

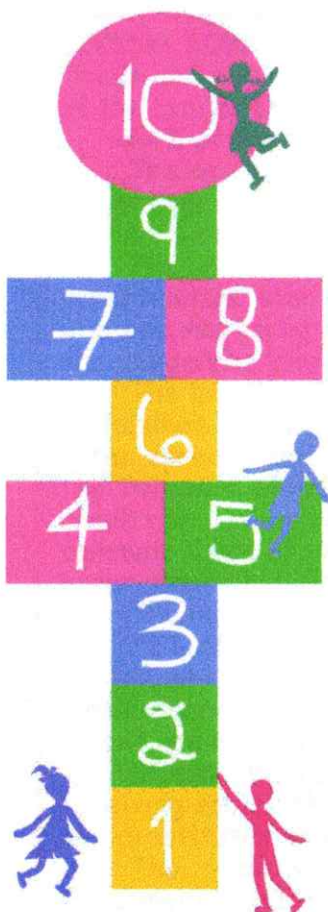
ANNUAL REPORT 1998

CANICA de Oaxaca A.C.





I. OUR CONTEXT



Socio-economic information does not present an encouraging picture in terms of improvement economically or in the quality of life on a world level. On the contrary, this information forecasts both an increase in poverty and a decrease in funds available for programs directed at social welfare development. We're speaking about one fifth of humanity- more than a billion (1,000,000,000) people- who do not have access even to an adequate diet, drinkable water, fundamental education, or attention to basic health needs¹. These conditions favor a growth in the informal economic sector² and the diversification of survival strategies, having as a consequence an increase in the number of street children³ in the poorest nations.

Mexico is not an exception since 42 million people (constituting 42% of the country's total population) live in poverty. 22 million more people live in extreme poverty⁴, which means that approximately 24% of the population does not even have a subsistence living. According to UNICEF information, 9 million of the Mexicans living in extreme poverty are children⁵.

In 1998 and 1999, government budgets are being cut due to the world economic crisis and the fall of petroleum prices, compounding the situation of poverty in Mexico. These budget cuts have exerted an enormous pressure on programs directed at health, food and nutrition, environment, and education.

According to UNICEF, in Mexico 13 children die every hour from causes associated with malnutrition. Accordingly, this results annually in the death of 114,000 children⁶. Further, it is reported that 3 out of every 5 children living in poverty drop out of school and work between 46 to 48 hours weekly⁷. Nationally, 60,000 children live in the streets. 14,000 of these children live in the streets of Mexico City. In the city of Oaxaca, there are 3,000 street children- children who either live and/or work in the streets or who are at high risk of doing so⁸.

There continues to be an increase in the number of street children who are under five years old. In 1992, children from 0 to 5 years of age represented only 1% of documented street children; by 1996, that figure had risen to 18%. This shows an annual increase of 6.6% in the number of street children⁹. There is also an increase in the number of children who are involved in high risk work or activities: seasonal farm labor, cargo loading, and begging, among others¹⁰.



II. IN WHAT CONDITIONS DO THE STREET CHILDREN OF OAXACA LIVE?

LIVING CONDITIONS OF OAXACAN STREET CHILDREN

These are some facts regarding the boys and girls who live and/or work in the streets of the city of Oaxaca: ¹¹

64% of the street children are boys and 36% are girls.

The age of these children varies greatly: 25% are younger than 6 years old; 37% are between 7 and 12 years old; and, 38% are older than 12 years old.

64% of these children are working while the rest simply wander the streets.

The rural origin of the grandparents and parents, migrants seeking better opportunities, stands in contrast to the largely urban character of the street children, who are searching for their roots. Significantly, 76% of these children do not speak the indigenous language of their parents.

