

A N N U A L R E P O R T



Simón Bolívar
Foundation®

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Letter from the Board of Directors



"The projects are being implemented effectively, and the support is reaching the population in need. The new agreements currently under implementation are as promising, if not more so, than those from previous years."

Pablo Perez Barreiro

Member of the Board of Directors

As we reflect on the previous year, I am both humbled and proud of the impact the Simón Bolívar Foundation made in providing essential health services to vulnerable communities in and from Venezuela.

The Foundation staff and its partners have worked tirelessly to address the urgent needs of Venezuelans and other migrants in need who often face significant challenges and barriers to accessing primary care.

To provide the best support possible, we are convinced that we need to continuously improve and strengthen our processes and procedures. **In 2023, for the second year in a row, we underwent an audit with one of the "Big 4" auditing firms, yielding positive results once more.** The feedback we received highlights the organization's **continued learning culture** and reinforces other substantial findings from last year, including the **Foundation staff's deep knowledge of the issues and subjects the Foundation works on.** In addition, the independent auditors concluded once more that **the Foundation consistently goes above and beyond the required actions to ensure transparency and governance.**

Over the last few years, the team has demonstrated great adaptability by quickly and successfully adjusting to the challenges of a redefined mission and developing new potential. They have done an excellent job!

The Foundation's strategic partnerships with established organizations are strengthening and continuing successfully. The projects are being implemented effectively, and the support is reaching the population in need. The new agreements currently under implementation are as promising, if not more so, than those from previous years.

I would like to thank CITGO Petroleum Corporation for its continued support and confidence in the work of the Simón Bolívar Foundation. I also want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Mariela and her team for their achievements during the past year.

Letter from the President

The Simón Bolívar Foundation and its partners continue making a substantial impact on the lives of Venezuelans and other vulnerable populations, both inside and outside the country. As the number of people migrating from Venezuela searching for a better future for themselves and their families increases, our programs expand to meet the needs of these vulnerable populations.

Thanks to a generous donation of \$7.8 million from CITGO, a significant increase from the previous year, the Foundation has more funds to continue its mission of providing access to health for those who need it most, especially mothers and children.

In 2023, we reached key milestones that encourage us to keep going with the work we do every day. **We successfully completed and verified 15 grants* and continued to build and strengthen strategic partnerships. We also signed 25 new grants that will allow us to benefit an estimated 281,722 beneficiaries in nine countries.**

We continue our commitment to contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, specifically 1. No Poverty, 2. Zero Hunger, 3. Good Health and Well-being, and 4. Water and sanitation. All our grants support one or more of these goals, which were established by the United Nations and adopted by all UN Member States to work together for prosperity for all.

Over the past four years, we have established a network of qualified charitable organizations to whom we have provided grants for implementing programs in Venezuela and the region. **The Foundation continues to support projects by trusted partners who have successfully delivered, demonstrated an ongoing need for their work and can absorb additional funds.**

In 2024, we also plan to fund health programs in areas of the United States where there are a large number of migrants, especially from Venezuela. To do so, we are working closely with agencies and organizations to evaluate and understand the needs and determine where we can achieve the most significant impact with our limited available funds.

As we continue monitoring and evaluating the current grants, we also look forward to 2024 with enthusiasm to support Venezuelans and other vulnerable communities in the Americas.

I would like to express my gratitude to the leadership at CITGO and the Board of Directors of the Simón Bolívar Foundation for their unwavering support. I also want to extend my heartfelt thanks to my team, who work diligently, and to our partners for placing their trust in us and working with us hand-in-hand as we strive towards a shared goal.



“We successfully completed and verified 15 grants* and continued to build and strengthen strategic partnerships. We also signed 25 new grants that will allow us to benefit an estimated 281,722 beneficiaries in nine countries.”

Mariela Poleo

President, Simón Bolívar Foundation

*By December 14, 2023



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About us

Mission, and Goals

The Simón Bolívar Foundation Inc. is the 501(c)(3) nonprofit, private foundation of CITGO Petroleum Corporation (CITGO).

The Foundation serves as a catalyst to transform lives by connecting and networking with community members to work together and take community actions to assist those in need. The initiatives leverage existing resources and invest in charities to meet the immediate and long-term health needs of the most vulnerable in and from Venezuela, the United States and other countries, as well as other vulnerable communities. The Foundation supports a wide range of charitable programs and provides direct grants, benefiting the community at large for years to come.



Vision

A future where access to basic health care is a valued human right.



Goals

Access - Increase access to medicine, nutrition, and welfare for low income and vulnerable people and communities.

Capacity - Improve the ability of medical professionals and caregivers to serve and treat patients through education and support and to rebuild expertise and capacity that can impact a greater number of patients in need.

Empowerment - Increase the effectiveness of community organizations and actors by empowering them to address the health needs of the most vulnerable people in their communities, particularly mothers and children.



Mission

Improve the health of vulnerable people affected by disasters, conflicts, and poverty, with special attention to mothers and children in and from Venezuela.

We support the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), which are focused on eradicating poverty, protecting the planet, and ensuring prosperity for all, as part of a new sustainable development agenda.



The Current Situation in Venezuela



The current situation in Venezuela continues, with great consequences for those in the country, including economic instability, food insecurity and a crumbling healthcare system.

