

INFO SHEET

Alliance Against Leprosy Institute

@aliancacontrahanseniase

Annual Activity Report 2024 Drafted by: Nicole Morihama Images: Retina, AAL Collection and Freepik

Layout and drafting: Nicole Morihama



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SR. BERNARD DE LAGUICHE PRESIDENTE DO CONSELHO DELIBERATIVO

Dear supporters, partners and collaborators,

The year 2024 marked an important milestone in the trajectory of the Instituto Aliança Contra a Hanseníase, with significant recognition and expansion of its activities. It is with great satisfaction that we present this report, which reflects the direct social impact of our actions and the advancement of our mission.

These results of our work are supported by three essential pillars: science, education, and care. Throughout this year, we intensified our efforts to train healthcare professionals, expand access to leprosy diagnosis and treatment, and develop technological solutions that optimize patient care. The DocHansen, TECHansen, and FeetHansen initiatives have proven their effectiveness and have expanded their presence to new locations, benefiting an ever-increasing number of people.

Our recognition as one of the 100 best NGOs in Brazil is a proof of our commitment to governance, transparency, and integrity with which we run the AAL Institute.

But more than awards or performance indicators, our greatest success lies in the benefits we provide to patients. These are lives we are able to help, with quality and dignity None of this would be possible without the tireless dedication of our technical team, volunteers, institutional partners, and donors. These are the people who make our mission possible and strengthen our ability to positively impact society.

I am immensely grateful to everyone who is part of this alliance and I invite each of you to join us in this transformative mission.

Yours sincerely,

Alliance Against Leprosy





Dear friends, partners and supporters,

DR. LAILA DE LAGUICHE FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT

As we look to 2024, we feel profound pride and gratitude. The Alliance Against Leprosy Institute remained steadfast in its commitment to eliminating leprosy and promoting the dignity and inclusion of those affected. Each step taken reflected our mission to transform lives, and we are proud to share this year's progress.

Despite the challenges, the achievements show that we are on the right path.

We were recognized as one of the 100 best NGOs in Brazil, which reinforces the seriousness and impact of our work.

We expanded our operations to new regions, strengthened partnerships, and incorporated technological innovations, reaching more people with quality care. Projects like TECHansen, FeetHansen, and DOCHansen have grown, bringing specialized care and hope to those who need it most.

More than institutional results, what truly moves us are the stories of transformation: rehabilitated patients, trained professionals, and communities more aware of leprosy. These testimonies reaffirm the power of solidarity and collective commitment.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of employees, volunteers, partners, and donors. Each one is an essential part of this journey.

We continue to build a future where leprosy is just a memory, and all people can live with health, respect, and dignity. May 2025 bring us even more progress and opportunities to positively impact thousands of lives. We continue with courage and determination, promoting a more just and inclusive world for all.





Transforming lives for 6 years





ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

The Alliance Against Leprosy Institute, upon completing six years of operations in Brazil, with international interfaces, consolidates its purpose and reaffirms its commitment to uniting science, education and assistance in the fight against leprosy.

Founded in 2018 by Dr. Laila de Laguiche, the Alliance Against Leprosy Institute - AAL, in its english acronym (Alliance Against Leprosy) is a non-profit organization **based in Brazil with international operations**, which works to combat leprosy on three strategic fronts: training health professionals, disseminating information and assisting people with physical disabilities caused by the disease

The AAL Institute was born from the desire to help people affected by leprosy, with ethical and scientific foundations. It works collaboratively with patients, listening to their needs and preferences. The AAL Institute values transparency and reports on its activities with international recognition, using external auditing by MAZARS, an internationally recognized company operating in 90 countriess.

OUR HISTORY

In the six years of the Instituto Aliança Contra Hanseníase's history, we have witnessed a remarkable expansion in our actions and initiatives, **allowing us to benefit an even greater number of people across the country.**

Furthermore, our **visibility** in the press increased considerably and we had the opportunity to participate in **highly relevant national and international events**, thus expanding our network of contacts.

