



NOTIREIBA

DECEMBER 2023

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Dear REIBA family in the Amazon!

In this bright and joyful season, we want to send our warmest Christmas wishes and a prosperous 2024 to each one of you. Your tireless dedication to promoting intercultural bilingual education in the Amazon region is a beacon of hope and transformation. Your work, as collaborators, benefactors, volunteers, teachers, and educators, is the spark that ignites change and fulfillment. Your dedication and passion to fulfill Pope Francis's dreams inspire us all to move forward with strength and determination.

In this time of unity and solidarity, let us remember that every action we take in support of education is an invaluable gift for future generations. Let us continue working together with enthusiasm to build bridges of knowledge, understanding, and respect for the cultural diversity of the Amazon.

May these festivities be filled with love, peace, and special moments with your loved ones. And may the year 2024 bring opportunities, successes, and achievements on the path towards the dreams we share.

Happy holidays and a prosperous new year! May the light of education continue to illuminate your path and the paths of all those whom you touch with your work.

*With gratitude and love,
Amazonian Intercultural Bilingual Education Network - REIBA*



LOCAL REIBAS IN THE PANAMAZON

REIBA DIKARO - ECUADOR

December 5: The Waorani community prepares for Christmas. Waorani university students, Carmen and Maritza, create the traditional costume of the Virgin Mary using chambira fiber.



December 14: The Dikaro community in Orellana wishes everyone a Merry Christmas with drawings created by Waorani boys and girls. These drawings are designed to help the little ones learn to read in Wao.



December 16: The Dikaro community in Orellana celebrates mass at the Cathedral of Coca with all the pastoral groups. They carry out the procession of the Baby Jesus in the Vicariate of Aguarico accompanied by Christmas carols in Waotededo.



REIBA SILVAYACU - ECUADOR

December 19: Teachers and students from the East Ecuadorian Educational Institution gather for a contest aimed at advancing the theme of LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION.





REIBA FATIMA MISSION – BOLIVIA

December 12: Pastoral Assembly of the Apostolic Vicariate of Reyes convened by Bishop Eugenio Coter, with the participation of missionaries from different parish communities serving the People of God. On this occasion, the local REIBA coordination, led by Sister Cecilia Puentestar, presented a report on the entire journey of the ecclesial education project to support and train teachers which was initiated in 2022 and strengthened in 2023. The request made in the assembly was to continue strengthening the network within the vicariate through the training and sending of more volunteers to other missionary centers.



REIBA WIJINT- PERU

December 14: With gratitude, the Achuar Community bids farewell to the volunteers Sister Kenia Margarita Cedeño and Sister Yomaris Joselyn Tolentino from the Daughters of Jesus congregation who served for 2 years in the Wijint mission. We appreciate their commitment and dedication.



REIBA SARRAPIA – COLOMBIA

December 24: The Piaroa people in Puerto Inírida, Colombia, send Christmas greetings to all the local REIBAs.





REIBA IAUARETÊ- BRASIL

December 5: Conclusion of the 2023 Parish Pastoral Evaluation. Communities and pastoral groups received a questionnaire prompting them to reflect, assess, and respond, which was then followed by sharing together. Volunteer Luciana participated as an advisor for the Children's Pastoral Group. At the end, the parish priest, Father Wellington, summarized the ideas and proposals for Saint Michael the Archangel Parish in the upcoming year.



December 17: Thanksgiving Mass celebrating the completion of early childhood, primary, and secondary education for students from the Middle Ualpés region in the Nova Esperança community. After the celebration, the four high school graduates presented their final work in Tukano about some of their ethnic mythology.



December 18: Presentation of the student certificates. There was a blessing ceremony for the high school graduates. One student also performed a song in the indigenous language. Afterwards, there was a celebration which included traditional dances.





REIBA SARRAPIA (PUEBLO NUEVO) – COLOMBIA

December 1: The Piaroa community collectively builds a house that will serve to support the community.



December 3: From November 21 to December 3, Sisters Celeste and Josefina visited Sister Cynthia, a REIBA volunteer in Pueblo Nuevo. There, they shared and appreciated the work that has been happening in support of Intercultural Bilingual Education (IBE).