Over the past decade¹, the public health system has deteriorated. Shortages of medical supplies and personnel, coupled with infrastructure failures, have rendered essential healthcare services inaccessible to nearly 70%² of the population. Without appropriate medical care, the risk of both physical and mental health conditions is also on the rise.

Furthermore, median household incomes barely reach a fraction of the cost needed to afford basic necessities, such as food and shelter, and millions experience food insecurity. **Approximately 94.4%² were in poverty without available income, equivalent in dollars, to acquire a basic basket of essential goods and services for an average of three people per household, while for more than 50%, income was not enough to purchase a basic food basket, placing them in extreme poverty³.**

Now one of the largest displacement crises in the world, with **more than 7.7 million⁴ Venezuelan migrants and refugees scattered across the globe** by November 2023, children, women and other vulnerable members are among the groups of migrants leaving the country searching for better opportunities. The vast majority of the Venezuelan diaspora, **more than 6.5⁴ million, is in countries within Latin America and the Caribbean.**

According to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, more than **317,000⁵ Venezuelan migrants, crossed Panama's Darién Gap between January and November 2023, facing significant protection risks.**

It is urgent that the international community come together to address the needs of the Venezuelan people in and out of their country.

¹ [Provea](#)

² [HumVenezuela](#)

³ [Encuesta Nacional de Condiciones de Vida \(Encovi 2023\)](#)

⁴ [Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants \(R4V\)](#)

⁵ [UNHCR, USAID](#)





Macroeconomic Factors

In 2023, **inflation rate** was reduced to **193%** from 305% in 2022.¹



A family needs \$535.23 per month (155.5 minimum wages) to cover basic needs.²



94.4% of the population **lives in poverty**, without available income to acquire a basic basket of essential goods and services for a family of 3 people.³



50% of households live in **extreme poverty**.⁴



Cumulative GDP reduction from 2014 to 2023: **70%**.⁵



Demographic Factors

Venezuela's population in 2023: **28.8 million**.³



Life expectancy at birth in 2023 was **72.9 years**, lower than the average for the Americas.⁶



Mortality increase:



An estimated 21 deceased children for every 1,000 births.⁷



An estimated 24 children under five years deceased for every 1,000 births.⁷



125 of every 1,000 mothers die during childbirth.⁷

By November 2023, there were more than **7.7 million Venezuelan refugees and migrants** around the world.⁸



More than 317,000 Venezuelan migrants crossed Panama's Darién Gap between January and November 2023.⁹



¹ Observatorio Venezolano de Finanzas

² Centro de Documentación y Análisis Social de la Federación Venezolana de Maestros (Cendas-FVM)

³ HumVenezuela

⁴ Encuesta Nacional de Condiciones de Vida (Encovi 2023)

⁵ World Economic Outlook (WEO), October 2022, by the International Monetary Fund (IMF)

⁶ Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

⁷ Venezuela Health Profile 2021, Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health

⁸ Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela (R4V)

⁹ UNHCR, USAID



Public Health

Close to **1/3 of the population** suffers from **food insecurity**.⁴



Approximately **65% of children** suffer from **chronic malnutrition**.¹⁰



50% of the doctors and **25% of the nursing staff** have emigrated since 2012.⁷



Over 70% of hospitals don't have regular access to **water and electricity**.⁷



A **decrease in vaccination coverage** has resulted in a resurgence of contagious diseases such as measles, diphtheria, whooping cough, and mumps.⁷



Humanitarian Response

With over **7.7 million Venezuelan refugees and migrants** worldwide, the vast majority, **more than 6.5 million**, in countries within **Latin America and the Caribbean**, this has become **one of the largest displacement crises in the world**.¹¹



More than 4 million refugees and migrants **have unmet humanitarian, protection and integration needs**.¹²

⁴ [Encuesta Nacional de Condiciones de Vida \(Encovi 2023\)](#)

⁷ [Venezuela Health Profile 2021, Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health](#)

¹⁰ [Cáritas de Venezuela](#)

¹¹ [The UN Refugee Agency \(UNHCR\)](#)

¹² [RMNA 2023 - RMRP \(r4v.info\)](#)

Governance

The Simón Bolívar Foundation is a private 501(c)(3) organization registered in the United States, which means the Foundation:

- Must comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, as well as audits and controls by authorities like the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS).
- Must also follow the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) and other applicable laws.
- Operates as a separate legal entity from CITGO Petroleum Corporation, with its own governing documents, Board of Directors, budget, and grant-making requirements.
- Regularly, the Foundation informs the CITGO Board of Directors about its charitable activities given that CITGO is its sole member.

Its grant programs adhere to stringent and transparent guidelines for eligibility and awards. To ensure accountability, these guidelines are readily accessible to the public in the Grants and Recipients section of the Foundation's website at [SimonBolivarFoundation.org](https://simonbolivarfoundation.org). The Foundation's financials are audited annually and are available upon request. The Foundation's financial information is disclosed in the corresponding sections of the [2020](#), [2021](#), [2022](#) and [2023](#) Annual Reports.

The Simón Bolívar Foundation 2023 audited financial statements are available upon request.

In addition, the Foundation's tax returns are reported to the IRS through the 2023 Foundation's Form 990-PF, which is available on the [IRS charitable organization information search](#) section on its website.