With the help of our partners, we implement **pioneering initiatives** and offer unprecedented services in Brazil to benefit people affected by leprosy.



OUR HISTORY



2018
AAL Foundation





2020

partnership with MT: Installation of AAL shoe stores in Barra do Garças, Alta Floresta and Tangará da Serra



2021

launch of TECHansen

partnership with the International Campaign of the Order of Malta Against Leprosy - CIOMAL Foundation



2022

Ministry of Health Award - TECHansen Action



2023

launch of the DOCHansen action and expansion of the FeetHansen-Digital Shoes action



2024DOCHansen Expansion in Africa
Cooperation ILSL- Bauru - SP
Cooperation HDS - PR





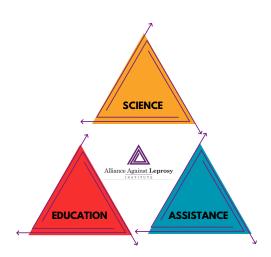
OUR ORGANIZATIONAL PRINCIPLES

In 2024, the AAL Institute improved its strategic planning 2024-2026. By revisiting its operations in Brazil and, now, in Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa, the AAL Institute has redefined its lines of action, maintaining the same actions it has been developing since its founding in 2018.

MISSION: To expand the conditions for diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of people affected by leprosy, through innovative actions, training of professionals and promotion of research, for their social inclusion.

VISION: To be an international reference in the care of people affected by leprosy and in supporting health professionals.

VALUES: Ethics, Innovation, Equity, Respect, Quality, Transparency.



AREAS OF ACTION

Now the axes extend to **SCIENCE**, **EDUCATION AND ASSISTANCE** in the fight against leprosy

SCIENCE: Presence at major national and international scientific events. Institutional support for scientific projects related to leprosy.

EDUCATION: provision of technical content and training of health professionals for the diagnosis and treatment of leprosy, in an ethical and committed manner. Dissemination of quality information to the population to prevent and combat discrimination and prejudice.

ASSISTANCE: rehabilitation work, with donation of materials and assistive technology devices for people with physical disabilities caused by leprosy.





Members elected at the Ordinary General Meeting held in May 2024:

Deliberative Council

President: Bernard de Laguiche

Permanent Council Member: Professor Dr. Aguinaldo Gonçalves

Permanent Council Member: Professor Dr. Marcos da Cunha Lopes Virmond

Representative of Patients' Interests: Francisca Barros da Silva - Dide

Executive Board

Chairwoman: Dr. Laila de Laguiche

Scientific Director: Dr. Francisco Bezerra de Almeida Neto

Technical Director: Dr. Susilene Maria Tonelli Nardi

Audit Committee

Angela do Rocio Kampa Matimoto Koide Carla Daniela Nissola Chami Dr. Marcela Abou Chami Pereira de Trotta

Ombudsman

Ester Athanásio

Team

Nicole Morihama – general manager of the AAL Institute, public relations Livia Sturaro – Monitor of TECHansen and Occupational Therapy student



MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

OF 2024

Throughout our history, the AAL Institute has been recognized for its dedication to combating leprosy and promoting the health and dignity of thousands of people. Each award and honor received represents not only a reflection of our work, but also the transformative impact we achieve through joint efforts with partners, healthcare professionals, and communities. These recognitions motivate us to continue our mission with even more commitment and hope.

This year, the highlights include:

- <u>Honorable Mention from the Legislative Assembly of Paraná</u> in recognition of the work of the AAL Institute in the fight against leprosy, in December 2024.
- Public recognition in honor of the merits of the AAL Institute received from the CIOMAL Foundation (International Company of the Order of Malta against Leprosy), in November 2024, for excellence in the social assistance actions provided to patients.
- Certification received from the RPCom Institute (RPC Group Globo Paraná) by the Impulso Award, in November 2024, in the management category, for good practices in the third sector.
- AAL Institute was named one of Brazil's Best NGOs in November 2024 by Instituto Doar, O Mundo Que Queremos, and Ambev VOA. This recognition recognizes organizations that stand out for their excellence in management, governance, transparency, and social impact.
- Tribute to merit awarded by the Regional Council of Medicine of Paraná (CRM-PR) to the AAL Institute, for the standard of excellence in social assistance activities, in August 2024.





