

one sees a nurse sitting on a bench looking at the children "working" (playing) all alone. She is there, ready to intervene if necessary. The last sequence shows a small girl, perhaps of two years and half, who helps Maria Vasquez, the person responsible for the center, taking out fresh eggs from the bottom of a basket and putting them into a box. I was filled with wonder by the smoothness of the gestures of the small girl and by the confidence of Maria who let the small girl do it all alone.

It should be remembered that the children welcomed into this center are children in situations of distress, abandoned and educated (I would say kept alive) in families living under extremely precarious conditions, whose parents are in prison, or even children living in the street.

This is a private institution financed by the founders and donors. Although to support such a care center is not one of our activities, the Board of our Association decided to accept, for practical reasons, to receive and transfer specific gifts in favour of Nuestro Hogar

## The International Pikler (Lóczy) Association

Administration :

AIP(L)  
Chemin de Grand-Vennes 3  
1010 Lausanne  
Suisse  
Tél. et fax 41 21 652 93 61

rcaffari@bluewin.ch

Head Office :

AIP(L)  
2 ter, rue de la Cerisaie  
92310 Sèvres  
France  
Tél. 33 1 4626 2652  
Fax 33 1 4507 1064  
isz@club-internet.fr

## Pikler-Lóczy Fund (USA)

Pikler-Lóczy Fund c/o Day Schools Inc.  
3210 S. Norwood, Suite C,  
Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74135 USA  
Fax: 1 – 918 665 0965  
E-mail : lbriley@dayschoolsok.com



*l'association internationale*  
**PIKLER**  
( Lóczy )

## Bulletin N° 17

October 2004

Editorial

### We must ensure that the Pikler Institute has a solid financial base

Istvan Szanto

While reading our Bulletins and in particular in reading the minutes of the Kuratorium's last meeting in Budapest (see further) it becomes very clear that the life of the Institute can be assured only if a solid financial base exists. Taking into account that since the creation of the International Emmi Pikler Foundation, i.e. for more than 6 years, the life of the Institute has been financed about 60 % by donations and gifts, and that contacts of the Foundation with the Hungarian authorities for an increase of their financial assistance has had no results, this figure grates in my head like the noise of a train on rails:

60 % gift ... 60 % gift ... 60 % gift ... 60 % gift ... 60 % gift ... 60 % gift ...

It seems unthinkable to me to continue this hand to mouth fund raising day after day without knowing that an important part what we need financially will be available.

The Institute was saved in 1998, by negotiating with the Hungarian authorities for the creation of the International Emmi Pikler Foundation. We succeeded in gathering the necessary funds requested at that time by the authorities to ensure at least a year of financial certainty. And together, since this date, we have succeeded in collecting , with a lot of work and effort, a great part of the donations necessary for the Institute's continuous operation, not only for the benefit of the forty children who live there but also, indirectly, for children all over the world. And one should not for-

get the other projects at the Institute during this period: training-courses, research, participation in early childhood conferences which took place during these 6 years in the world, the International Symposium of 2003 in Budapest, the publishing of books and films - and this list is certainly incomplete.

Today we, members of the Board of the Association, do not see any other way to ensure a solid financial base than to turn towards you to compensate for the absence of continuous donations we did not succeed to obtain during the passing years, by asking you to help us secure a great number of small repetitive gifts.

We would like that our members and donors join the movement that Ute Strub (Germany) initiated with Henriette Lyngsö (Denmark). We've decided to renew contact with all the people who during this 6 year period helped us, once or systematically, at the beginning of our fund raising or recently, ... On the whole we are more than 900 strong! We hope that a great number of these people will take part in this movement.

Please read the request included in this Bulletin and do what your head and heart decide.

### **A DVD to contribute to the research of funds**

This DVD of a few minutes shows the work of the Pikler Institute and its irreplaceable character, using sequences of Bernard Martino's film "Lóczy, a house to grow". It is published by AIP(L), starting from an idea and of a first production of Ute Strub and with the authorisation of Bernard Martino.

