**Emmaus** is a principle and a means of raising awareness of the needs of a real community, leading to society being healthy and the whole of society blossoming with good health.

*Abbe Pierre*

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**Access to healthcare: a new concept**

*Jean Rousseau, President of Emmaus International*

While health has long been acknowledged as a precious asset, this is not the case for collective initiatives that enable everyone to experience a minimum level of health protection and promotion. Universal healthcare access is a new as well as little-known concept. The Emmaus Movement knows from its own experience that disease and premature death are factors that increase the vulnerability of the poorest members of society, and mean that they continue to be unfairly excluded. That is why Emmaus campaigns for universal healthcare access, with the aim in which public policies tackling and inequality generated by profit-making private sector systems reach new heights.

The Emmaus Movement promotes the mutual health fund, which aims to simplify the ideas and mechanisms for the development of community insurance schemes managed by their members across all sections of society. The Emmaus Movement knows that individuals who have shared the Emmaus Movement know that individuals who have shared the experience of being poor and therefore of solidarity. It is a daily concern for them to ensure that affordable healthcare is available to all and that the poorest members of society get the care they need.

In France, the Roanne Friends’ Committee has been involved in the development of a collective mutual fund since 1997. Based on the Emmaus solidarity store model, the shop is located next to the hospital and managing a “health shop” since 1997. The most essential right. However, in many countries there is little or no social security system in place. For many Emmaus groups around the world, a daily concern is being taken locally, whilst the whole Movement is coming together to work on this issue. There has been the chance to reach out to.

Emmaus is a principle and a means of raising awareness of the needs of a real community...