



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Simón Bolívar
Foundation®

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Introduction

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Letter from the Board of Directors

The Simón Bolívar Foundation has touched **more than one million lives** over the last five years—an impressive achievement. Since the Foundation revised its mission, it has established more than **100 grant agreements**, and we have witnessed the development and implementation of impactful programs designed to assist those who need it the most.

As a board member, I am proud of the strategy we have set forth and the work led by the Foundation's President, Mariela Poleo, and her team across **12 countries, improving the health and nutrition of communities in and from Venezuela** and other vulnerable populations. Through leadership and innovative approaches, the Foundation has forged key **strategic partnerships** with expert organizations, thereby expanding its reach and impact.

It has been a journey of **learning, adaptation and success**. In just a few years, the Foundation has significantly increased its impact by **strategically focusing its efforts and resources**. Initially, the grants supported COVID-19 care programs, and subsequently shifted towards **humanitarian health**, with an emphasis on primary care for **mothers and children**, as well as support for migrants and responses to natural disasters.

In 2024, the Simón Bolívar Foundation signed 19 grant agreements that will benefit approximately **342,452 vulnerable individuals**, including the delivery of **184,160 meals** and **430,049 medicines and vitamins**.

Additionally, the Simón Bolívar Foundation has expanded its presence in the United States by partnering with local academic and health institutions, further enhancing its charitable programs.



“ It has been a journey of **learning, adaptation and success**. In just a few years, the Foundation has significantly increased its impact by **strategically focusing its efforts and resources**. ”

Through these collaborations, underserved communities in the **Greater Houston** area and other regions will gain access to high-quality basic health services. These initiatives will also provide training for community health workers and conduct essential research focused on maternal health.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the support of CITGO Petroleum Corporation. I am grateful that CITGO has confidence in the Foundation's mission, vision and work. I look forward to seeing what 2025 will bring for the Simón Bolívar Foundation, its team, partners and beneficiaries.

Andrés E. Padilla V.
Member of the Board of Directors
Simón Bolívar Foundation

Letter from the President

As we celebrate the fifth anniversary of our mission's realignment, I am proud to reflect on the incredible impact the Simón Bolívar Foundation has made across the Americas. Since 2020, our commitment to improving the health and well-being of vulnerable communities has touched the lives of **more than one million Venezuelans and others in need. This milestone reflects the dedication of our team, the trust of our partners and the resilience of the communities we serve.**

Over the last five years, we have awarded more than 100 grants totaling \$23.8 million, reaching beneficiaries in 12 countries, including Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Mexico and the United States. Our grants have evolved from addressing immediate needs during the COVID-19 pandemic to focusing on long-term humanitarian health, with emphasis on primary care for mothers and children, support for migrants and response to natural disasters. Our strategy is based on data-driven analysis, supported by studies from reputable organizations.



“

Our commitment to improving the health and well-being of vulnerable communities has touched the lives of **more than one million people in need. This milestone reflects the dedication of our team, the trust of our partners and the resilience of the communities we serve.**

”

Transparency and accountability remain at the core of our operations. Since 2020, we have published annual reports and undergone internal and external audits, ensuring that every dollar entrusted to us is used effectively to make a difference. This commitment has enabled us to build trust and credibility with our partners and communities.

In 2024, we expanded our reach to provide support also in the United States, especially in Houston, Texas, where we are based. Through strategic partnerships, we launched and extended grant programs addressing primary care, mental health, access to medicines, and food security, ensuring that Venezuelans and other vulnerable populations receive the critical support they need. Site visits to projects in Panama, Costa Rica, Mexico and New York City confirmed the profound impact of these initiatives. I had the opportunity to hear firsthand the stories of some of our beneficiaries and see the challenges that humanitarian health initiatives in remote areas face and overcome. These visits allowed me to better understand the needs, which is key to designing our programs.

A cornerstone of our work is capacity building. This year, we signed an agreement with the University of Houston, aiming to train Spanish-speaking community health workers, further empowering individuals and enhancing community care.