The recognitions received by the AAL Institute throughout 2024 not only validate the quality of its work but also provide concrete impacts on the expansion and improvement of its activities. Among the main positive effects of these awards are::

- Increased institutional credibility, strengthening the image of AAL among partners, donors and funders;
- Increased visibility, allowing more people to access information about leprosy and its consequences;
- Increased partnerships and sponsorships, enabling the expansion of projects and serving a greater number of patients;
- Strengthening transparency and good management practices, attracting social investors who prioritize institutions with efficient governance;
- Increased public awareness of leprosy, helping to reduce stigma and discrimination against the disease.

With these recognitions, the AAL Institute reinforces its position as a leader in the fight against leprosy, consolidating its role in building a more inclusive and dignified future for all people affected by the disease.



donation of devices and materials assistive technology

teleconsultation platform for diagnosis and management of complex cases



participation in events academics and scientists, training of professionals health, and others shoe fitting workshop and manufacturing of insoles, digital shoe donation







In 2024, the TECHansen project was expanded, bringing materials and devices assistive to new regions of Brazil. The action seeks to rehabilitate and promote inclusion of people with disabilities caused by leprosy, especially in the eyes, nose, hands and feet.

With the expansion, TECHansen began to reach more remote communities, offering specialized support and assistive technology. The initiative has strengthened the autonomy of beneficiaries and provided greater dignity and social inclusion.

With the support of qualified professionals and assistive technology, the action strengthens the autonomy of beneficiaries and significantly improves their quality of life.

SINCE 2021

6.442 S

DONATED ITEMS



24

STATES SERVED

11%

GROWTH OF 2023



732
BENEFITED PATIENTS







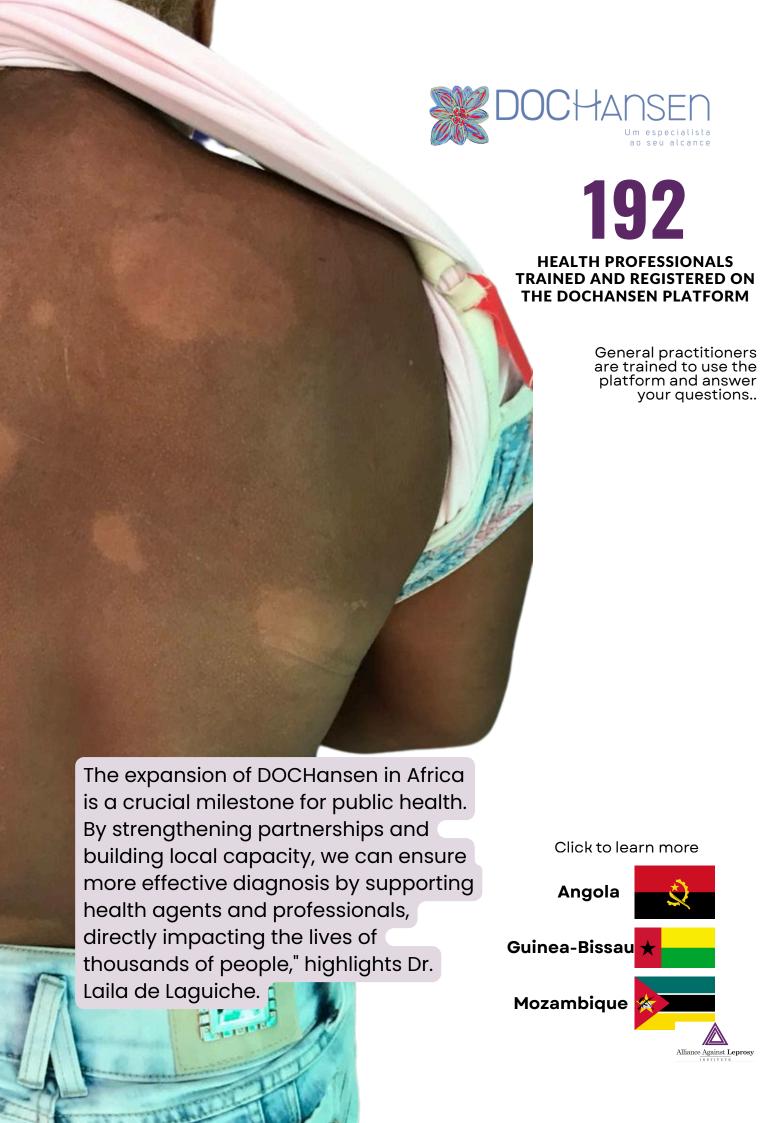
DOCHansen Africa: the fight against leprosy has no borders