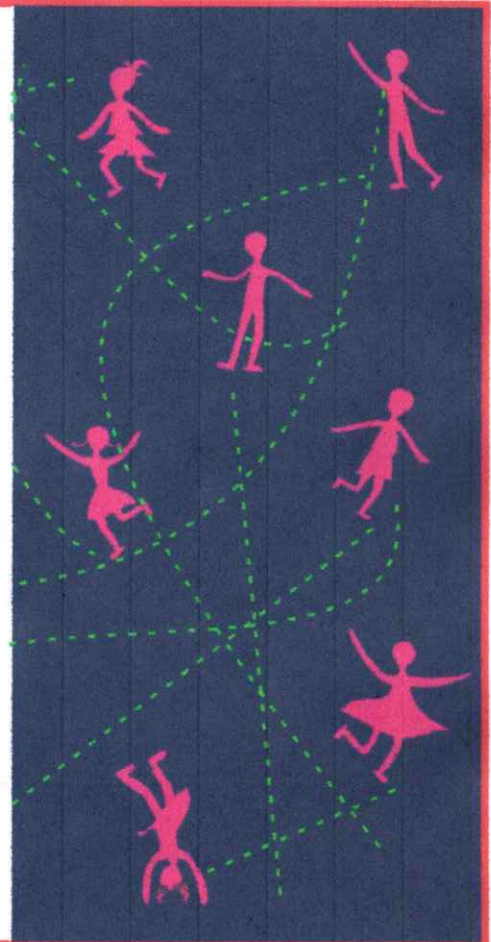
The majority of families of street children have large numbers of children. 62% of families have more than 6 members. This means the care of the youngest children is often spread among many family including other children, most of whom do not have the requisite skills. This family structure, among other reasons enumerated below, results in serious problems in the family unit where violence among family members is common. Lack of living space and familial affection push youngsters to leave home and enter street life.

The mother is head of the household in 30% of the families.

72% of the fathers work at basic unskilled labor, mainly in the informal economic sector, which lacks any job protection and often is below minimum wage.. 40% of these families are street vendors. This means that 36% of the children who work in the street are also street vendors.

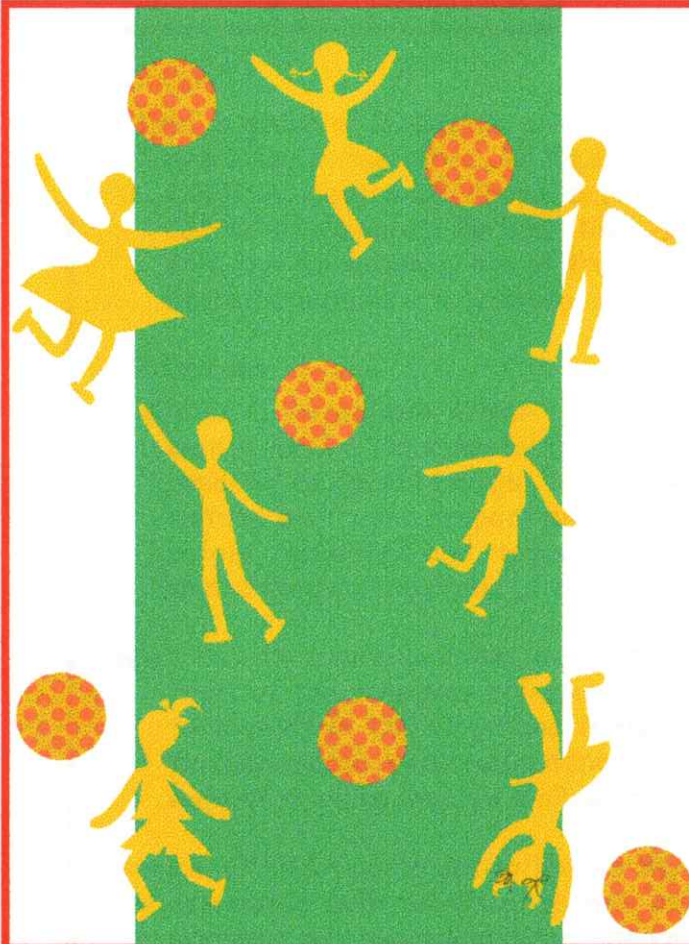
Street children also work as domestic laborers, shoe shiners, office apprentices receiving either the most minimal or no pay, windshield washers, heavy cargo loaders, and prostitutes, among others.

The family, with all of its limitations and problems, constitutes the only fundamental and significant social structure and point of reference for these children.