2023 Achievements

Governance:

- For the second consecutive year, one of the “Big 4” audit firms assessed the Foundation’s controls regarding two specific Grant Agreements. The audit found no gaps or weaknesses, indicating that the Foundation has a robust control framework in place to manage risks and goes beyond what is legally required. The Foundation’s personnel strengths and its continuous improvement approach further enhance its control framework.
- Corporate governance processes continue to be reinforced by the Board of Directors, the Foundation’s staff, and the grantees with whom the Foundation works. New officers received board training.
- There were updates to the Simón Bolívar Foundation Grantee Manual and Grant Manual for employees and the Foundation’s legal and compliance review process for new grants.

Transparency:

- For the third consecutive year, the Foundation published its Annual Report.
- The Foundation continued periodic reporting of its charitable activities and results to CITGO as part of its accountability processes to its sole member and donor.

Collaboration:

- The Foundation continues actively developing strong relationships with non-profit partners across the region and, through its support, connecting organizations to foster collaboration.
- The Foundation continues promoting alliances to facilitate knowledge transfer in Venezuela and other communities in need to strengthen the capacity and access of health staff and services.
- The president of the Foundation delivered a presentation titled “Using Enterprise Risk Management to Navigate Risks in a Nonprofit Organization” at the Best Boards



Conference at Rice University. Additionally, in partnership with GlobalGiving, she presented “Sharing Power in Corporate Purpose” at the Association for Corporate Citizenship Professionals in Denver, Colorado.

- The president of the Simón Bolívar Foundation was acknowledged by the IESA Business School as a finalist for the 2023 Social Leader award and by the World Affairs Council of Houston as a 2023 Global Leader of Influence.

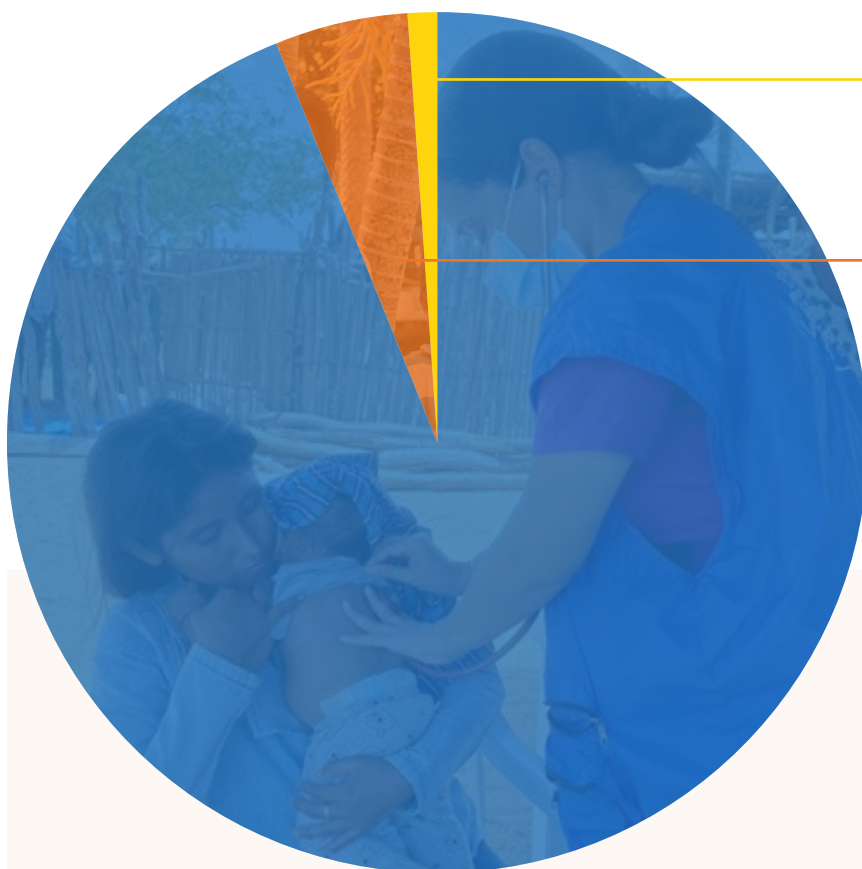


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Financial Information*

CITGO committed \$7.776 million to the Simón Bolívar Foundation. For the year ended December 31, 2023, \$7.647 million (94%) was committed to high impact/NGO grants, \$0.449 million (5%) to individual patients and transition plans, and \$0.093 million (1%) for administrative expenses. In addition, the Foundation has an outstanding conditional commitment of \$0.282 million for grants that must meet certain conditions.



1% Administrative Expenses

5% Individual Patients & Transition Plans

94% High Impact / NGO Grants

*Amounts shown are from audited 2023 financial statements which are available upon request.

Amounts are GAAP basis of accounting and do not include donated services.

Description of Grants by Charitable Program

The Foundation funds programs implemented by qualified charitable organizations with boots on the ground and the capacity to execute programs in accordance with the Foundation's objectives.

In 2023, the Simón Bolívar Foundation significantly increased its activity via its grants programs. As the number of migrants increases, the Foundation's outreach extends throughout Latin America and the United States, benefiting thousands of Venezuelans and other migrants living in vulnerable conditions.