December 8: The Piaroa community in Pueblo Nuevo celebrates the traditional Night of the Little Candles. During this gathering, volunteer Sister Cynthia hands out participation certificates from the Thematic Formational Sessions (EFTs) to the communities of Pueblo Nuevo, Atana, and Cotsibo.





REIBA AISHALTON- GUYANA

December 4-14: We celebrated the sacrament of confirmation in 6 different communities after a 4 year wait! Bishop Francis Alleyne visited the Rupununi region for 10 days, during which he confirmed 230 young people and adults. Each community welcomed him and our team warmly with songs, dances, and speeches.



December 17-19: End-of-term reflection workshop for the nursery and primary school teachers in the bilingual program. The team and teachers spent 3 days together reviewing lesson plans, presenting term reports, and analyzing their experiences over these last three months. During the time for self-reflection, teachers shared the challenges, joys, and blessings they experienced in their classes. Everyone expressed their gratitude for the fruitful discussion space, the support they are receiving, and for the work the bilingual program is doing in the communities.





CENTRAL COORDINATION

December 19: Bogotá, Colombia. Father Pablo and Robby Ospina, Executive Secretary of the International Federation of Fe y Alegría, met at Bogotá airport to discuss possibilities of REIBA collaborating with Fe y Alegría in the upcoming year 2024. Robby Ospina was previously part of the REIBA executive commission and has been in his new position for a year.



December 19: Medellín, Colombia. Father Pablo had a lengthy and fruitful meeting with Sister Alba Teresa Cediél, MML, the Superior General of the Missionary Sisters of Mother Laura, and Sister Maritza, MML, Mission Counselor of their congregation. It was a conversation about the REIBA process and the the Lauritas missionaries' commitment in the Pan-Amazon region. It was a comforting conversation that created a lot of energy and optimism about the future of REIBA.

December 20-21: Lima, Peru. Father Pablo met with Father Pedro Hugges, one of the advisors for REPAM and CEAMA, with whom he shared about the process and vision of REIBA-REPAM. Father Pedro is also the coordinator of REPAM's Human Rights Nucleus, and he shared about the work this nucleus is carrying out in the Amazon region. Father Pedro has been a great mentor since the very start of these ecclesial organizations or movements like REPAM and CEAMA.





December 20th. *Lima, Peru.* At the prayer house of the Lauritas in Callao, Father Pablo had a fraternal day with the REIBA Volunteers, Sisters Kenia and Yomaris from the Congregation of the Daughters of Jesus, and the Missionaries of Mother Laura represented by Sister Ana María, the regional animator, and Nany, the secretary of the Popayán Province. In the morning, Father Pablo met with each of the Volunteers and also with the Lauritas Sisters. In the afternoon, they had a virtual meeting with Sister Carla and Sister Maruja, Lauritas missionaries who welcomed Kenia and Yomaris to the Wijint mission; with Sister Presentación, a Laurita missionary and provincial of the Popayán province; with Sister Graciela, the Mother General of the Daughters of Jesus; with Sonia, mission counselor; and with Lisette, coordinator of the REIBA Volunteer Program. It was a very comforting meeting full of gratitude shared between both religious congregations and REIBA for all that this intercongregational experience has meant and the way in which it was enriched by REIBA's involvement.



EXECUTIVE COMMISSION

December 14th: The Executive Commission met to evaluate its 2023 plan, made up of seven objectives which REIBA is working on. The goal is to place these objectives at the center of each local REIBA'S work as well as prioritize them in REIBA'S 2024-2025 projection. Sister Martha Lucia Ardila, MML, Brother Tiberio Giraldo, Sister Maricarmen Paredes, Father Pablo Mora, Dr. Lucy Trapnell, and Andrés Ramos were all present in the meeting.



December 27th: The Executive Commission had its second meeting, reviewing the initial progress of updating the REIBA 2024 - 2025 plan.