II. IN WHAT CONDITIONS DO THE STREET CHILDREN OF OAXACA LIVE?



FACTS TO CONSIDER ABOUT THE CHILD WORKER WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE CANICA PROGRAM¹²

52% of the child workers are girls. 48% are boys.

42% of the children exhibit either severe or the most advanced stages of malnutrition. 47% of the children considered at high risk for becoming street children also exhibit one of these two advanced stages of malnutrition.

72% of the households include a father figure, of which 60% are stepfathers.

26% of these fathers contribute to the family income, but only 11% are wage earners. The rest are under employed and are unable to make the minimum wage.

Mothers, along with children, have responsibility for the majority of the family income. Of these women, 55% work as laundresses, 25% as street vendors, 13% as domestic laborers, 1% as prostitutes, and the remaining 6% in diverse areas. Work days consist of 10 hours or more daily.

Of the homes, 62% are constructed of sheetmetal, 63% have dirt floors, and 63% have no running water, electricity or plumbing. 70% of these homes have only one room and 43% are temporary or squatters housing. In 8% of the homes which lack any sanitary facilities, defecation is on the ground.



III. CANICA, Centro de Apoyo al Niño de la Calle de Oaxaca, A.C. (Street Children Support Center of Oaxaca)

1. Origin

In 1991, a group of 10 people, greatly concerned by the situation faced by children working and living in the street of Oaxaca, decided to try to do something about it. In 1992, CANICA, Centro de Apoyo al Niño de la Calle de Oaxaca (Street Children Support Center of Oaxaca), Mexican Civil Association, a non-profit organization, was created with the fundamental aim of transforming the negative factors affecting youngsters in street situations into learning opportunities.

2. Philosophy

At CANICA, we believe human rights cannot be disassociated from our nature as human beings. It is a fundamental freedom that we should be able to develop and fully use our capacity as human beings. Therefore, we all have to participate actively to achieve a culture built upon respect and tolerance and which guarantees that children grow up safely, respected and respectful, healthy, responsible, and living happily in a country where they can be proud of their culture.

Facing this structural problem, we reaffirm our promise to work critically and objectively in front of the problems affecting children in street situations. We believe that the way to transform the situations these children are facing nowadays is to educate them through a process of social actions which will help them to modify, create and remember ways of thinking which will allow them to look positively towards the future.

As such, CANICA continues to involve the social community in its activities. We, the people associated with CANICA, as well as the people working at CANICA, do our best to preserve our ideological independence as well as to work honestly.





III. CANICA, Centro de Apoyo al Niño de la Calle de Oaxaca, A.C. (Street Children Support Center of Oaxaca)



3. **MISSION** To encourage the development of children facing life in the street - working or living in the street - or at high risk of doing so, with the idea that they will overcome those personal, familial and social conditions that originated from living in the street, with the participation of their families and the caring community. This work is inspired by the application of an Educational Model which offers a program of services to street children. These professional services are based on both assistance and education. This Model could then be adopted by other communities throughout Latin-America.



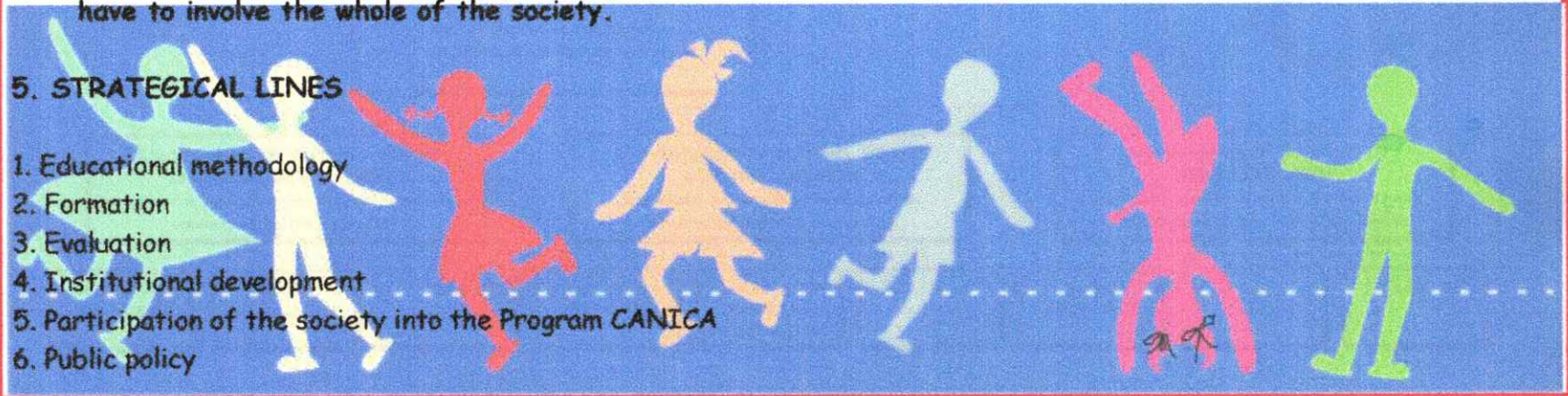
III. CANICA, Centro de Apoyo al Niño de la CALLE de Oaxaca, A.C. (Street Children Support Center of Oaxaca)