2023 has been a year of reinforcing existing collaboration with organizations that have demonstrated satisfactory performance, continuous need, and the ability to absorb additional funds. The Foundation has requested and accepted proposals for project extensions and expansions under two grant modalities:

- Humanitarian Health Grants
- Knowledge Transfer, Networking and Education Grants / Capacity Building / Equipment Donation / Donation to hospitals





Simón Bolívar
Foundation®

2023
AT A GLANCE



\$7.8 Million

Donation from CITGO



9

Countries



281,722

Estimated Beneficiaries



114

Hospitals



1.1 Million

Meals



360,000

Medicines & Vitamins



15,900

PPE

Estimated numbers based on Agreements signed in 2023

"Doctors made us feel like people. They cared about our feelings; they really wanted our health to improve. We were not just another number."

~Patient benefited by a grant



*As of December 14, 2023

Humanitarian Health Grants

This program focuses on helping to address the complex humanitarian crisis in Venezuela through initiatives that improve access to medicines, nutrition, and healthcare for low-income and vulnerable individuals and populations in and from Venezuela. These grants are limited to qualified U.S.-registered 501 (c)(3) charitable organizations or fiscal equivalent organizations with a long-standing presence and demonstrated capacity to perform projects in Venezuela or in the region.

Selected organizations are invited to present grant proposals that are evaluated by the Foundation, with input from an independent volunteer community advisory team, based on the criteria below. The Foundation makes all grant award decisions.

- Meets the Foundation objectives
- Budget and cost-effectiveness
- Project design/plan
- Project impact
- Implementation time frame
- Sustainability over time / Strategic relationship

Under this grant modality, the Simón Bolívar Foundation entered into grant agreements in five main categories in 2023:

Humanitarian Health programs / Strategic partnerships

Integral Maternal, Neonatal and Childhood Health Care Program in Venezuela, Phase 2

Health Programs for Venezuelan and other Migrants in Colombia and Ecuador

Migrants' Program

Hoy Invita Simón II

Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants Strategic Partnerships

Grant Program: 2023 Program

Organization: GlobalGiving

Description

This grant program strengthens the strategic partnership with GlobalGiving, building upon the success of the first grant agreement signed with GlobalGiving in 2021. With the Foundation's support, GlobalGiving provides international grantmaking services for nonprofit organizations working in Venezuela and/or with Venezuelan and other migrant communities to improve access to medicine, nutrition and healthcare. In 2023, GlobalGiving selected and vetted 18 projects in Venezuela and four projects for migrants, for a total of 22 projects. These programs are being implemented through December 2024.

In addition, GlobalGiving conducts capacity-strengthening sessions for selected grantees, providing training on fundraising strategy, maximizing social media, and training on additional topics like grant applications and reporting.

An important component of this program is the collective fundraising campaign "Arepa Day," held September 5 - 9, 2023. Twenty-two organizations participated in this campaign, which provided an opportunity to expand their donor network and increase their visibility. They raised \$32,273 in addition to \$20,000 in matching funds.

Location

Venezuela, USA, Panama

Estimated beneficiaries

29,216 children

64,785 adults

717 health professionals

Grant award

\$1,250,000

UN SDGs



"Beyond the primary goal of raising funds, I consider it an additional achievement to have united 22 organizations. Working collaboratively, we can attain incredible results. Each organization possesses unique strengths, and our aim is to synergize these strengths to accomplish a major change."

Participant
Arepa Day Fundraising

Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants Strategic Partnerships

Project: Sembrando Salud — Improving the Health conditions of Venezuelan women and children in Costa Rica and Panama



Description

This project works to improve and enhance the physical well-being of vulnerable Venezuelans and other migrants, as well as host community members, especially women and children, in Panama and Costa Rica through comprehensive health services and nutritional assistance to address challenges faced in health and nutrition. Additionally, the initiative works to strengthen the capacity of local organizations and communities to increase access to these services.

Location

Panama and Costa Rica

Estimated beneficiaries

2,750 children
11,900 adults

Grant award

\$750,000

UN SDGs



“Being able to move forward without these health concerns hanging over us is incredibly reassuring and motivates us to keep going. Thank you to everyone who has made this possible.”

*Venezuelan Beneficiary
in transit*

Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants Strategic Partnerships

Project: Improving access to health services for people on the move in Mexico and Central America

Organization: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

Description

This project provides humanitarian assistance from a route-based approach by increasing first aid actions, primary health care services, mental health care and psychosocial support to the migrant population through the humanitarian service points along the migratory routes. The program also aims to improve health promotion in temporary or permanent host communities in Mexico, Honduras and Argentina.

This project is mainly focused on Venezuelan and other migrants, with special attention on the needs of women and children.

"Thanks to the coordination with the Simón Bolívar Foundation, we are strengthening internal teams to begin executing our specific actions in terms of health, guidance and information, and access to rights for migrants. We also work through awareness-raising with civil organizations to strengthen the health response with the aim of achieving adequate care, without stigma or discrimination and with universal access."

Anahí Bautista

Coordinadora de Frontera
de Cruz Roja Argentina

Location

Argentina, Mexico and Honduras

Estimated beneficiaries

2,738 children

13,870 adults

180 health professionals

staff and volunteers trained in
culturally appropriate care

2 hospitals

Grant award

\$500,000

UN SDGs



Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants Strategic Partnerships

Grant Program: Grants for Venezuelan Migrant Support

Organization: GlobalGiving

Description

This program provides medicine, personal hygiene items and nutritional and medical appointment support to Venezuelans and other migrants. This project also assisted a group of Venezuelan migrants in the U.S. border city of Brownsville, Texas affected by a car accident.