As we look to the future, we remain steadfast in our mission to improve the quality of life for Venezuelans and other vulnerable groups. **Our work would not be possible without the dedication of our partners, whose collaboration has allowed us to overcome challenges and amplify our reach. The support of CITGO Petroleum Corporation, the Foundation Board of Directors, Officers and our team, together with our partners, has laid a strong foundation for continued impact.**

Mariela Poleo
President
Simón Bolívar Foundation



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About us

Mission and Goals

The Simón Bolívar Foundation Inc. (Foundation) 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.



MISSION

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



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.

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 situation in Venezuela continues to be challenging, 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 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, **more than 7.7 million⁴ Venezuelan migrants and refugees have scattered across the globe.** By November 2023, children, women and other vulnerable members were 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 United Nations Refugee Agency, **more than 520,000 people crossed the Darien Gap in Panama in 2023, facing significant security risks. Of that number, 7 out of 10 migrants were Venezuelan.** This has changed over the last few years, with stricter border controls and reverse migrant flow also taking place.

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 (R&V)

⁵ ACNUR

Governance



The Simón Bolívar Foundation is a private 501(c)(3) non-profit 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 comply with 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 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](#), [2023](#) and [2024](#) Annual Reports.

In addition, the Foundation's Form 990-PF tax return is filed each year with the IRS. Past years' forms are available on the [IRS charitable organization information search](#) section on its website.

2024 Achievements

GOVERNANCE



- Corporate governance processes continue to be reinforced by the Foundation's Board of Directors, Officers and staff. In addition, the Foundation's grantees are required to comply with applicable laws and regulations and other requirements in implementing the charitable programs covered by their grant agreements.
- The Simón Bolívar Foundation Grant Manual for employees has been updated.
- For the third consecutive year, the Foundation continues to engage one of the "Big 4" audit firms to assess the Foundation's controls on grant making and to review a sampling of grantee organizations and their charitable programs. As in the past year, the audit found no gaps or weaknesses, indicating that the Foundation has a robust control framework in place to properly manage its charitable programs and grants and identify and mitigate risks. In addition, the auditor recognized the Foundation's personnel strengths and its continuous improvement approach.

TRANSPARENCY



- For the fifth 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 Simón Bolívar Foundation team was selected as a finalist for ALLY Energy's GRIT Awards in the category of Best Energy Team for embodying Growth, Resilience, Innovation and Talent (GRIT) in efforts that advance gritty culture.



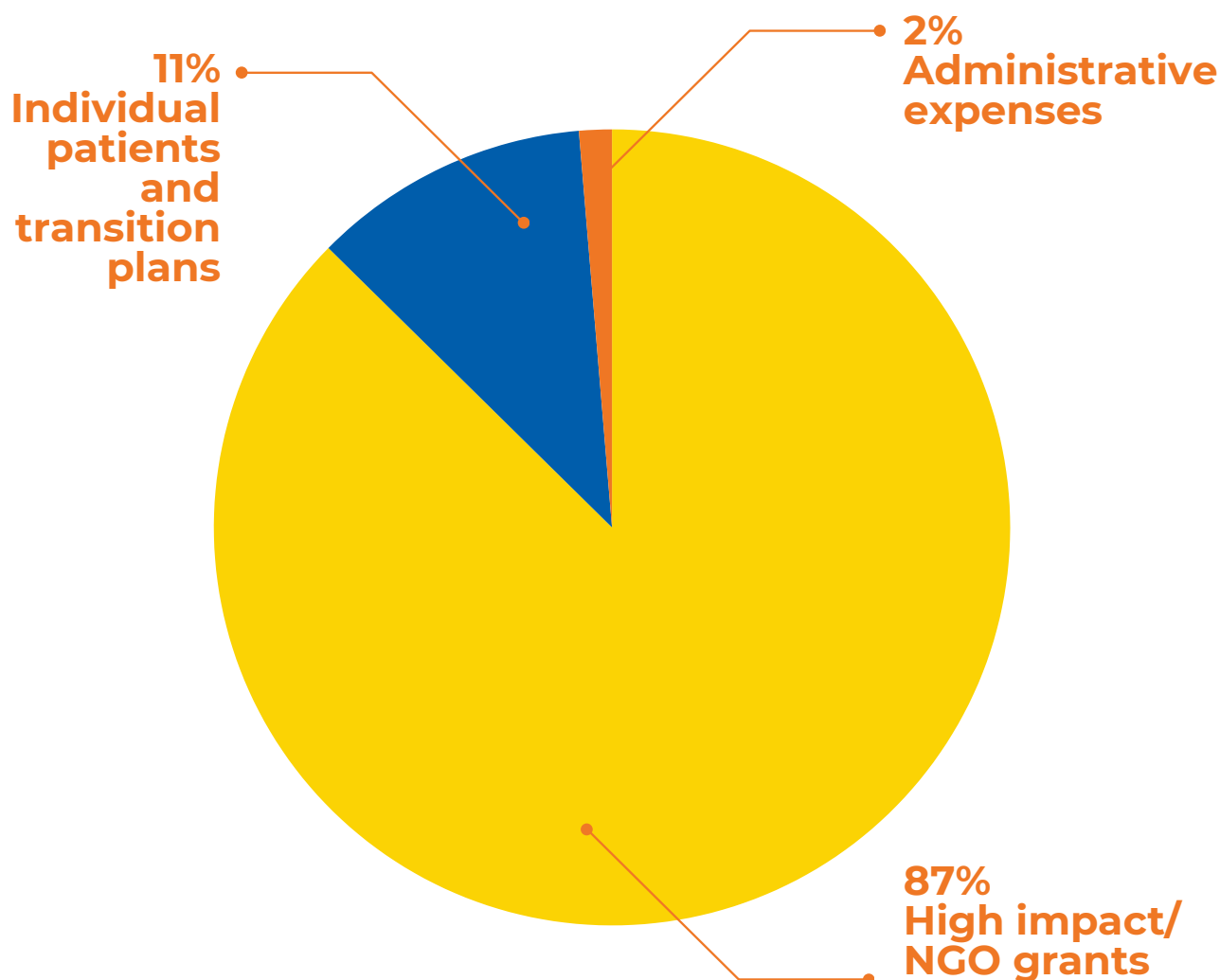
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Financial Information*