4. STRATEGICAL OBJECTIVES

- A. To strengthen CANICA's Program so as to decrease the amount of children who are facing life in the street in the city of Oaxaca, and to make sure the youngsters at risk of doing so do not end up working or living in the street.
- B. To collaborate in the development, the application and the testing of the Educational Model (META) for the support of children in street situations. It is the first Model of this type for children facing street situations, and is being put together and tested during the time span 1997-2000. Three other non-governmental organizations are working on this project: JUCONI, A.C. in Puebla, CIDES, IAP in the capital, Mexico city and JUCONI Guayaquil, in Ecuador. This Model is a first being so complete in the field; it explains in details the activities in the street, in the day centers, in the transition houses and in the families themselves. In addition, it will provide new organizations with detailed guides to strategies and activities for education.
- C. To spread to communities and society in general the aim of our mission. We consider that the existence of children and youngsters in the street is a social problem, so the ways to eliminate this social phenomenon will have to involve the whole of the society.

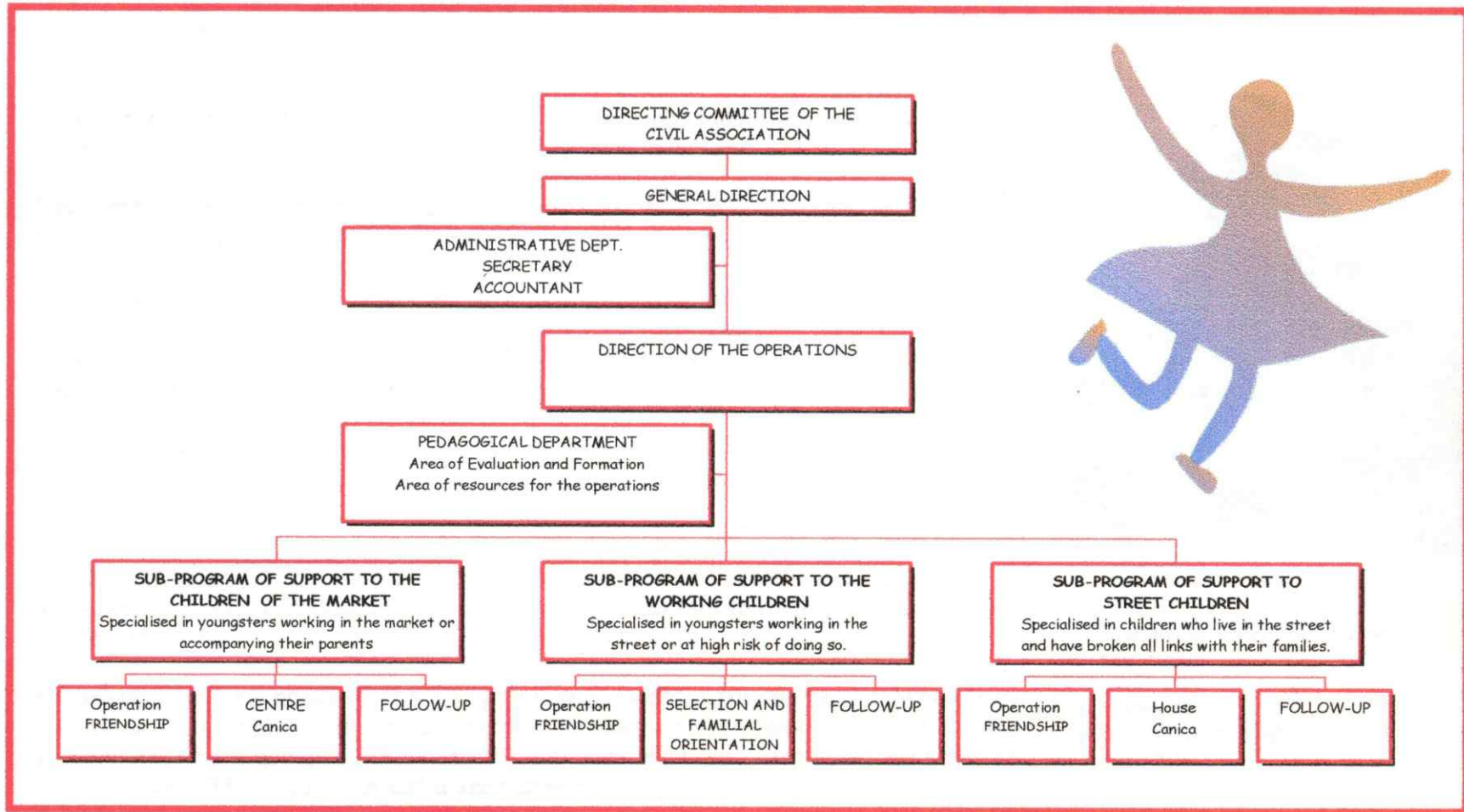
5. STRATEGICAL LINES

1. Educational methodology
2. Formation
3. Evaluation
4. Institutional development
5. Participation of the society into the Program CANICA
6. Public policy





IV. TABLE OF ORGANIZATION OF CANICA, A.C.





V. PROGRAM CANICA

SUB-PROGRAM OF SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN OF THE MARKET

Operation Friendship: The first contact with the children and their parents, who work in the market. This first step is taken throughout a period of one to three months.

Day Center: This is the intensive phase of the sub-program. During one year, children working in the market and their siblings will go through a preventive program. The objective of this phase is to maintain children away from the market, where they are exposed to a general atmosphere which is not favorable to their personal development (e.g.: work, violence, filthy surroundings,...). The Center's Program consists of both individual assistance and education, organized according to the age of the youngsters.

