

ABEn: 80 years and the contemporary challenges

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The Associação Brasileira de Enfermagem (ABEn-Brazilian Nursing Association) is a social and political construction is daily made by a strong and actuating Professional Nursing in technical-scientific, political, institutional areas and in social movements for life protection as well as for citizenship across the country. In this movement, it has participated of planning and execution of agenda/policies for public social inclusion in education, work, home conditions, safety, and quality and integral health services.

Eight decades of fight and conquests was the strategy for the development of political-professional project of the Brazilian Nursing in the following areas: Nursing Education; Nursing care policies; development of employment and profit policies; science and technology and innovations in nursing; nursing legislation, and specially for the development of a nursing social compromise and the optimization of ethical attitudes in the production of health services in Brazil.

The ABEn is commemorating this date with the following programs:

a) Competition with the 80's logo and the literary-scientific competition about ABEn: a trajetory of 80 years and the contemporary challenges that is open to all professional nursing categories (nurses, nurses aides and technicians) and also for nursing students from all education levels, including post-graduation;

b) Project development: "Preservation and difusion of the ABEn's documental collection"; and "Mobile exhibition of ABEn 80's" in partnership with NUPHEBRAS/EAN-UFRJ (Núcleo de Pesquisa em História da Enfermagem Brasileira/Escola de Enfermagem Anna Nery/Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro – Group of Research in History of Brazilian Nursing/Anna Nery Nursing School/ Federal University of Rio de Janeiro); "Reconstitution of section, regional, nursing schools and health institutions participation in the socio-political construction of ABEn along its eighty years";

3) New edition of ABEn's nursing publications, starting in the commemorating year with the second edition of the documentary "*Associação Brasileira de Enfermagem (1926-1976)*" and "*Inventory of nursing resources and needs in Brasil (1956-1958): final report*";

4) Establishment of a commemorative agenda in ABEn's events with the objective of incentivating the reconstitution of historical paths and the revival of nursing memory that allow knowledge generation over the current situation of nursing political-professional project; the conquered current advances; the difficulties and challenges to be faced and the potentialities/possibilities of intelectual, political, social and ethical development for nursing in the area of health services production.

In reconstituting the steps in this trajetory to better construct next steps, as well as the processess that promote consistent advances for Brazilian nursing in its local, national and international context, we remind the poet Fernando Sabino quotation: "*of everything, three things remain: the certainty that we always are starting; the certainty that we need keep going; the certainty that we will be interrupted before we finish. Therefore, we must use interruption as a new path; the fall as a dance step; the fear as a ladder; the dream as a bridge; the seeking as an encounter*".