Brothers of Charity to break literally the chains and also to break the stigma related to mental health. More information about the conference: <https://www.healthierlongerlives.org>

6. Congress “Migration, Today and Tomorrow / Will more entrepreneurship in the South reduce migration?” (Belgium – November 2018)



The NGO of the Brothers of Charity participated in the framework of the income generating activities policy, the link with the SDGs and the power of entrepreneurship in the South.

In line with the mission of Fracarita International, in particular with regard to strengthening and supporting the financial independence of the regions in the South, an internal policy is being developed in which the setting up of income generating activities (IGAs) is an important part.

Leveraging socially and locally integrated entrepreneurship, concepts such as empowerment and governance as well as the link with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are also placed at the centre. Fracarita International, as an International NGO of the Brothers of Charity, is thus witnessing a proactive, forward-looking and substantiated vision of sustainable value-driven development aid.

In the same process of policy development, Fracarita International (represented by Mr. Paul Segers) was present at the Congress “Migration, Today and Tomorrow / Will more entrepreneurship in the South reduce migration?” on Monday November 12th, which was set up by the organization “Entrepreneurs for Entrepreneurs” (with as mission “sustainable cooperation with the South”).

Through a number of renowned speakers and an interesting panel discussion, the focus was on the power and possibilities of this entrepreneurship in the South. Including the potential to give back dignity and self-respect to the people in the South through this local entrepreneurship.

7. Dr. Guislain International Award ‘Breaking the chains of stigma in mental health’ – The Center for Victims of Torture wins Dr. Guislain Award 2018



On 10 October 2018, World Mental Health Day, the Dr. Guislain Museum and Janssen Research & Development, LLC named the Center for Victims of Torture the 2018 winner of the Dr. Guislain “Breaking the Chains of Stigma” Award. The award honors the Center for Victims of Torture for its extraordinary efforts to reduce stigma about mental illness and provide psychological care and resources to survivors of torture and war trauma across the globe. The Center for Victims of Torture will be honored for its outstanding humanitarian work during a ceremony in New York City.

The Dr. Guislain Award program is a joint project of the Dr. Guislain Museum and Janssen Research & Development, LLC. The winner receives a \$50,000 prize that must be used toward further work to reduce societal stigma about mental health. The Award is given to an individual(s), organization or project that has made an exceptional contribution to mental healthcare in the broadest sense on a cultural and/or social level; has provided a genuine contribution to decreasing stigma around mental health conditions; has promoted attention for mental health care; and has done all this with passion, creativity and innovation.

For more information about the Dr. Guislain Award: www.drguislainaward.org



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