- *The House of Daily Care* attends children from 3 to 6 years old.
- *Orientation and Services* are offered to youngsters working who are from 7 to 17 years of age.
- *Mothers and Fathers* is a section dealing with the family, through an educational plan that encourages children to stop working in the street and the Market. Moreover, parents participate in the running of the center, so as to feel responsible for the children.

Follow-up: The final phase of the Sub-program. Educators follow the family and the youngster to make sure that he can continue to count on sufficient social and familial support, that he is going to school and that he does not have to work in the street or in the Market. This phase can last a year or more.



Population attended during the cycle:

Youngsters:	90
Population at High Risk:	83
Families:	90



V. PROGRAM CANICA



Population attended during the cycle:

Youngsters:	148
Population at High Risk:	118
Families:	78

SUB-PROGRAM OF SUPPORT TO WORKING CHILDREN

1. **Operation Friendship:** The first contact with the children is established in the street, in open spaces where affluence is high, at cross-points or in parks. This phase lasts from three to six months.

2. **Services and Familial Orientation:** The intensive phase of this sub-program, lasting for about a year throughout which several activities are included, such as complementary education, visits to schools and work places, counseling, sexual orientation, nutrition, small amount of financial help and introduction to available local services. It includes families, parents as well as siblings present in the house.

3. **Follow-up:** During this phase the work that has been done can be reinforced through help to the children to ensure that they will stay away from working in the street. Therefore, the follow-up can last up to two years or more. Visits are made to the families and the youngster, to his school and to his work place.