CITGO committed \$7.5 million to the Simón Bolívar Foundation.

For the year ended December 31, 2024, \$6.14 million (87%) was committed to high impact/NGO grants, \$0.78 million (11%) to individual patients and transition plans, and \$0.10 million (1%) for administrative expenses.



*Amounts shown are pending the conclusion of the financial audit.

Amounts are GAAP basis of accounting and do not include donated services. As of December 31, 2024, the Foundation has an outstanding conditional commitment of \$867,124.

Description of Grants by Charitable Program

The Foundation supports programs run by qualified charitable organizations that have the ability to implement projects aligned with its objectives.

In 2024, the Simón Bolívar Foundation continued its strategy of supporting humanitarian programs and focusing on strategic alliances with organizations that have demonstrated satisfactory performance, a continuous need and the capacity to effectively utilize additional funds. In addition, the Foundation has decided to expand its reach within the United States to support vulnerable Venezuelans and other populations, particularly in Houston, Texas, where it is based. To achieve this goal, grant agreements were signed to support health programs that focus on primary care, mental health, medicines, and food assistance.

The Foundation is committed to strengthening the capacities of health professionals through agreements that enhance access to, and the quality of health services for, vulnerable populations in Venezuela, the United States and other countries in the Americas.

In 2024, the Foundation has invited and accepted proposals under two grant modalities:

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





Simón Bolívar
Foundation.

2024
AT A GLANCE



MISSION

Improve the health of vulnerable individuals affected by disaster, conflict and poverty, with special attention to children and mothers in and from Venezuela.