REIBA Commissions - Coordinators

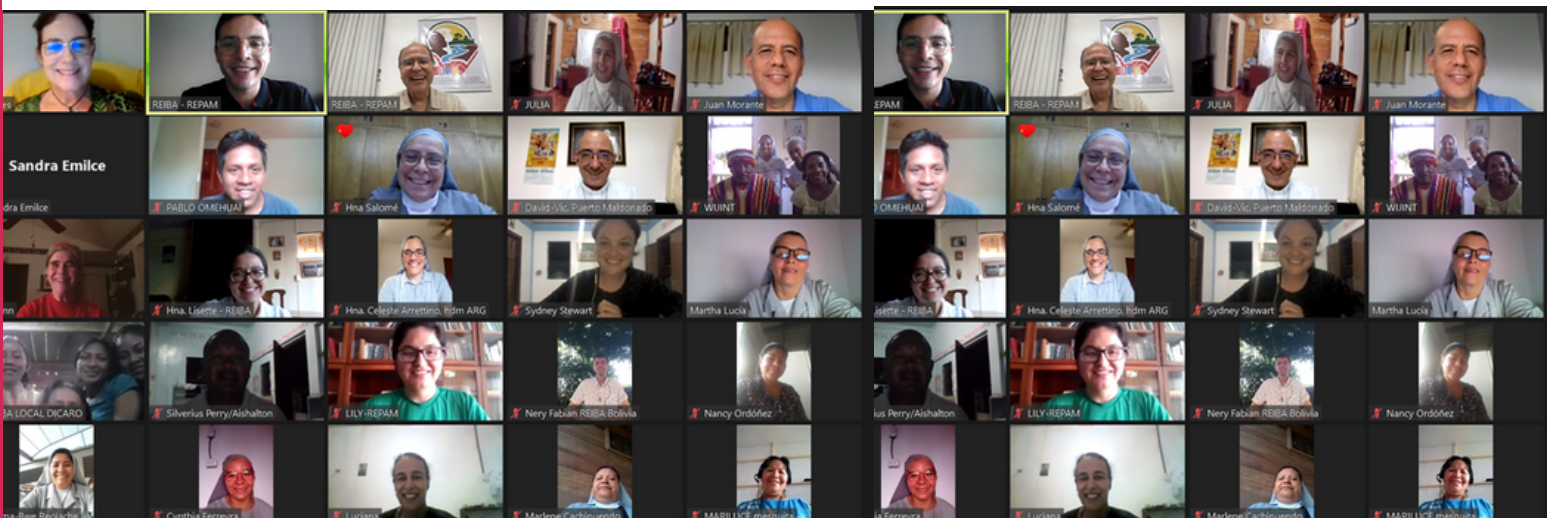
November 17: The Central Coordination led by Father Pablo, the Volunteer Commission coordinated by Sister Lisette, the Management and Finance Commission led by Sister Julia (MML), and the IBE and Communication Commission headed by Andrés Ramos had a meeting to share their progress during 2023 and deliver their respective reports on the management of each commission.



November 17: The REIBA Central Coordination team gathered to plan the REIBA general assembly, focused on sharing the achievements of each commission in 2023.

REIBA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

December 12: REIBA held its 3rd general assembly where it presented the results of each commission's work during 2023: the Volunteer Commission led by Sister Lisette Escárte, the Communications Commission headed by Andrés Ramos as well as the IBE Commission accompanied by Dr. Lucy Trapnell and Andrés Ramos. The assembly was coordinated by Father Pablo Mora and attended by REIBA President Monsignor David Martínez O.P.





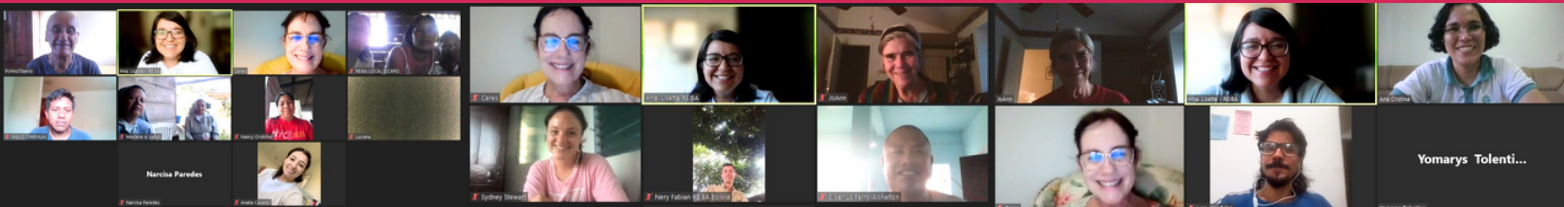
VOLUNTEERING - REIBA

December 5 and 15: Meeting between the new volunteers assigned to the REIBAs in Iauaretê and Pto. Nariño and those who are concluding their volunteer period. This allowed for a closer understanding of the work and accompaniment that has been carried out in recent years and the challenges of maintaining continuity. The aim of the meeting was to ensure a smooth transition, address doubts, and provide guidance.