V. PROGRAM CANICA

SUB-PROGRAM OF SUPPORT FOR STREET CHILDREN



Population attended during
the cycle:

Youngsters:	59
Families:	9

1. Operation Friendship: First contact with the children who live in the street. This part of the sub-program lasts from three to six months, both in inside areas as governmental houses of assistance, or the Guiding Council of the government; as in outside areas as bus terminals and markets, as well as cross-points and parks. These children then move on to the intensive phase.

2. CASA CANICA (CANICA House): The children who have shown a sincere interest in leaving the street are accepted in the CANICA House, where up to 20 children can be cared for at the same time, whether or not they have a family. They receive intensive attention 24 hours a day, and they are allowed to stay up to 18 months.

The house program is based on both education and assistance, which means that on top of attending to the immediate necessities of nutrition, living space and health, educational activities are set up so as to strengthen the child's self-esteem, solve deep psychological problems, reestablish familial links when possible,... In short, giving the child new hopes for the future.

3. Follow-up: the youngsters have to choose, with the help of Canica, what their future will be like. Some decide to go back to their families, some to establish themselves on their own, provided that they are old enough, and others to enter another institution where they will be able to grow up according to their future plans. All receive support from CANICA for 2 to 3 years more; visits are made to their homes, schools and agreements with the families are established respectively to the care of the child.



VI. MAIN RESULTS

In 5 years, CANICA has achieved significant successes:

- In 1998 alone, we have cared for and serviced 498 children and 177 families.
- CANICA has developed an educational methodology which is both innovative and systematized. This methodology is in constant revision so that the successes we have currently achieved with children can be continuously improved.
- 80% of the children who participate in our Program radically improve their lives and future prospects in one year through our personalized services and the individual attention we provide to each child.
- Since 1994, CANICA has worked with other non-governmental organizations on the META 2000 project. These organizations include JUCONI Fundacion Junto con los Niños de Puebla (Foundation Together with the Children of Puebla) A.C., CIDES Centro de Investigacion y Desarrollo Economico y Social (Center of Investigation and Social and Economic Development) I.A.P., and JUCONI Guayaquil in Ecuador. The META 2000 Project will allow us to create a Model of Attention to children and Youngsters in Street Situations, which can be adopted on a world wide basis. This Project complete its first phase of systemization and theoretical construction during the years 1994-97 and is being improved during the second phase of 1997-2000.
- We received authorization from the Ministry of Economy allowing us to receive funds and donations and to issue tax deductible receipts. This facilitates our search for funding resources.
- We achieved the construction of CANICA House and of our Central Operation unit. This accounts for one third of our infrastructure needs. We have begun fund raising for the construction of a Central Daycare. Owning our own buildings strengthens our entire Program.
- We have taught the CANICA methodology to more than 80 people. These include educators, volunteers, and students fulfilling social service requirements.
- In order to increase our network with other organizations and to obtain mutual support, CANICA has either contacted or entered into agreements of inter-institutional work with Civil Society Organizations, universities and other institutions of higher learning or secondary education, and governmental organizations.
- In 6 years of work, CANICA has assisted more than 1,700 children working and /or living in the streets and 35% of their families.



VII. A LOOK TOWARDS THE FUTURE



Canica during the next three years

In just the 1998-99 year alone, CANICA will assist 420 children and 126 families through our three Sub-programs.

By the year 2000, CANICA intends to assist on an average of 400 children a year in the state of Oaxaca. This includes 180 street children and 220 other children who are considered at high risk for becoming street children. We will also help 120 families through programs designed both to strengthen them economically and invigorate their family life.

CANICA has as a goal the owning our own infrastructure. With this in mind, we are beginning planning for the construction of the Day Center for the street children or other high risk children around the large Abasto Market in the city of Oaxaca.

By the end of 2000, CANICA will have developed an innovative methodology, carefully analyzed and tested which will be a Model of Attention to Street Children. This Model includes four components:

- Educational Methodology
- Training Program
- Evaluation System
- Social Management

As we said, CANICA's objectives are: to strength our institutional activities so as to be able to have influence in political matters; to acquire the reputation which will guarantee us having solid support from donors enabling CANICA to continue our effective work; and, ultimately, to become a leader in the attention and services offered to Street Children.