Imagine the impact of a neglected disease that continues to silently affect thousands of lives. Now imagine hope emerging, crossing borders, bringing knowledge, technology, and humanity to where it's needed most. This is the mission of DOCHansen, an initiative that has transformed the fight against leprosy with precise strategies for diagnosis, treatment, and awareness.

In its expansion journey, DOCHansen has just taken a historic step: it has arrived in the Portuguesespeaking African countries of **Angola**, **Guinea-Bissau**, **and Mozambique**. More than just a geographic expansion, this is a powerful response to the call of global public health—and a concrete opportunity to change the future of entire communities marked by vulnerability.











Firm steps towards autonomy and dignity





In April 2024, the Instituto Aliança Contra Hanseníase (AAL) entered into technical cooperation with the Paraná Sanitary Dermatology Hospital (HDSPR) and FUNEAS to provide physical and social rehabilitation to people with leprosy sequelae in Paraná.

The FeetHansen project offers orthopedic shoe fittings and custom insoles, restoring mobility, comfort, and autonomy to those living with deformities caused by the disease. More than just assistive technology, the initiative promotes the training of healthcare professionals and the social inclusion of patients, breaking the cycle of pain, stigma, and isolation..











FeetHansen is more than rehabilitation it's transformation at every step.

In August 2024, the AAL Institute and the Instituto Lauro de Souza Lima (ILSL) joined forces in a technical cooperation to transform care for people affected by leprosy.

With the creation of the Orthopedic Workshop - AAL Shoe Shop within ILSL, in Bauru/SP, patients began to receive custom-made orthopedic shoes and insoles, produced by a qualified physiotherapist, orthotist and prosthetist hired by AAL.

The goal is to prevent complications, restore mobility and restore the autonomy of those living with the consequences of leprosy.

With interstate reach and impact throughout Latin America, the FeetHansen offers a multidisciplinary

and humanized approach, promoting not only physical rehabilitation but also the social reintegration of patients.

The orthopedic workshop has compact, modern equipment for producing custommade orthopedic insoles and footwear, using highly durable and comfortable materials

Physiotherapist and orthotist, Guliti Silva, preparing molds at the AAL shoe shop, at ILSL



On September 15, 2024, AAL launched the 2nd FeetHansen – Digital Footwear Call for Proposals, a groundbreaking project that is changing the lives of people affected by the after-effects of leprosy. Funded by the CIOMAL Foundation, the initiative donates customized, 3Dprinted orthopedic footwear to patients with severe mobility difficulties due to the aftereffects of the disease.

Each pair of shoes is custom-made, with millimeter precision, to offer comfort, wound healing, gait stability and real autonomy – fundamental factors for the social reintegration of these individuals.

The initiative involved the mobilization of healthcare professionals from across Brazil, who nominated patients to receive the shoes. In 2024, 33 people benefited, with a direct impact on their mobility, selfesteem, and quality of life.

More than innovation, FeetHansen is an act of care and inclusion. Technology employed in the service of human dignity.