Location

Brownsville, Texas, USA

Estimated beneficiaries

1,500 migrants

Grant award

\$82,500

UN SDGs



Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants Strategic Partnerships

Project: The Health Support for Venezuelan and Other Migrant Asylum-Seeking Women program

Organization: Spring Branch Community Health Center

Description

This project aims to provide high-quality medical services at no cost to Venezuelan and other migrant women in need. Women who qualify benefit from free medical exams, comprehensive medical examinations, laboratory tests and some medical supplies. Participants facing transportation barriers that hinder access to medical appointments can avail themselves of ridesharing services.

Location

Houston, Texas, USA

Estimated beneficiaries

450 women

7 healthcare clinics

Grant award

\$200,000

UN SDGs



"I am very grateful for the attention received and being able to get checked. Everyone is very kind, and I will recommend these services to more people. Thank you for the attention and services you provided."

Naivelyn

Asylum seeker from Venezuela benefited



Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants IMNC Venezuela

Integral Maternal, Neonatal and Childhood Health Care Program (IMNC) Venezuela

In 2022, five organizations in Venezuela were awarded grants through this program. For 2023, selected organizations that performed satisfactorily, demonstrated a continuous need for their support and had the ability to accept more funds were invited to apply for Phase 2 of the program. The Foundation evaluated the applications in accordance with its processes and approved the following projects:

- Integral Maternal, Neonatal and Childhood Health Program in Zulia, Phase 2
- Never Forgotten: Health, Hope and Opportunities, Phase 2
- Sexual and Reproductive Health Needs Project, Phase 2
- Improving Maternal and Newborn Health in Bolívar, Phase 2
- Una Esperanza - One Hope for Mothers and Children



Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants IMNC Venezuela

Grant Program: Integral Maternal, Neonatal and Childhood Health Program in Zulia, Phase 2

Description

This program continues to improve healthcare services for Venezuelan mothers and children by focusing on identifying and controlling malnutrition in pregnant mothers who are in need. This program's second phase monitors, evaluates and assists them, so their children are born with stable nutritional indices, preventing diseases associated with poor nutrition from the mothers. Moreover, the program provides treatment to children under five years of age who have nutritional deficiencies. In addition, it supports healthcare professionals by providing them with the necessary tools to evaluate patients, while also enhancing institutional capacity through training.

Location

Maracaibo, Zulia, Venezuela

Grant award

\$250,000

Estimated beneficiaries

15,375 children
625 adults
60 health professionals
16,000 medicines
2 hospitals
3,600 PPE
1,600 vitamins

UN SDGs



"My son Julian got a lot better, and we have continued attending the monthly nutrition controls. His spirit is great, and he is a happier child. We will continue coming until we reach his ideal weight. Thank you very much! God bless you."

Patient's mother

Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants

IMNC Venezuela

Project: Never Forgotten: Health, Hope and Opportunities, Phase 2

Description

The project aims to improve nutrition and health services for newborns and children, and develop new processes, training and education efforts in and around a prominent pediatric hospital. The second phase includes pregnant women and health workers, aims to enhance the access and quality of medical attention, and develop and use new tools and knowledge to improve opportunities for those in vulnerable situations. The project has also expanded to include specialized hospitalization units of Nephrology, Pneumology and Intensive Care and provides specialized equipment for Gastroenterology and Pneumology services.

Location

Valencia, Carabobo, Venezuela

Estimated beneficiaries

6,000 children
1,200 meals
4,230 medicines
160 health professionals
1 hospital
71,300 vitamins

Grant award
\$312,500

UN SDGs



"I have two babies: a newborn and a two-year-old girl. We are receiving help from the Foundation. I received newborn formula and vitamins. On behalf of the entire community, I want to thank you."

Almaris
Beneficiary



Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants

IMNC Venezuela

Project: Sexual and Reproductive Health Needs

Project, Phase 2



Description

This project addresses the critical sexual and reproductive health needs of the most vulnerable populations in the communities of the States of Apure and Amazonas in Venezuela. The goal is to prevent the high rate of maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality, unwanted pregnancies and sexual violence, in addition to responding to the needs of survivors of Gender-Based Violence. It also aims to prevent transmission and reduce morbidity and mortality from HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases. Moreover, the initiative provides small medical devices and implements comprehensive programs.

Location

Amazonas and Apure States, Venezuela

Estimated beneficiaries

8,750 children
19,825 adults
11,250 medicines
200 health professionals
5 hospitals

Grant award

\$250,000

UN SDGs



"I am very grateful for this opportunity and for helping me take control of my reproductive health since I do not have the resources, and being able to receive this for free makes me very happy."

Libia
Beneficiary

Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants IMNC Venezuela

Project: Improving Maternal and Newborn Health in Bolívar, Phase 2



Description

This project offers essential health services to indigenous and non-indigenous communities, focusing on maternal, newborn, and child health. The initiative involves providing pediatric consultations and organizing awareness-raising sessions for community leaders and members. The sessions cover topics such as breastfeeding advantages, newborn care and the treatment of common childhood illnesses.