This document is intended to sensitize potential donators and to accompany and support the research of funds. You can obtain it by contacting our Association. (addresses at the End of this Bulletin). The American version can be obtained from Pikler-Lóczy Fund (USA)

### **Our Association's internet site [www.aipl.org](http://www.aipl.org)**

was updated in June, and will be modified again in the near future. It deserves your visit. There you will find the history of our work, addresses, references ...

Since its creation in June 2003 the site received more than 10,000 visits, the daily record being 129 visits.

## **USA**

We learned with regret the death of Mary Alice Roche (occurred on last 29 July). She had been one of the first members of our association in the USA. She had been familiar with the ideas and the work of Emmi Pikler which she tried to make known in the States. Active within the Lifwynn Foundation and the Charlotte Selver Foundation (today called the Sensory Awareness Foundation), for which she edited a big number of bulletins, she worked and defended an approach based on concepts close to "pikler" ideas.

The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) organizes its annual conference in Anaheim (California) between the November 10 and 13. Thirty thousand participants and visitors are awaited. Pikler-Lóczy Fund (the USA) decided to install a booth, among other tasks its members will attempt to raise funds for the Pikler Institute. For more details on this conference you can go to the NAEYC web site at [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)

## **Ecuador**

By Istvan Szanto

I have just met Etienne Moine, one of the people in charge of the Association in Ecuador which opened – as you could read it in the preceding editions of our Bulletin – the care center named Nuestro Hogar close to Quito. This center just received its seventh child, a little boy about three years found abandoned in the streets of Quito, given to the Red Cross which entrusted him to this center.

Etienne Monk showed me a small film of about fifteen minutes on the life of the center, a amateur film, made without any staging. One can see first a short sequence of a dressing of a baby of one year by a nurse (beginner according to Etienne Moine) trained on the spot. Slow and soft gestures, taking the child into her arms with a lot of caution, moving the child by supporting the back and the head, and laying the child on the ground with softness. Then there is a scene of a dozen minutes in the garden. There is a child who moves crawling and carefully examines his environment; two small girls who play with water by pouring from one container into another one, pouring the water back into a vat, taking it out again and restarting the operation with much seriousness. Only at the end of the sequence

## Other News

### Belgium

A report by Marie-Louise Carels (Researcher in Sciences of Education at the University of Liege) and Brigitte Boulet (psychologist).

Although we have not created an Association, the Pikler-Lóczy approach inspires us since 1981 in our research, training-courses and experiments in the field.

Since the research-action « To grow despite everything » together with care-centers (supported by the Houtman Funds) a group of care-centers and children's homes has been coordinated by Brigitte Boulet. The psychologists of this group meet regularly to share the questions faced in their institutions and to organize training-courses animated by specialists « carrying » the Lóczy approach. (For example, recently, with Patrick Mauvais on the topic « the institutional coherence » and « Individual relationship in a group of young children of different ages»). This group will give itself an official statute and chose as it's name « Step by step ».

The CEMEA who has for several years proposed training-courses inspired by the Pikler-Lóczy approach, was recognized as one of the official training organizations for the professionals of early childhood (recognized, and thus subsidized and therefore finally accessible to all). Therefore, for example, all communal day-care centers of Liege took part in trainings.

At the time of the Daphne project presented by Pikler-Lóczy Association of France to the European authorities, a program of international collaboration was concluded between the University of Liege (M.L. Carels) and the Pikler Institute on the topic of "day to day nice-caring in places of reception". This program was executed mainly in 2002-2003 and finishes nowadays. Video sequences were turned in the day-care center of Herstal and were analyzed as well as 2 sequences of Lóczy. A report is in preparation.

At the University of Liege, for several years, the course of educational psychology of early childhood, intended for students in psychology and the course of Models of actions for pre-school education intended for students in sciences of education, has referred explicitly to the work of the Lóczy Institute.

In the field, cribs and day-care centers continue to reflect and are using practices inspired by experiences of Lóczy.

But all this is not « a long quiet river ».