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

—José, father of beneficiary



\$7.5 Million

Donation from CITGO



6

Countries



430,049

Medicines & Vitamins



7,500

PPE



342,452

Estimated Beneficiaries



2,286

Hospitals, Community Centers and Schools



184,160

Meals



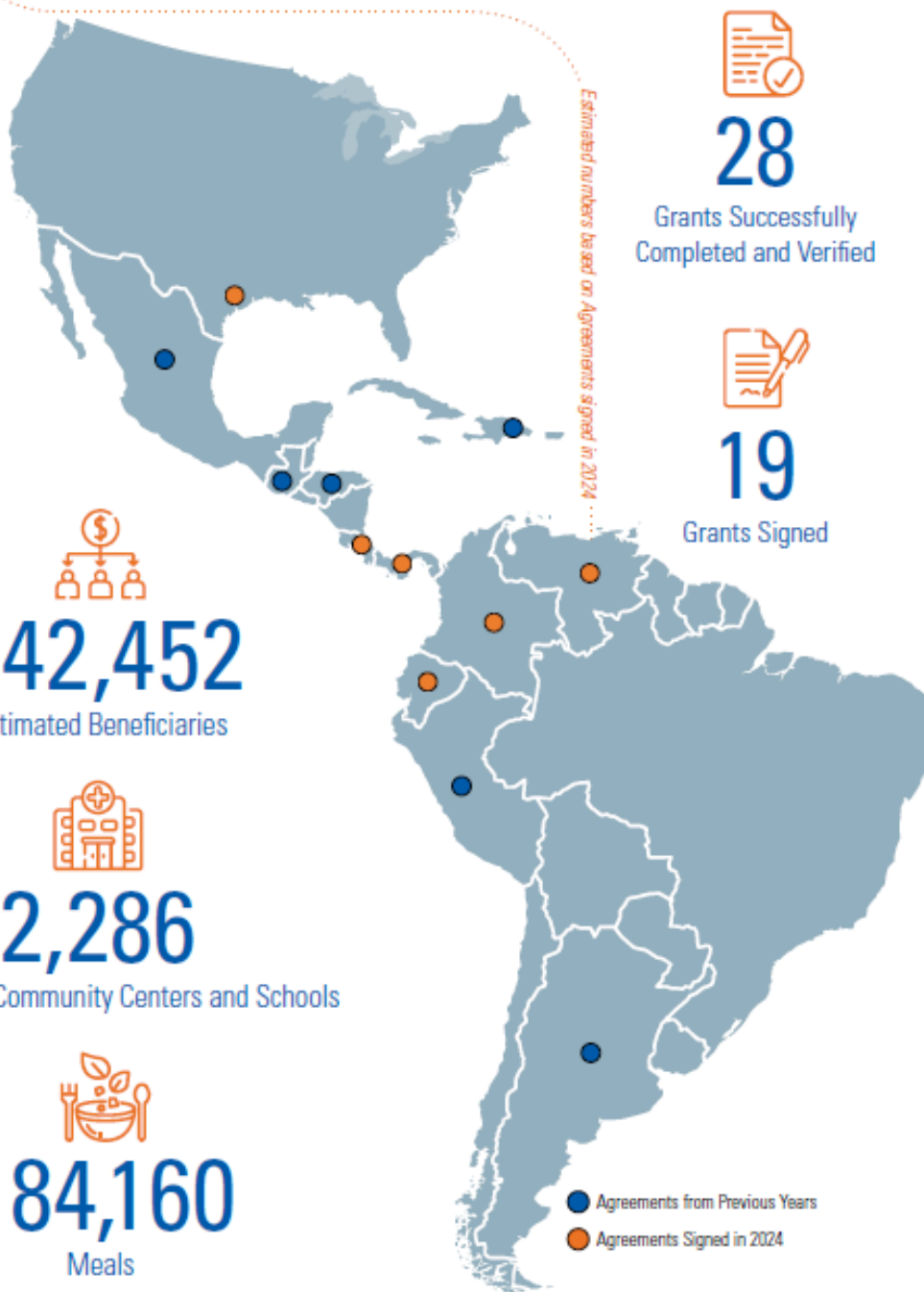
28

Grants Successfully
Completed and Verified



19

Grants Signed



*As of December 31, 2024

Humanitarian Health Grants

This program focuses on supporting initiatives that improve access to medicines, nutrition, and healthcare for low-income and in need individuals in and from Venezuela and other vulnerable populations. These grants are limited to U.S.-registered 501(c)(3) charitable organizations or other qualified 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 outlined 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 the following categories of grant agreements in 2024:

- 1. Strategic partnerships:** In 2020 and 2021, the Foundation identified large, reputable organizations with whom we can establish strategic alliances to implement our charitable programs.
- 2. New projects in the U.S.:** In 2024, the Board of Directors approved expanding our services to more organizations that provide support to vulnerable populations in the U.S., especially in Houston, Texas, where the Foundation and CITGO are based.
- 3. Integral Maternal, Neonatal and Childhood Health Care (IMNC) Program in Venezuela, Phase 3:** This initiative started in 2022, following the study performed by researchers of Johns Hopkins University, which demonstrated the need to reinforce maternal, neonatal health care. In 2022, five organizations in Venezuela were awarded grants through this program. For 2024, one selected organization that met the criteria was invited to apply for the continuation of the program.



