

AWARD CERTIFICATE

2008 NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

Gathered at the headquarters of the National Human Rights Commission, the Voting Members of the Jury constituted by Sister Valdete Willemann, Mr. Israel Salinas, and Mr. Emilio Larach, after having examined all documentation concerning the nominees to the National Human Rights Award, and considering the basis of the Official Announcement, we pronounce in the following terms:

CONSIDERING: That the National Human Rights Award was created to recognize the work done by individuals, institutions and organizations in promoting and defending Human Rights in our countryL

CONSIDERING: That **Association of Franciscan Boys and Girls Town (APUFRAM)** works with poor families in rural areas seeking the right for children, young boys and girls, and single mothers to obtain an education so that they have a dignified life in our country.

WE AGREE

Grant the 2008 National Human Rights Award to **Association of Franciscan Boys and Girls Town (APUFRAM, acronym in Spanish).**

The Voting Members of the Jury and the National Human Rights Commission urge to strengthen the recognition and knowledge of the National Human Rights Award created via Decree No. 30-96.

Let it be known, we signed this Act at the headquarters of the National Human Rights Commission, on the TWENTY SEVENTH day of OCTOBER of TWO THOUSAND AND EIGHT.

Sister Valdete Wilemann

Mr. Israel Salinas

Mr. Emilio Larach

The National Human Rights Commission gives the National Human Rights Award every year as part of the activities to celebrate the National Human Rights Week, which takes place between October 24 and October 30. This is in accordance with Decree No. 30-96, established on February 29th, 1996 and issued by the Honduran National Congress.

The National Human Rights Award was created to recognize the work by individuals, institutions, and organizations promoting and defending Human Rights.

List of Winners of the National Human Rights Award (1997-2008)

No.	Year	Winner Individual or Organization
1	1997	Socorro Juridico
2	1998	Dr. Juan Almendrades Bonilla
3	1999	Christian Commission for Development\ Caritas Honduras
4	2000	Father Peter Marchetti
5	2001	Committee for Relatives of Detained and Disappeared in Honduras (COFADEH - Acronym in Spanish)
6	2002	Father Alberto Gaucchi/Dr. Leo Valladares Lanza
7	2003	Father Andres Tamayo
8	2004	Women Rights Center
9	2005	Cardinal Oscar Andres Rodriguez
10	2006	Cruz Blanca Hondurena, Maria Eugenia Nursing Home
11	2007	Scalabrinians Sisters Association
12	2008	Association of Franciscan Boys and Girls Town (APUFRAM - Spanish Acronym)

2008 National Human Rights Award Jury

The Jury, nominated by the National Human Rights Commission is made up of the following members:

- Sister Valdetta Willemann
- Mr. Israel Salinas, Labor Leader
- Mr. Emilio Larach, Entrepreneur

Nominee to the National Human Rights Award

The Association of Franciscan Boys and Girls Town (APUFRAM) was nominated for the 2008 National Human Rights Award by its Executive Director Ing. Manuel De Jesus Cartagena.

APUFRAM, An Option for Human Development

The Association of Franciscan Boys and Girls Town (APUFRAM), is a non for profit headquartered in the Village of Flores, Villa San Antonio, Comayagua, Honduras at the 62 Km of the Highway between Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula. APUFRAM has sites in seven states within Honduras.

It was founded 38 years ago with the arrival of Father Emilio Cook, a missionary with the Order of Franciscans, Friars Minor (OFM), from the United States of America.

Father Emilio Cook immersed himself in the state of Olancho, Honduras where he learned firsthand the injustices of poverty. In this way, his order allows him to work with low income families to include them in the education system.

From this work started in the 70s, APUFRAM is born and founded in 1986 by the first young boys whom Father Emilio Cook provided assistance so that they can continue to provide support to benefit those who need it the most: the poor.

APUFRAM was born in that way, as an answer to the need that exists in third world countries to create opportunities and an alternative to those young people who live in extreme poverty levels from the rural areas. These young people have always been excluded from the benefits provided by the government.

APUFRAM's mission statement is **"It is better to teach someone how to fish than to simply give someone a fish."** In this way, APUFRAM's mission is to provide the tools and opportunities to those who wish to take advantage of them so that they can advance their financial situation and help the country as a result.

Since its founding, APUFRAM has benefited over 28,800 people with its educational programs.

In its 38 years of providing education, more than 5,000 families have benefited. It is a clear indicator of the assistance APUFRAM has provided to the Government in eliminating ILLITERACY and positive change to the living standards for these families. Currently, APUFRAM serves 1,334 young boys and girls from the rural areas of HondurasLthey come from extreme poverty, but they have enormous aspirations to go through the education system or to obtain a technical certificate.

APUFRAM's benefits are directed towards children in %social risk,+single mothers who are 21 years and older, and young adults to attend university level education (only if the student has shown academic excellence, excellent personal conduct, and great work spirit).

Conscious of the poverty levels in some areas of Honduras, APUFRAM has had to fund 13 centers to provide basic needs in different StatesLthis makes education very accessible to low income families from several areas in the country.

With regard to facing problems such as extreme poverty, family disintegration, and the losing of moral values, APUFRAM has seen the need to develop programs to attend youth who are in %social risk+or %social danger.+

APUFRAM's boarding facilities provide preschool and elementary level education to low income children with personnel who are well trained to educate and attend their needs.