## News from Budapest.

The first meeting of the International Emmi Pikler Foundation's Kuratorium took place on May 8, 2004. To simplify, we can say that two major subjects were discussed: a formal subject, the past, the approval of the accounting and the activity of 2003; and a very hot subject, the future, especially from a financial point of view. Taking into account the present situation, that is a few months of funds and a very little foreseeable financial support, the Kuratorium decided to do two things. First, not to accept the budget for 2004 in order to get the attention of the Minister of Social Affairs (Supervising Authority), on the critical nature of the situation. And secondly, to contact various ministries which for one reason or another, may be interested in Institute's work.

Contacts were made, meetings were organized, the problem was presented to interested, understanding, sympathizing interlocutors, but because of the economic situation of the country, no additional financial support has been obtained.

The second meeting of Kuratorium took place in September. The financial records showed that between the two meetings gifts and donations had been obtained, and that due in particular to an exceptionally important gift from our Association, and by using accumulated reserves, the Institute will be able to stay open until the end of 2004. Under these conditions the budget of 2004 was accepted, since the Foundation cannot function without an approved budget. Based on the contacts with the authorities, the Kuratorium concluded that an increased financial support from their side in the near future is unlikely. Projects for the future were discussed, in particular a project is currently being developed which will be presented to the European authorities in the near future. But, even if this project is accepted, its implementation will not be immediate.

The training activity during the year of 2004 was the most significant in the last six years. The income that the Foundation generated from it is 50 % higher than that of the preceding year. More particularly we should mention the 10 day summer training-course in English which attracted specialists from the USA and from New-Zealand. Some of the participants made gifts, took part in and even initiated fundraising projects in Hungary.

On the subject of the series of 12 small videos for parents, it is available commercially, but as of September it has not generated additional income for the Foundation.

## **The news of AIP(L)**

### **Reorganization of the administration.**

The reorganization, with Raymonde Caffari becoming general secretary, which was described in the preceding Bulletin, was implemented at the beginning of this year. Since this date we have two addresses: the head office remains in Sevres and the administrative center is in Lausanne. (the two addresses are recalled at the end of the Bulletin). A fast transmission of information has been organized between these two addresses; any mail is and will be treated without problem.

### **The first meeting of the Board – March 15 and 16.**

It took place in Lausanne and allowed the Board to have a thorough discussion with Anna Tardos, representing the International Emmi Pikler Foundation. We welcomed delegates of the Kuratorium, in order to discuss the financial situation of the Pikler Institute, its projects and its activities.

At this meeting, considering AIP(L)'s present financial situation, we decided to immediately transfer a donation of 40,000 euros to the Foundation, representing all we had at our disposal this time.

In August, an additional amount of 12,000 euros were transferred, to take full advantage of an offer made by American donor to match any donations made by September 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **An important Board decision**

Our Association succeeded in obtaining a very important conditional gift which, after contact with the donor, was changed to be as follows:

- an unconditional gift of 92 thousand euros and
- a specific gift of 45 thousand euros.

The purpose of this specific gift is to promote any action in the world to propagate "pikler" ideas; its use (objectives, amounts, programs) was left to the initiative of the Board.

Considering the critical situation of the Foundation, such as appeared during the meeting of the Kuratorium in May, the Board decided to immediately transfer the 92,000 euros (it should be noted that this sum ensured 10 more weeks of life for the Institute).

### **The Second Board meeting.**

It took place September 25 and 26 in Sevres, at our head office. The board confirmed that our principal concern is the survival of the Pikler Institute and decided to join the "sponsorship" initiative of Ute Strub and Henriette Lyngsö. Moreover we allotted part of the specific gift of 45 thousand euros to various actions, one of them being the edition of the DVD mentioned on page 2.

You, readers of this Bulletin, may propose projects which in your opinion, enter within the framework envisaged and would deserve financial help.

### **Partial Replacement of the Board.**

Recall: according to our Statutes we must renew a third of our Board each year.

The Board asks the members of the Association who are interested in taking part in the work of the Board to put in an application before the end of January 2005.

### **Membership fee for 2005**

The Board decided to maintain the annual membership fee unchanged:

30 euros or 50 Francs Swiss or 30 US\$.