Humanitarian Health Grants

4. Health Programs for Venezuelan and other Migrants in

Colombia and Ecuador: 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 made a strong case for expanding the Foundation's activities to support more programs in the region given the increasing number of Venezuelan and other migrants. 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 a continuous need. Seven grants were awarded, totaling \$1.68 million.

5. Hoy Invita Simón: In 2020, the Hoy Invita Simón Program started as a program to provide small grants to organizations that could provide meals and food to vulnerable populations while supporting local restaurants and services. Throughout the years, this program has supported small organizations to provide a line of help to people in need.

Project: 2024 Program

Organization: GlobalGiving Foundation

DESCRIPTION

Our partner provides international grantmaking services to nonprofit organizations working in Venezuela and with Venezuelan and other migrant communities to improve access to medicine, nutrition and healthcare. They identify and recommend nonprofit partners, facilitate grant payments, and manage ongoing support and evaluation of sub-grantees. Additionally, they coordinate a collective fundraising campaign on their website, organizing nonprofits to plan and market the campaign around Arepa Day, with matching funds to incentivize donations.

LOCATION

United States, Venezuela

GRANT AWARD

\$1,500,000

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

64,040 children

133,065 adults

136,915 medicines

3,015 health professionals

68,849 vitamins

2,225 hospitals, community centers and schools

UN SDGS



“

We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to reconnect with organizations and collaborate. Despite numerous obstacles, every organization made a tremendous effort to carry out the campaign, allowing us to raise funds that will help us continue bringing health to communities.

**Participant from
a local organization**



Project: *Sembrando Salud*: Central America - Improving the Health Conditions of Venezuelan Women and Children in Costa Rica and Panama

DESCRIPTION

This initiative strengthens the capacity of local organizations, communities and vulnerable populations in Panama and Costa Rica. This project provides comprehensive health services and nutritional support to address the health and nutrition challenges of vulnerable Venezuelans, other migrants and host community members.

This 12-month binational program aims at increasing migrants' knowledge of best practices in health and nutrition to improve their health outcomes. It also supports local partners in delivering healthcare services to vulnerable communities through primary care and pediatric, sexual, reproductive, mental health and gynecological services. It also provides food assistance.

LOCATION

Darien Gap in Panama and northern and southern borders in Costa Rica

GRANT AWARD

\$500,000

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

3,600 children

10,900 adults

UN SDGS



I feel very grateful for the medical care I have received. I have been treated with respect, felt heard, and have been supported in what I needed.

Anonymous
Beneficiary



Project: Healing Newly Arrived Venezuelan and Other Migrants in New York City- Nutrition and Mental Health

Organization: Aid For Aids, Inc

DESCRIPTION

This initiative continues the weekly humanitarian aid events, providing urgently needed, culturally appropriate hot meals, juice and bottled water to newly arrived Venezuelans and other migrants in New York City. These 18 events engaged approximately 255 new volunteers and 285 returning volunteers over five months. This project started as a small grant part of the Hoy Invita Simón program, which was further expanded due to its success. It now includes a capacity-building component that trains nearly 300 volunteers on nutrition, mental health and well-being topics.

LOCATION

New York, New York

GRANT AWARD

\$200,000

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES UN SDGS

5,655 beneficiaries
300 health professionals
6,000 meals



The two workshops on food and nutrition were amazing. I loved them because I learned how to maintain a healthy diet and discovered things I didn't know about food. We also explored different options for creating balanced meals. I felt well-guided, and now I'm excited to share everything I learned with my friends so they can benefit from this information too.

Venezuelan Beneficiary



Project: Improving Maternal Health Outcomes

Organization: Legacy Community Health Services

DESCRIPTION

This grant provides in-person and virtual bilingual (English/Spanish) and culturally sensitive psychiatric and therapeutic postpartum mental health services. It targets Hispanic mothers, including those from the Venezuelan community, as well as other vulnerable populations. The project supports 11 clinics within the Legacy Community Health System in the Houston metropolitan area.