NUMBERS OF HIGHLIGHTS





669
INSOLES PRODUCED



536

TRANSFORMED LIVES

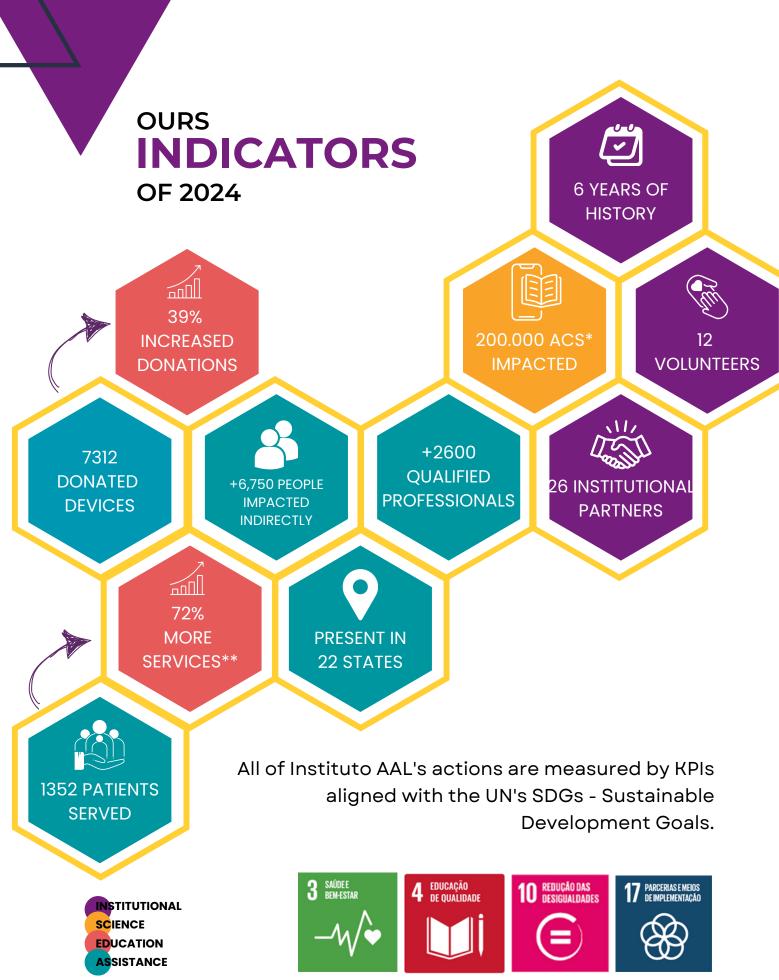
201
ORTHOPEDIC FOOTWEAR (HANDMADE, ADAPTED, AND DIGITAL)



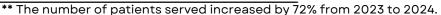


50QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS



















- offer 480 hours of training and development for professionals from various healthcare fields to improve the prevention, treatment, and quality of life of people affected by leprosy.
- We have participated in over 60 hours of lectures, workshops, and roundtable discussions on leprosy in Brazil and other countries around the world.
- We invested more than R\$45,000 in technical feasibility studies for actions and implementations in endemic areas.



Human capital

- Our team is made up of the best healthcare professionals working against leprosy, with international recognition and scientific content that is presented at the world's leading academic events.
- 70% of our team is made up of women, and the majority are in leadership positions within the AAL Institute, ensuring gender equity and diversity.





- 100% of our activities are focused on the well-being of people affected by leprosy, through **social philanthropy and assistance initiatives**.
- More than 7,300 people benefit from the Institute's initiatives.
- Over R\$406,000 invested in philanthropic initiatives.

Financial capital



- In Brazil, the AAL Institute has been an exclusive partner of the Order of Malta's International Campaign Against Leprosy (CIOMAL) since 2021, receiving institutional support and funding for leprosy initiatives.
- With the financial contributions and work hours of our employees, corporate and individual donors, we generated R\$3.7 million in revenue throughout 2024.
- All of the funds were invested in the Institute's initiatives.





INSTITUCIONAL

The President of the AAL Institute meets with the CNBB to strengthen the fight against leprosy in Brazil.