VII. FINANCIAL STATUS

INCOME 1998

	\$ Pesos
1. Operation Fund Raising	
Bernard van Leer Fundación	325,713.00
Save the Children / Stichting Redt Kinderen	268,966.56
Novib	547,247.07
Kinderen in de Knell	143,670.31
Danielle Agostino Fundación	111,018.75
Quiera Asociacion de Banqueros de México	48,749.94
Fundación Comunitaria Oaxaca	41,500.00
Fundación Vamos	50,000.00
Lisa Siegrist	798.40

2. Equipment and Construction fund Raising

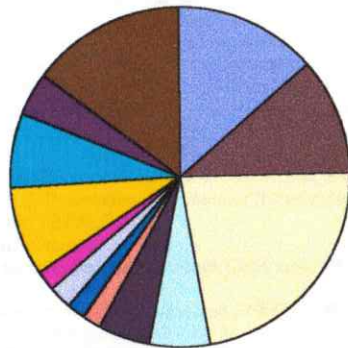
Unesco's Co-Acción Programme	47,123.76
Ministry of Foreign Affairs Holland	198,030.00
Faprode	180,733.52

3. Income for Capital Fund

Several Donors	100,336.77
Interest	353,318.61

TOTAL

2'417,207.51



- Bernard van Leer Fundación
- Save the Children / Stichting Redt Kinderen
- Novib
- Kinderen in de Knell
- Danielle Agostino Fundación
- Quiera Asociacion de Banqueros de México
- Fundación Comunitaria Oaxaca
- Fundación Vamos
- Lisa Siegrist
- Unesco's Co-Acción Programme
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs Holland
- Faprode
- Several Donors

EXPENDITURE

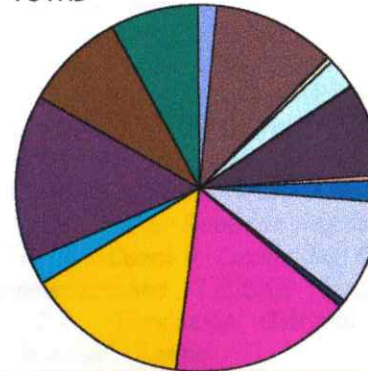
	\$ Pesos
1. Operational Costs	
Sub-programme for street living Children	
Friend Ship Operation	41,490.92
CANICA House	261,873.61
Follow-on	14,791.81
Sub-programme for street working children	
Friend Ship Operation	61,937.76
Families Service	200,000.00
Follow - on	8,300.00
Sub-programme for Market Children	
Friend Ship Operation	51,345.33
Day Center	219,039.00
Follow-on	12,283.64
Operative Direccion/Educational Department	392,245.58
General Direccion/Administration	340,868.08
Network	56,640.49
SUB-TOTAL	1'660,816.22

2. Investments

Equipment	354,435.18
Construction	211,549.58
Capital Fund	190,406.53
SUB-TOTAL	756,391.29

TOTAL

2'417,207.51



- Friend Ship Operation for Street Living Children
- CANICA House for Street Living Children
- Follow-on for Street Living Children
- Friend Ship Operation for Street Working Children
- Families Service for Street Working Children
- Follow-on for Street Working Children
- Friend Ship Operation for Market Children
- Day Center for Market Children
- Follow-on for Market Children
- Operative Direccion/Educational Department
- General Direccion/Administration
- Network
- Equipment
- Construction
- Capital Fund



IX. THANKS TO

If you would like to help the street children of Oaxaca, we would very much appreciate any donation to:

BANAMEX
No. Of the account: 178289-9
No. of Sucursal 549 (Antequera)

You can also ask for more information at:
CANICA, Centro de Apoyo al Niño de la Calle de Oaxaca, A.C.
Calle 21 de Marzo No.202
Colonia Unión y Progreso
Oaxaca, Oax. C.P. 68050
Telephone/fax (951) 5-96-67
E-mail: canica@laneta.apc.org