LOCATION

Greater Houston, Texas

GRANT AWARD

\$200,000

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

861 adults

3 health professionals

11 hospitals

UN SDGS



I am grateful for the guidance and calm they brought to my pregnancy and delivery. I will forever be thankful to Legacy for being there when I needed it most.

Oralía
Beneficiary

Project: Healthy Living Mobile Clinic Program Expansion

Organization: Christus Foundation for Healthcare

DESCRIPTION

This initiative expands access to vital vaccinations and preventive care for vulnerable migrant families in Northwest Houston, including Cypress, Katy, Spring and Tomball. With support from the Simón Bolívar Foundation, the Christus Foundation is increasing the number of children vaccinated through the Vaccines For Children Program and providing free flu shots and health screenings for children and adults.

LOCATION

Greater Houston, Texas

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

2,131 children
878 adults

UN SDGS



GRANT AWARD

\$250,000



One of the most life-changing experiences of my childhood was helping care for my grandmother, who had diabetes. My sisters and I would take turns with our parents, taking her to medical appointments and often translating for her. Being a part of the CHRISTUS Healthy Mobile Clinic has given me the chance to combine my personal experiences with my passion for helping others. I know that our work makes a real difference. This job allows me to give back, support my community, and be the person my family once needed.

Elizabeth
Registered Nurse



Project: A Multi-Pronged Approach Promoting Health Outcomes for Venezuelans and Other Vulnerable Populations in the U.S.

DESCRIPTION

This project provides charitable clinics with free medication for chronic and acute conditions, over-the-counter supplements like vitamins, mental health medications, and personal protective equipment to distribute free of charge to patients. In addition, healthcare professionals receive trauma-informed care training that focuses on the specific mental health needs of the immigrant Venezuelan community and other vulnerable populations.

LOCATION

Texas, Georgia, Florida and North Carolina

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

150 health professionals
30,000 medicines
15 hospitals
2,000 vitamins
2,000 PPE

GRANT AWARD

\$250,000

UN SDGS



By improving access to prescriptions, we're enhancing continuity of care and supporting better medication compliance. Patients are now able to pick up their medications before leaving the clinic, ensuring they receive both the treatment and support they need.

Camino Clinic
Benefited clinic



Project: Improving Maternal and Newborn Health in Bolívar

DESCRIPTION

This initiative strengthens local health services and nutrition through community and facility-based approaches. The project focuses on infant and young child health in the Sucre and Cedenó Municipalities of Bolívar state, Venezuela. This organization continues deploying mobile medical units to hard-to-reach communities and enhancing the operational and technical capacities of the community health workers to deliver first-line child health treatment to common diseases.

LOCATION

Bolívar, Venezuela

GRANT AWARD

\$500,000

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

- 1,448 children
- 1,662 adults
- 15 health professionals
- 18,010 medicines
- 32,029 vitamins
- 1 hospital

UN SDGS



The pediatrician was very professional, kind and courteous, and I appreciate the medicines she provided me with.



Beneficiary



Project: *Sembrando Salud* - Increasing Access to Quality Nutrition and Healthcare for Vulnerable Venezuelan Women and Children in Ecuador

DESCRIPTION

Through comprehensive health services and nutritional support, this 12-month initiative improves the physical well-being of vulnerable Venezuelans, other migrants, and host community members, especially women and children, in Ecuador. This project also aims to increase access to information about basic health rights and available services for these communities.



LOCATION

Quito and Guayaquil, Ecuador

GRANT AWARD

\$500,000

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

4,000 children

6,000 adults

3,000 food baskets

UN SDGS



[The service] was very good because they assist Venezuelan migrants who are here in Ecuador and also Ecuadorians. I came for medical assistance in the case of pediatrics and general medicine consultations, and they attended me very well. It has truly been a pleasant experience.