Read more



AAL Lecture at the Ladies' Lunch in Geneva

Read more



AAL honors the launch of a work by Nelson Flores, in Minas Gerais

Read more



AAL support for the work of Reinaldo Bechler



Building Actions for a Leprosy-Free Mato Grosso

Read more



Founder of the AAL Institute receives the title of honorary citizen of Paraná

Read more





AAL sponsors the II

Multiprofessional Scientific

Forum: a Strategic Partnership

CIÊNCIA



Read more



CONVITE PARA PUBLICAÇÃO DE FASCÍCULO ESPECIAL

"RELATOS DE CASOS EM HANSENÍASE - A PRÁTICA COMPARTILHADA"





AAL joins forces with Revista Hansenologia Internationalis to publish a special issue.





AAL Institute's participation in MEDTROP 2024

Read more



AAL founder participates in Leprosy: Back to the Future in Bergen



Read more



EDUCAÇÃO

AAL Institute launches the "Think, it could be leprosy" campaign in Purple January

Read more



Founder of the AAL Institute delivers lecture to students at the University of St. Andrews, invited by UNICEF UK

Read more



AAL Participation in the Opening of the Interprofessional Specialization Course in Comprehensive Care for People with Leprosy, in MT

Read more



AAL Institute participates in a meeting at CRM-PR to raise awareness of the importance of diagnosing and treating leprosy

Read more

Coffee with CRM-PR Read more





Inspiring stories



ASSISTANCE

For eight years, patient M.J. (57) lived the reality of seeing the world from the height of a wheelchair. Leprosy, silent and relentless, robbed her of her ability to walk, limiting her movements and imposing challenges she never imagined facing. However, her story doesn't end there. On the contrary, she has become a symbol of resilience and hope.

M.J.'s life changed when she was included in the FeetHansen – Digital Footwear initiative.

The day she received her digital shoes was a new beginning for her.

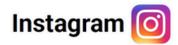
Adaptation was acquired slowly, but her determination always outweighed any obstacle. With the support of the Institute's staff and a careful rehabilitation process, she began taking her first steps again.

The moment M.J. stood up and walked after nearly a decade without being able to walk was moving for everyone who followed her journey. More than just regaining her mobility, she regained her self-confidence, the joy of leaving home without relying on others, and the ability to dream of new achievements.

Today, M.J. is a living testament to the impact that solidarity and technology have on transforming lives.



VOICE AND REACH



Dados Gerais

109 posts publicados, com picos de alcance em setembro (6.500) e outubro (3.900).



Facebook

Dados Gerais

81 posts publicados, com o maior alcance em fevereiro (336) e julho (290).





Dados Gerais

27 posts publicados

824 thousand people impacted by quality information

Imprensa TV e Jornal

Press

7 participações em mídia jornalística e em programas televisivos da TV aberta, com alcance nacional.

Visualizações ● Alcance ● 720 mil 720 mil pessoas diretamente afetadas

Site e Blog





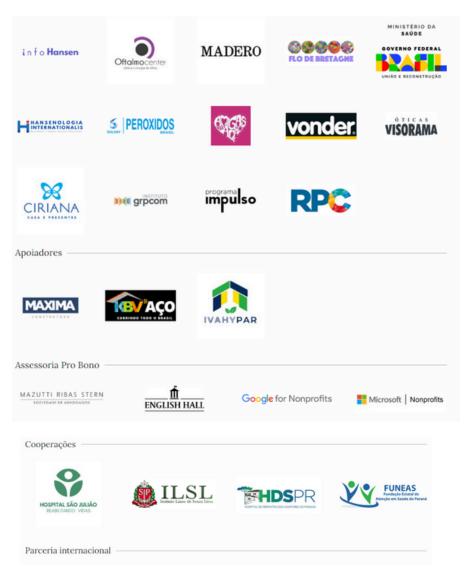
83 artigos publicados ao longo do ano

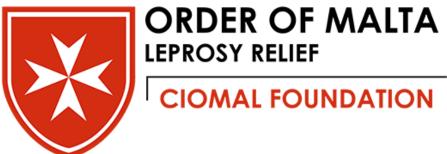






OURS PARTNERS





We are immensely grateful to our partners, who do not hesitate to provide us with institutional support, funding, or their precious time.