Location

Bolívar, Venezuela

Estimated beneficiaries

1,237 children
999 adults
29 health professionals
114,237 medicines
1 hospital
38,079 vitamins

Grant award

\$500,000

UN SDGs



"The provision of these kits has not only equipped the women in my community with the necessary tools, but together with the training, providers feel empowered to proactively identify and detect potential warning signs at an early stage, which can allow us to make timely referrals, when necessary, ultimately saving lives."

Raquel

Community leader and beneficiary

Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants

IMNC Venezuela

Project: Una Esperanza – One Hope for Mothers and Children

Description

The project improves maternal health by increasing screening and treatment, providing education and nutritional supplements, and enhancing early childhood screening and treatment for common medical issues like intestinal and respiratory illnesses. It also focuses on improving early childhood nutrition, increasing medical center locations, and effectively promoting the available services and benefits of early maternal engagement and intervention for women and children in need. Lastly, the project strives to strengthen the capacity of medical staff.

"I really appreciate this program. They provided me with medication support during a difficult time and even donated vitamins and folic acid. When my baby was born, he had weight problems, but the pediatrician here was excellent and provided me with much-needed peace of mind. They not only support babies but also nursing mothers with medications. The attention from the specialist and program has been excellent. Thank you!"

Keila
Beneficiary

Location

Aragua, Falcón and Lara, Venezuela

Estimated beneficiaries

1,000 children

600 adults

100 health professionals

801,500 meals

4,000lb of medicine

5 hospitals

4,000lb of vitamins

Grant award

\$300,000

UN SDGs



Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants Colombia and Ecuador

Health Programs for Venezuelan and other Migrants in Colombia and Ecuador

The number of Venezuelan migrants continue to increase. In 2021, the Center for Disaster Philanthropy released a report titled “The Dangers of Forced Displacement: Chronic and Emerging Health Needs of Venezuelans in the Americas Region,” which makes a strong case for expanding the Foundation’s activities to support more programs in the region. To address this issue, the Foundation launched two grant programs in 2021 (Colombia Program) and 2022 (Health program for Venezuelan and other migrants in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru). These programs aim to provide support to the increasing number of Venezuelan and other migrants who require access to healthcare services.

Similar to the IMNC program in Venezuela, the Foundation, with the objective of strengthening existing partnerships, evaluated extension proposals for grants that have performed satisfactorily and demonstrated the continuous need. Seven grants were awarded for a total of \$1.68 million. The approved projects include:

- Community Health CARE (Capacity, Access, Reach, and Education), Phase 2
- Boosting the Health and Nutrition of Mothers and Children in Colombia, Phase 2
- Children and Mother’s Care Guajira (CHIMOG), Expansion
- Improving Maternal Health Services for Venezuelan Migrants in Colombia
- Stay in School, Phase 2
- Exercising my Right in Inclusive Health, Phase 2



Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants Colombia and Ecuador

Project: Community Health CARE (Capacity, Access, Reach, and Education), Phase 2

Organization: Medical Teams

Description

Implemented along the Caribbean Coast in previously underserved Necocli, Turbo and Apartado, this project improves access to existing healthcare facilities for Venezuelans and other migrants in need who are not registered in Colombia's health system. It empowers communities to improve their own health through Community Health Volunteers who lead their communities in preventative health education and the adoption of healthy practices, with a special emphasis on maternal, child, reproductive health, non-communicable diseases, and mental health. The project is in its second year- in its first year, Medical Teams served migrant populations in Santa Marta, Cienaga and Barranquilla.

Location

Necocli, Turbo and Apartado, Colombia

Grant award

\$437,500

Estimated beneficiaries

4,250 children

8,250 adults

20 health professionals

UN SDGs



"I wanted to be a volunteer with Medical Teams because I like to help. I like sharing with neighbors and knowing Medical Teams is helping my countrymen. I like to teach them that we can move forward together. I have felt their support as well, and that has changed my life completely."

Margri

Volunteer in Santa Marta





Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants Colombia and Ecuador

Project: Boosting the Health and Nutrition of Mothers and Children in Colombia, Phase 2

Organization: Global Impact

Description

Through partnerships with local organizations, this project supports the health, food security, and nutrition of Venezuelan migrants, especially women, children and other vulnerable populations. This is the continuation of a project funded by the Foundation initially in 2022. This initiative serves warm meals and distributes hygiene/sanitary kits to walkers and residents in need. In addition, the program expands the meal distribution to a new location, where little to no food is currently provided.

Location

Cucuta, Colombia

Estimated beneficiaries

80,295 adults
218,400 meals
1,000 PPE

Grant award

\$268,851

UN SDGs



“With a group of colleagues, we are immigrating because the situation in Venezuela is quite complicated to find a job. We are almost in an unlivable situation. With a salary of \$20, one who has a family, we have children, \$20 a week is not [sufficient].”

Francisco
Walker¹ beneficiary

¹ Migrants who leave the country by foot

Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants Colombia and Ecuador

Project: Strengthening Children and Mother's Care Guajira (CHIMOG), Expansion

Organization: Texas Children's Hospital, as fiscal sponsor for Baylor College of Medicine Children's Foundation Colombia

Description

The Simón Bolívar Foundation and Texas Children's Hospital, as fiscal sponsor for Baylor College of Medicine Children's Foundation Colombia, expanded their grant agreement to continue working together to strengthen the well-being of children, adolescents and families by implementing comprehensive health strategies. This initiative aims to enhance healthcare services; increase the capacity of health professionals and workers; address basic needs such as laboratory tests for pregnant women and malnourished children; and the delivery of malnutrition treatment packages. This expansion offers additional services for dentistry and optometry, dental prostheses, ophthalmology assessment, and delivery of glasses.