NOTES TO PAGES 1,2&3

- 1.- UNICEF Report «State of the World's Children, 1990
- 2.- The informal economic sector is characterized by, among other things, total lack of protection or any job benefits for the worker and in which the worker typically does not earn the minimum wage.
- 3.- The term «street children» as used in this Report means children who either live or work in the street, or both, or who are high risk of doing so.
- 4.- In this Report Poverty is defined exclusive of other significant factors, as individuals who are able to buy only basic food items -beans, rice, oil and milk-. Extreme poverty defines individuals who cannot afford even these basic food items.
- 5.- «El Ajsute Estructural en México. Las Políticas del Banco Mundial, del Fondo Monetario Internacional y sus consecuencias». Grupo Promotor en México de la Iniciativa «Evaluación Ciudadana del Ajuste Estructural». With the support of Novib, Oxfam united Kindom and UNICEF. Editorial production SIPRO, Mexico City, México, June 1998.
- 6.- UNICEF Report «State of the World's Children, 1997»
- 7.- Id. El Financiero. Cd. Mexico (Newspaper) Sept. 25, 1995, pg. 28 ; and, CEPALC.
- 8.- DIF Oaxaca.
- 9.- «Second Census of Srteet Children», UNICEF, 1996.
- 10.- Id.
- 11.- Report of DIF Oaxaca and UNICEF 1997.
- 12.- Data compiled by CANICA

CANICA's FRIENDS

We would like to thank in a very special way our many donors during this year 1998. HEARTFUL THANKS!

· Save the Children · Novib · Fundación Bernard Van Leer · Kinder in De Knell · Ministerio De Desarrollo Y Cooperación Holandés · Fundación Kellogg · Fundación Danielle Agostino · Unesco Co-action Fund · Lotería Nacional Británica · Quiera, Fundación De La Asociación De Banqueros De México, a.C. · Faprode · Fundación Vamos · Fundación Comunitaria Oaxaca · Cervecería Cuauhtémoc-Moctezuma, S.A. De C.V. · Corazón Del Pueblo · Purificadora Donají · Agua Sto. Domingo · Ing. Raúl Alvarez, Ing. Piñeiro. · Sedaf · Gabriel Armengol S. · Balneario Villas De Adan · Sr. Jaciel Medina Revilla · Balones Acción · Figueroa S.A. De Cv. · Cecati 68 · Sergio Isidro Cruz · Cine Geminis · Circo Atayde Hermanos · Chocolate La Soledad · Molinos Zaachila · Molinos San Felipe De Jesús · Chocolate El Ángel · Cámara De Comercio En Pequeño · Cp. Irma Jimenez Del Valle · Frutería La Manzanita · Fabrica De Hielo " El Llano " · Dir. Icagra · Opticas America De Oaxaca · Optica "Look" · Comité Ejecutivo P.R.D. · Madereria La Asunción · Panadería Elvirita · Molinos La Gloria · Panadería Hermanas Jiménez · Emilio García El Pan Nuestro · La Guadalupana · Papelería Universitaria · Proveedora Escolar. · Almacenes Dominguez Papelería · A.D.O. · Ing. Jorge Rocha Gerente General · Tartamiel · Pastelería · Transito Municipal · Astro Color Ref. · Lic. Benjamín Rojas Bolaños · El Gavilán Pollero · Rostipollo · El Rey Del Pollo · Queseria Los Reyes · Queseria Campo Red · Norma Reyes Teran, Diputada · Refrescos De Oaxaca Coca-cola · Amigos De Las Americas · Escuela Sec. Téc 106 · Sindicato De Trabajadores Del Edo. · Alquileres Aragón. · Estancia Fraternidad · El Importador · Sra. Zoila Eugenia Pascua · Tortillería La Defensa · Senador Héctor Sánchez López · Lubricaciones Solis · Radio Oro · Radio Fm Tu. · Canal 9 · Cectis 38 · Conalep 039 · Universidad Del Golfo De México. · Univ. Mesoamericana · I.E.S.O. · Esc. Psicología, U. R. S.E. · Bachillerato Trabajo Social I.L.C.A. · Fundación Cultural Benito Juárez, S.C. · Harmon Hall · Instituto "Johann Goethe" · Enepo