Plutarco

Community Leader and Patient

Project: Children and Mothers Care Guajira (“CHIMOG”)

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

DESCRIPTION

The Baylor College of Medicine Children’s Foundation Colombia, with the Texas Children’s Hospital as its fiscal sponsor, implements the CHIMOG renewal project. Through this initiative, our partners provide migrant and host populations in La Guajira better access to quality health services, psychosocial support for migrants and work teams, identification and treatment of chronic diseases, malnutrition treatment for vulnerable children and pregnant women, and coverage of health-related emergencies.

LOCATION

La Guajira, Colombia

GRANT AWARD

\$125,000

UN SDGS



ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

- 540 children
- 3,600 adults
- 12,900 medicines
- 2 hospitals



Thank God they're helping me with my son. He was malnourished, so I brought him here and they supported me. Now he's at his normal weight.

Mary
Mother of patient

Project: Migrant Path to Health CHIMOG expansion

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

DESCRIPTION

Building on the success of the basic health program, this initiative offers wider access to a comprehensive range of high-quality basic and complex health services for migrants and host communities in need in La Guajira, Colombia. Additionally, the project enhances the capacity of health workers and communities, develops skills for self-health management and addresses existing health gaps.

LOCATION

La Guajira, Colombia

UN SDGS



ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

2,300 children

4,800 adults

17,500 medicines

5 hospitals

GRANT AWARD

\$500,000



Adreina
Beneficiary

It's been a very nice experience. Here, thank God, they diagnosed me with hypertension and diabetes, and I'm under control and have been doing very well with the medication they've given me here. Thank you to the Baylor Foundation and the Simón Bolívar Foundation for such a lovely gesture for people without health insurance. Thank you so much!

Project: Improved Maternal Health Services for Venezuelan Migrants in Colombia

DESCRIPTION

Through the extension, our partner maintains the current grid of activities with slight variations based on lessons learned to further maximize impact. This includes an increased focus on including the host communities' at-risk population in the services. The awareness workshops offered have a new emphasis on including families and community members alongside pregnant women and women of reproductive age, as well as an increased emphasis on maternal mental health in the community services.

LOCATION
Cucuta, Colombia

GRANT AWARD
\$250,000

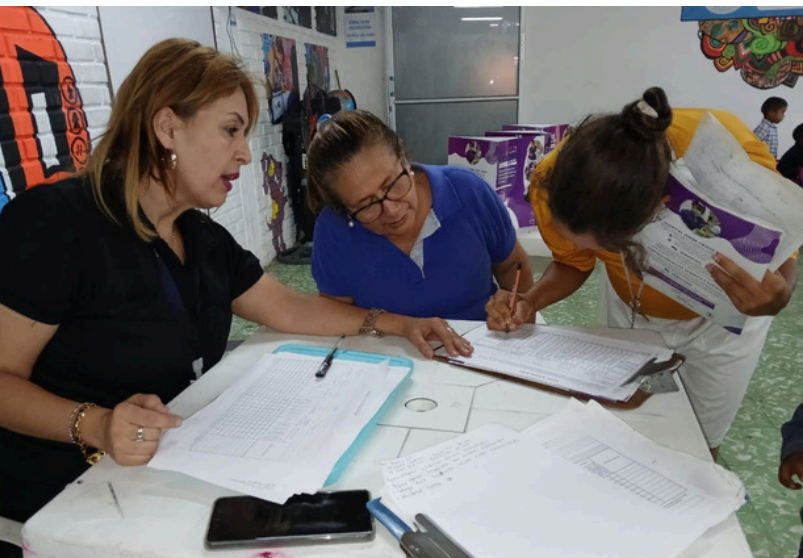
ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES
5,000 adults
141,370 medicines
310 health professionals
20 hospitals
5,500 PPE

UN SDGS

1
NO POVERTY


2
ZERO HUNGER


3
GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

NGO Director and staff member from *Corporación Mujer Denuncia y Muévete*, registering a participant in the maternal health program, supported by the Simón Bolívar Foundation. Pregnant women, like this participant, receive a folder with information on the available prenatal health services available through Jorge Cristo Sahium Hospital, pregnancy danger signs, and additional educational information. The folder also serves as a place for women to store their health documents, which is critical, particularly for migrants who are making pendular movements or are in transit.

