



KOINONIA
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FEMALE PROTAGONISM IN BLACK PEOPLE TERRITORIES

**women
rising**





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Brief history

KOINONIA is an ecumenical organization founded in 1994 by former members of the Ecumenical Center for Documentation and Information (CEDI), an institution that operated between 1974 and 1994. The creation of the new entity was marked by its Assembly of Associates, composed of historical activists in the fight for democracy and affirmation of the values of the Ecumenical Movement in Brazil. The objective of the new organization, in continuity with the ecumenical tradition, was initially to provide services to religious communities, social movements and churches.

At the end of the 1990s, KOINONIA assumed a prominent role among ecumenical organizations in Brazil, strengthening its interventions in the fields of promoting socio-environmental rights and justice, training popular educators, seeking dignified living conditions for historically and culturally vulnerable populations, emergency action in the face of climate setbacks.

In the 2000s, KOINONIA's development was based on complementary strategies: in the social field, it increased the services provided to popular sectors and expanded institutional alliances and alliances with social movements; and in the ecumenical field, it sought visibility for the ecumenical contribution (national and international) to Brazilian society.

Since then, it has carried out educational and rights promotion actions with vulnerable populations in Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Bahia in traditional urban and rural black communities, family farmers, urban and rural youth, and religious movements.

In this context of service to vulnerable communities, women stand out as the most vulnerable group, especially black women, but also with the greatest power to organize and take action against inequalities and the search for rights.

Today, the public engaged in KOINONIA projects is mostly women seeking information and support to fight for their rights.

95%
OF THE PUBLIC
SERVED BY OUR
PROJECTS ARE
WOMEN.



OUR AREAS OF ACTIVITY

* ECUMENICAL AND CIVIL SOCIETY MOBILIZATIONS

The rise of fundamentalism drives the need for a more robust and resilient public presence, both due to its religious dimension and the reduction of the space for organized civil society.

The organization is increasingly in demand in the public debate on the role of religions in the Brazilian sociopolitical-environmental context. That is an opportunity to strengthen progressive voices in the religious field, promote progressive ecumenical values and contribute to broader initiatives, in partnership with social movements and political articulations.

* TRADITIONAL BLACK PEOPLE COMMUNITIES RIGHTS AND OVERCOMING RACISM

Work with quilombola communities and religious centers of African origin.

Given the growth of fundamentalism, there have been significant cuts in public policies for these communities, in addition to an increase in religious intolerance.

The organization seeks to address these issues in the context of religious racism, covering both racial and religious dimensions, aiming to combat the denial of rights to these communities.

Current work includes strengthening network actions, advocacy, training community leaders, legal and administrative advice, and production of knowledge on these issues.

* GENDER, SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

The rise of fundamentalism in Brazil has led to setbacks in the rights of women and the LGBTQIA+ community.

KOINONIA faces the challenge of discussing these issues in religious communities influenced by fundamentalist views.

Its activities include combating violence against women, training religious women in protection mechanisms, creating listening spaces, producing informative material on combating gender-based violence, and participating in national and international public advocacy initiatives.



WOMEN FIGHT !



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WOMEN IN SEARCH OF RIGHTS!

Throughout KOINONIA's 31-year history, women have demonstrated greater engagement and capacity for mobilization in fight for rights and social justice. Vulnerable women seek information and training to overcome their condition and recognize the importance of support networks focused on social protection, creating income-generating opportunities and combating racism and misogyny.



100%

OF OUR CAUSES ARE TREATED
IN AN INTERSECTIONAL
WAY, CONSIDERING THE
COMPLEX REALITIES IN
WHICH WE WORK.

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WOMEN IN MANAGEMENT: 80% OF THE TEAM IS MADE UP OF WOMEN



Ana Gualberto

- Executive Director KOINONIA



Rosa Peralta

- Institutional Relations
- Quilombola Agents for Climate Project and Commerce with Identity Project



Pedrina do Rosário

- Community Mobilizer
- Afro-Brazilian Community Development Program



Candai Calmon

- Researcher and Popular Educator
- Commerce with Identity Project



Lidia

- Project Management Consulting
- Prevention in Occupation Project and Faith in Diversity Project



Ana Celsa

- Popular Educator
- Afro-Brazilian Community Development Program



Nathália Gouveia

- Project Management Consulting
- Commerce with identity Project and Quilombolas Agents for Climate Project



Camila

- Ecumenical and Legal Advice for Traditional Black Communities



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ONGOING PROJECTS

	Target	Issues
Afro-Brazilian Community Development Program	Black people territories in Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Bahia	Strengthen the fight for rights through its leadership and networks, support with institutional presence and advocacy actions, communication and legal guidance.
Commerce with Identity Project	Quilombola communities Rio de Janeiro and Bahia	Improve and strengthen the production of healthy foods (fresh and processed) and handicrafts, valuing cultural identity and the tradition of reconciling production with environmental protection
Quilombola Youth Reaffirming Roots: Identity and Climate Justice	Young Quilombolas in Salvador, BA	Train agents of change through popular education to combat environmental and climate racism and seek gender justice by building strategies for autonomy and reparation
Faith in Diversity Project	Candomblé People in the capitals of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo	Train 100 leaders from different marginalized groups in the metropolitan region of São Paulo and Salvador, seeking to identify common issues and form alliances between different faith communities (African origin and Christian, among others)
Prevention in Occupation Project	Families from popular occupations of São Paulo	Promote discussion, information and prevention about HIV/AIDS and STIs in central popular occupations of São Paulo, capital.
Quilombolas Agents for Climate Project	Quilombola communities Rio de Janeiro and Bahia	Agenda for the advocacy of quilombola communities for the climate. Training of leaders capable of articulating the climate challenges.



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OUR SKILLS

Learn more about the main technical features of KOINONIA in the defense of rights, democracy and social justice.



POPULAR EDUCATION

Content production and training of multipliers on topics related to our causes.



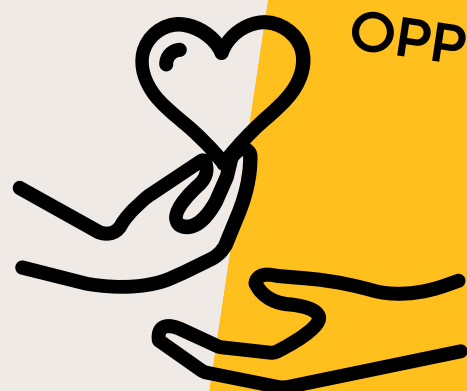
RIGHTS PROMOTION

Advocacy and defense of the rights of vulnerable populations and groups.



EMERGENCY ACTION

Management of funds for emergency actions such as climate disasters and others.



THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION AND OPPOSITION TO INTOLERANCE

Production and dissemination of knowledge in religious science.
Ecumenical political articulation.



THINK TANK

Research and knowledge management to build evidence in the areas in which we operate.



ADVOCACY AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION

Strategies to defend and influence public policies, aiming to promote rights for vulnerable populations.



FAITH WOMEN !



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Opportunities with our audiences

Today, KOINONIA has a great mobilization capacity in black people territories due to the credibility gained in more than 30 years of work in popular education, fighting for rights and defending democracy.

Legal advice for the territories legalization and defense of rights.

Projects for employment and income generation.

Advocacy against racism, misogyny and homophobia.

Prevention and care for violence against women.

Support for participation in advocacy actions (national and international events)

Political training on rights and climate emergency.

Dissemination of social project management methodologies.

Research for evidence-driven action.



WOMEN ARENA !

Find out more about our work on our website and social media.



www.koinonia.org.br



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Ana Gualberto

anagualberto@koinonia.org.br



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