"They have provided me with medications and formulas. They have helped me with the exams, treatments and medicine because my daughter had malnutrition. I am grateful for Baylor and the Simón Bolívar Foundation."

Yulaysi
Beneficiary

Location

La Guajira, Colombia

Estimated beneficiaries

1,050 children

901 adults

2,048 medicine

2,228 health professionals

2 hospitals

Grant award

\$241,000

UN SDGs



Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants Colombia and Ecuador

Project: Improving Maternal Health Services for Venezuelan Migrants in Colombia

Organization: Project Hope the People to People Health
Foundation Inc.

Description

Continuing to build on the success of this project's first and second phases, the third phase extends and expands its services and support to address the reproductive and maternal health needs of underserved migrant women. It also aims to increase the capacity of physicians and nurses to provide high-quality maternal healthcare while supporting health facilities by donating vitamins and supplements, personal protective equipment and other necessary equipment. Moreover, it increases awareness of prenatal self-care, including pregnancy risks, gender-based violence and mental health, as it strengthens healthcare referral pathways at the community level.

Location

Villa del Rosario, Colombia

Estimated beneficiaries

4,000 adults
500 health professionals,
75 hospitals
11,300 PPE

Grant award

\$250,000

UN SDGs



"I participated in the Perinatal Maternal Route diploma, and I found the thematic unit very didactic. It enriched our knowledge and improved our daily deficiencies in the practice. We hope you will delve deeper into new topics in other diploma courses. Thank you!"

Yasneidy
Health professional benefited



Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants Colombia and Ecuador

Project: Stay in School, Phase 2

Organization: Caring for Colombia



Description

This project primarily supports the food security and nutritional recovery of children in need from migrant and host communities while promoting the importance of consistent school attendance. It also promotes physical and oral health, with a preventive focus.

In addition, the program provides capacity-strengthening workshops in nutritional education, preventive health and hygiene practices. The workshops are aimed at caregivers, parents, relatives and teachers from the three public schools in Norte de Santander, “La Frontera” in Villa del Rosario, and “La Fortaleza” in Cucuta, Colombia.

Location

Cucuta, Colombia

Estimated beneficiaries

400 children

150 adults

72,000 meals

4,000 medicines

Grant award

\$165,000

UN SDGs



Humanitarian Health Medium/Large Grants Colombia and Ecuador

Project: Exercising my Right in Inclusive Health, Phase 2

Organization: Scalabrini International Migration Network

Description

Scalabrini International Migration Network, as the fiscal sponsor of Congregación de Hermanas Misioneras de San Carlos Borromeo Scalabrinianas, provides comprehensive care to vulnerable populations, including Venezuelan migrants through this project. The care services focus on physical, mental and social well-being, with access to healthcare and affordable, nutritious food.

"They did not leave us alone or abandon us as migrants, wherever we went and asked for help, they have provided great support."

Odila
Venezuelan migrant benefited

Location

Santo Domingo, Ibarra and
Manta, Ecuador

Estimated beneficiaries

1,150 children
1,300 adults
500 meals
1 community center

Grant award

\$270,000

UN SDGs



Small Grant Program
Hoy Invita Simón

Healing Newly Arrived Venezuelans and Other Migrants in New York City- Food Program

Organization: AID FOR AIDS



Description

This initiative delivers approximately 4,360 culturally appropriate meals, juice and bottled water to newly arrived Venezuelans and other migrants in New York City at 12 events over four months.

Location

New York, New York, USA

Estimated beneficiaries

380 adults
4,360 meals

Grant award

\$96,045

UN SDGs



"Thanks to AID FOR AIDS for the hot meal they offer during the weekly jornada. Living in a shelter, it is not easy to access this type of food and we do not have kitchens to cook hot meals for us and our families. Having organizations that provide these services nearby is a blessing."

Venezuelan beneficiary

Small Grant Program

Hoy Invita Simón

Holiday Donation

During the Holidays, four organizations in the U.S. received funds to provide hot meals and food bags to Venezuelans and other migrants in need in Houston, Miami and New York.

UN SDGs



AID FOR AIDS

New York, New York, USA

310 adults
310 meals

\$10,000

"Thank you for providing us with food. The meals are delicious and a true blessing for us, especially since we live in a shelter and we don't have where to cook, and the food we receive there is often frozen."

Beneficiary



Hermanos de la Calle

Miami, Florida, USA

150 adults
150 meals

\$10,000

"I received these food bags when I was expecting them the least, and they have been a great Christmas gift. Thank you for everything you do for us."

Carolina
Beneficiary



Big Little JC

Houston, Texas, USA

600 adults
150 food bags

\$10,000

"With the support of the Simón Bolívar Foundation we were able to provide food to families in need in these special moments. Collaborating on this and other initiatives allows us to support people and families in need."

Eva Cedeño
President, Big Little JC



Latin Ladies Foundation

Houston, Texas, USA

434 adults
186 children

\$5,000

"I want to thank the sponsors and Latin Ladies for your donations. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Your generous donations helped me and my family."

