

Service of Protection and Integral Support to the Family (PAIF)

Thematic areas	Social assistance.
Summary	Provides ongoing social services to families, executed exclusively by the Reference Centers for Social Assistance - CRAS. ¹ Seeks to strengthen family protection, prevent the rupture of family ties and promote access to rights and good quality of life.
General Objective	To prevent and mitigate, in a continuous and proactive manner, situations of social vulnerability and risk, by developing human potential, acquisitions and family and community bonds.
Specific Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » To provide social and material assets to families, strengthening their autonomy and leadership. » To promote access to benefits, cash transfers programs and social assistance services. » To support families by promoting collective spaces of dialogue and exchange of family experiences.
First year of the program	2004
Responsible Institution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Ministry of Social Development (MDS) » National Secretariat for Social Assistance (SNAS) » National Social Assistance Council (CNAS)
Other Related Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » State, municipal and Federal District secretariats for social assistance and their counterparts » State, municipal and Federal District councils for social assistance

¹ Public municipal territorial units established under the Unified Social Assistance System (SUAS). It is responsible for referring and coordinating social assistance services and programs within its covered territory and offering basic social protection to families. It is located in vulnerable areas with a higher level of social risk.

Management and Implementation

The Unified Social Assistance System (SUAS)² includes all federation levels (Union, states, municipalities and the Federal District) which, according to their mandates, take responsibility for managing and organizing the system and ensuring its quality and results. Municipal Secretariats for Social Assistance are responsible for implementing PAIF through CRAS technical teams. The transfer of funds is made from the National Social Assistance Fund directly to Municipal Social Assistance Funds. The amounts established for federal co-financing are based on the number of families referred to CRAS³.

Families living in remote areas with vast territories, widely scattered population and traditional peoples and communities can be served by CRAS mobile teams. These teams offer PAIF services as they travel through the territory. In flooded areas with river-side populations, mobile teams use Social Assistance Motorboats (LAS) donated by the MDS to municipalities for use in the provision of social assistance services.

PAIF's social services provided to indigenous families should be culturally tailored and based on specific knowledge of indigenous needs. The organization and provision of PAIF services are well described on the Technical Guidebooks dedicated to the details regarding services offered to indigenous families.

CRAS also coordinates other complementary services to the PAIF, such as the Service of Coexistence and Strengthening of Bonds (SCFV)⁴ and the Home Service of Basic Social Protection for People with Disabilities and the Elderly.

Target Audience

Families in situations of social vulnerability due to poverty, precarious or lack of access to public services, low sense of belonging and sociability and/or any other situation of risk and vulnerability.

² To learn more about SUAS, please refer to: <https://wpp.org.br/en/publication/unified-social-assistance-system-fact-sheet/>

³ Up to 2,500 families, transfer of BRL\$ 6,000; 2501-3500 families, transfer of BRL\$ 8,400, and; 3501 to 5000 families, transfer of BRL\$ 12,000.

⁴ For more details about this service, please refer to: <https://wpp.org.br/en/social-policy/social-assistance/>

Criteria for defining the target audience

Access to CRAS and PAIF is universal. Priority is given to families benefiting from the Continuous Welfare Benefit for the Elderly and Disabled (BPC)⁵ and the Bolsa Familia Program (PBF)⁶ as well as those experiencing greater social vulnerability to prevent further or recurrence of such situations. PAIF services must be offered to families who express their interest and full agreement with all conditions and who undergo previous assessment by the technical team.

Coverage

National. There are 7,458 CRAS prepared to provide PAIF services in 5,531 municipalities.

Financing

SUAS is based on cooperation between the Union, states, the Federal District and municipalities.

Additional Information

<http://mdspravoce.mds.gov.br/assistencia-social/servicos-disponiveis/> (In Portuguese)
<https://wpp.org.br/en/social-policy/social-assistance/> (in English)

⁵ To learn more about BPC, please refer to: <https://wpp.org.br/en/publication/continuous-welfare-benefit-fact-sheet/>

⁶ To learn more about the Bolsa Familia Program, please refer to: <https://wpp.org.br/en/social-policy/bolsa-familia/>