All help is welcome. Join this alliance!

Become an AAL donor.



Prestação de contas 2024

TRANSPARENCY

Integrity that generates impact:

the AAL Institute's commitment to transparency and excellence

At the AAL Institute, every action is guided by a non-negotiable commitment to ethics, transparency, and accountability. The institution's compliance policies were designed to ensure safe, efficient management aligned with international best practices—because transforming lives also requires transforming the way resources are managed.

To this end, AAL has implemented robust measures: a code of conduct, a secure reporting channel, regular audits, rigorous internal controls, and ongoing staff training. More than just preventing failures, the goal is to cultivate a culture of integrity at all levels of the organization.

In 2024, a new milestone was reached: the implementation of WebTGI's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) platform: а modern financial management system that enables realtime monitoring, process automation, and full resource traceability. With it, AAL ensures accuracy, security, and transparency in every transactionstrengthening its relationship donors, partners, and the community.



Furthermore, the whistleblower channel and the active role of the Fiscal Council ensure an environment where ethics are protected and irregularities are rigorously addressed. All of this is anchored in **solid governance**, focused on results that matter: caring for those who need it most.

The AAL Institute proves, in practice, that it is possible to do things differently responsible management and social impact go hand in hand.

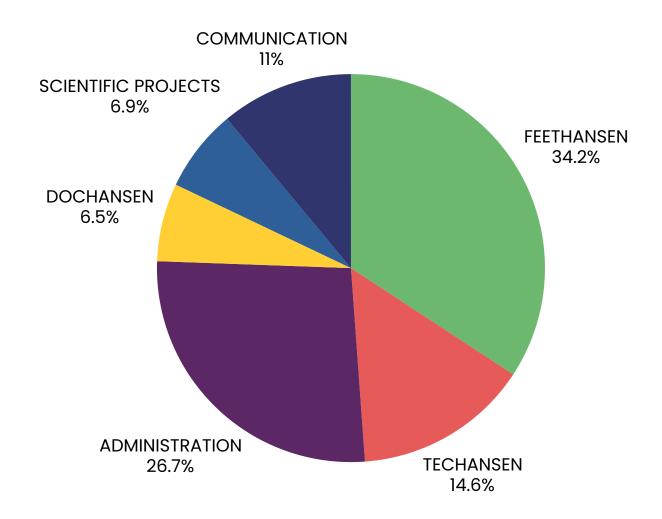




TRANSPARENCY

The AAL Institute values the balance between its costs and expenses, ensuring the financial sustainability of the organization.

COSTS AND EXPENSES OF THE AAL INSTITUTE



<u>Valuing transparency and providing internationally recognized accountability for our activities, we have an annual external audit conducted by MAZARS, an internationally recognized company operating in 90 countries.</u>

mazars

<u>Click here to view the full 2024 Financial Statement Audit Report.</u>





PROSPECTS

FOR 2025

In 2025, the Instituto Aliança Contra Hanseníase (Alliance Against Hansen's Disease) intends to begin a new cycle with bold goals: expanding its reach, accelerating diagnoses, and strengthening the physical and emotional rehabilitation of people affected by leprosy.

With a focus on innovation and inclusion, the AAL aims to:

Bring TECHansen to all of Brazil, with new assistive technology devices; Expand DOCHansen, transforming the platform into a digital hub with free clinical, educational, and psychological support; Integrate more professionals into the network, such as physical and occupational therapists;

• Invest in scientific research and new diagnostic and rehabilitation technologies with international standards.

"Innovation breaks down barriers and brings care closer to those who need it most," said Dr. Laila de Laguiche.



After a 2024 marked by achievements, AAL reinforces its commitment: transforming lives, combating inequalities, and advancing leprosy control with courage, science, and compassion.





Alliance Against Leprosy

INSTITUTE



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