Juanita
Beneficiary

Knowledge Transfer, Networking and Education Grant Program • Equipment Donation

These programs aim to enhance the capacity of medical professionals, doctors, nurses and caregivers to serve and treat patients in and from Venezuela through training in nutrition, global health practices and disaster medicine. Additionally, this category of grant assists in financing organizations that educate and raise awareness about the complex humanitarian crisis in Venezuela, as well as retaining doctors and improving the infrastructure of medical training facilities.



Knowledge Transfer, Networking and Education
Organization: Institute for Healthcare Improvement

Improving Primary Care for Venezuelan Mothers and Children in Colombia: Capacity-Building and Demonstration Project

Description

This program provides training in maternal and early childhood primary care for healthcare workers in Colombia. It includes virtual and in-person sessions, coaching and practical opportunities. By training doctors, nurses and other professionals, it improves the lives of hundreds of children and their families. The project includes the delivery of two prototype models -one provides the guidelines to be applied at the hospital,

while the other one is to be applied at home after the newborn is discharged from the hospital. The implementation of these prototypes shows that the model of improvement, applied to the management of the low-weight newborn, empowers the hospital's personnel to validate the practices based on scientific evidence.

Location

Colombia

Estimated beneficiaries

550 children

87 health workers

Grant award

\$129,895

UN SDGs



"This training has been valuable and has given us useful information. We really hope to continue with this training that has been beneficial and can be implemented to lower these very high rates of low birthweight that we currently have in addition to improving the follow-up that we do in these cases right now."

Dr. María Isabel
Program participant

Equipment Donation • Donations to Hospitals

Life After Transplant II

Description

After successfully completing the first phase, this project continues with an extension to provide the necessary medical support to patients in Venezuela who have received liver transplants. It includes the delivery of immunosuppressant medications, relevant laboratory tests and imaging studies, such as hepatic echo doppler, follow-up visits, and coverage for potential complications and liver biopsies, if needed, to rule out organ rejection.

"My son couldn't find medications at the Social Security service. We traveled to other cities, but they only had expired medications. Having the security of getting immunosuppressants through this program is peace of mind for my son and the whole family."

Jose
Father of beneficiary

Location

Venezuela

Estimated beneficiaries

24 children

21 adults

Grant award

\$277,870

UN SDGs



Updates to 2020–2022 Grants



From 2020 through the end of 2023, the Simón Bolívar Foundation has signed 96 grants, with 24 projects still active. Some of the grants signed in earlier years continue in execution, given challenges in implementation, which required no-cost extensions or temporary suspension. Likewise, grants signed in 2022 and 2023 were extended over time.

By the end of 2023, there is still one grant signed in 2020 under final review and verification, one grant signed in 2021 and ongoing, and four grants signed in 2022 still active. The Foundation monitors progress periodically, receiving a progress report and status update for activities, metrics and budget, as well as testimonials and verification tools. Regular meetings are held with grantees to discuss challenges, achievements and lessons learned.

"In 2020, we entered into a grant agreement with the Simón Bolívar Foundation to implement our nutritional program "Healing". Despite many challenges in the execution, we remained committed to the population we promised to serve. Through open communication and concerted efforts with the Foundation team, the project was redesigned and successfully accomplished. As a result, we positively impacted the lives of 3,278 children, delivering 787,782 portions of nutritional supplements. It has truly been a pleasure collaborating with the Simón Bolívar Foundation. Both their team and ours are consistently committed to serving those in need."

Jesus Aguais
President, AID FOR AIDS

Closed Projects

As of December 14, 2023, 15 grants had been successfully completed after a thorough and rigorous review process of final reporting presented by the grantees. This process included verifying the charitable program, including the number of beneficiaries served and the objectives achieved in accordance with the grant agreement, as well as challenges encountered and lessons learned.

All projects were completed with the approved budget. As in any project, especially in complex environments, the actual outcomes may differ from the initial and / or revised target.

Due to a higher number of participants than initially expected, the number of health professionals who received training increased to 2,816. Cost savings were achieved, leading to a higher number of meals, (878,513) medicines (58,728) and personal protective equipment (37,924). Later, a significant

number of hospitals were added to the project following the overwhelmingly positive response from the health professionals, benefiting up to 322 hospitals in total.

The total number of unique beneficiaries of 155,777 was lower than originally planned, mainly due to differences in initial assumptions. The health grants funded medical services that were provided to certain beneficiaries over a longer period of time or, in certain cases, several treatments for each beneficiary, which better addressed the needs of those participating in these programs. Changes in the project's scope and location also affected the final number of beneficiaries. Extreme weather conditions also led to adjustments in the number of beneficiaries. Additionally, a mistake in calculating the unit targets resulted in a lower number of vitamins and nutritional supplements being delivered than planned.



"We are both humble and proud of the substantial impact that our charitable grants, as well as the work of our partners, continues to generate. Moving forward, we are filled with hope as we implement promising grants and strengthen valuable partnerships. With an increased budget this year, we expect to positively impact many more lives."

Mariela Poleo

President, Simón Bolívar Foundation



Simón Bolívar Foundation President and part of the Board: Andres Padilla, Mariela Poleo and Pablo Perez Barreiro. Not pictured David Weaver.



Simón Bolívar
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