Continuation of the REIBA Formation Program
During December, some of our Local REIBAs were present during training to share the joy of the journeys they have undertaken, as well as the work and challenges that arise in the territory. Additionally, this year we were accompanied by Dr. Pilar Cadena, who instructed us on self-care, first aid, and recognizing symptoms of diseases such as malaria.

Conclusion of the REIBA Volunteer Formation Program for the year 2023.
Volunteers participated in grateful reflection about the enriching formation space. An evaluation tool was provided to the new volunteers with the aim of progressing and improving further in preparation for the 2024 Volunteer Formation program.



TRANSITION MEETING - REIBA

December 19: Former REIBA volunteers gathered under the guidance of Kelli who facilitated a transition space after their mission.





VOLUNTARI@S 2024



Erika Ramírez Silva

Puerto Inírida, Colombia
Local volunteer: Vicariate of Inírida (Pueblo Nuevo), Colombia.



Sr. Nancy Girnu (MML)

Guajira, Colombia
Volunteer : REIBA Mama Bwe Reojache , Caquetá- Colombia



Nancy Ordoñez

Popayán, Colombia
Volunteer: REIBA Puerto Nariño, Colombia.



Fátima Cano Díaz

Lima, Perú
Volunteer : REIBA Kiriguetei, Perú



Juan Cruz

Córdoba, Argentina
Volunteer : REIBA Vicariate of Yurimaguas, Perú



Analia Casado

Cipolletti, Argentina
Volunteer : REIBA Vicariate of Inírida (Sejal), Colombia



Martha Chávez

San Miguel Cuyutlán Jalisco, México
Volunteer: REIBA San Miguel de Sucumbíos, Ecuador



Ceres de Andrade Paes

Belo Horizonte, Brasil
Volunteer : REIBA Iauarete , Brasil



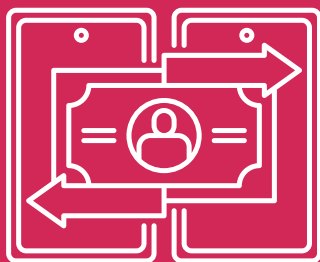
Sr. Ana Cristina de Souza

Religious of the Franciscan Congregation of Pastoral Action
Volunteer : REIBA Iauarete , Brasil



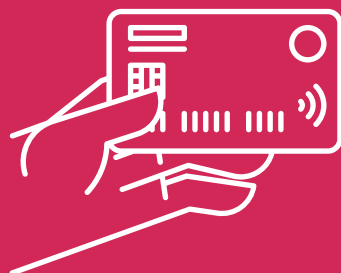
A GIFT FOR REIBA

After 3 years, REIBA is ready to continue weaving our web and expanding our impact in the Amazon. Help us in our mission for indigenous education!



NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL TRANSFERS TO THE CURRENT ACCOUNT OF THE APOSTOLIC VICARIATE OF PUERTO MALDONADO:

BANCO DE CRÉDITO DEL PERÚ - BCP
ACCOUNT: 485-26442571-6-4
CCI: 002-48500264425716417
CÓDIGO SWIFT DE 8 LETRAS: BCPLPEPL
CÓDIGO ABA: 026006127
ACCOUNT TYPE: CURRENT



WITH DEBIT OR CREDIT CARD
PAYPAL



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@ REIBA.ORG!**





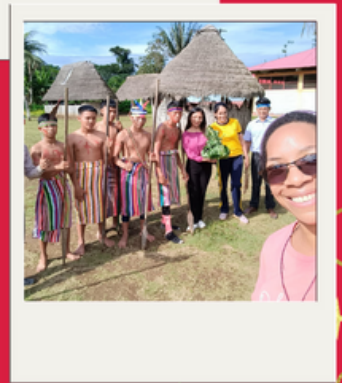
Merry Christmas!



Feliz Navidad y Feliz Año



2023 - 2024



Gloria a Dios en las alturas,
y en la tierra paz a los que gozan de su buena voluntad.
Lucas 2:14



Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year!