Project: Ensuring Access to Primary Health Services for Venezuelan Migrants and Others in Guayaquil, Ecuador

DESCRIPTION

This initiative delivers essential healthcare services and addresses mental health needs while improving water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) practices. Additionally, the project expands access to protection services for Venezuelan migrants and other vulnerable populations in Guayaquil. These systematic health brigades boost the community and local partners' capacity to meet current WASH needs and enhance measures to prevent vector-borne diseases.

LOCATION

Guayaquil, Ecuador

GRANT AWARD

\$187,500

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

1,076 children
4,886 adults
60,000 medicines
16 health professionals
5 hospitals

UN SDGS



I want to sincerely thank on behalf of my elderly parents and myself for the excellent attention we received in the Jornada Solidaria Médica. Thank you to the volunteers that are always ready to help!

Beneficiary

Project: *Sembrando Esperanza*: Providing Emergency Assistance to In-Transit and Recently Arrived Venezuelans in Colombia's Norte de Santander Department

DESCRIPTION

This project assists vulnerable Venezuelans and other migrants, especially women and children, in-transit and recently arrived in Colombia. It provides emergency assistance, which includes food, hygiene kits, psychosocial support and legal orientation to address their urgent physical, mental and legal needs.

LOCATION

Cucuta, Colombia

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

66,500 beneficiaries
173,000 meals

GRANT AWARD

\$345,000

UN SDGS



I am a single mother and have no income, so this helps a lot with my babies. [The food I receive] is very important because it helps me to provide food for my children, at least covering lunchtime.

Yuliana

Venezuelan migrant benefited



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

Organization: Medical Teams International

DESCRIPTION

The project continues to improve access to existing healthcare facilities for Venezuelans and other migrants in need. By providing preventive health education and encouraging the adoption of healthy practices, this initiative empowers communities to improve their own health. The initiative is implemented in Necoclí and Turbo (Uraba region - Antioquia), while also treating migrants in Cali, with an increased focus on mental health services. Through this grant, 21 Community Health Volunteers are trained to deliver community-based interventions.

LOCATION

Colombia

GRANT AWARD

\$437,500

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

3,300 children

7,700 adults

30 health professionals

UN SDGS



They provide medical care for the children, they provide us with information and guidance. They gave us good guidance on anger, illnesses, viruses, and they gave the children guidance as well, and that's good to know, so they're a little more prepared.



Nolly

Beneficiary



Project: Exercising my Right in Inclusive Health in Ecuador - Phase 3

Organization: Scalabrini International Migration Network

DESCRIPTION

This initiative provides migrants and other vulnerable populations comprehensive care, enhancing access to physical and mental health services and nutritious and affordable food, while promoting social well-being.

LOCATION

Santo Domingo, Ibarra
and Manta, Ecuador

GRANT AWARD

\$270,000

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

1,600 children
1,400 adults
100 health professionals
150,600* meals
2 community centers

UN SDGS



Working in an inter-institutional manner helps us strengthen primary care. This helps us prevent the development and spread of diseases.

Josué
Medic



*An adjustment was necessary because the initial target of 800 referred to beneficiaries rather than meals.

Project: Healing Newly Arrived Venezuelan and Other Migrants in New York City Food Program

Organization: AID FOR AIDS

LOCATION

New York, New York

GRANT AWARD

\$100,000

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

4,360 beneficiaries

4,360 meals

UN SDGS

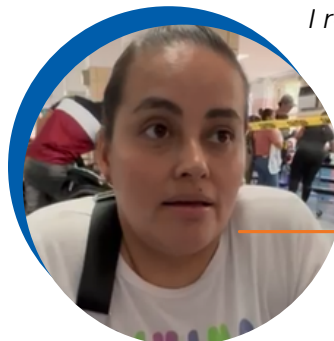


DESCRIPTION

Over a four-month period, 12 events provide urgently needed, culturally familiar meals, juice and bottled water to newly arrived Venezuelans and other migrants in New York City. Each event involves at least 30 volunteers serving food to community members.



I think the event is great; it's very complete. They help people, provide a delicious lunch and offer the support we need, which might not be available elsewhere. I recommend it and have even invited friends. Thank you.



Sandra
Beneficiary



Knowledge Transfer, Networking and Education Grant Program • Equipment Donation

These programs aim to enhance the capacity of health professionals, doctors, nurses and caregivers to serve and treat patients through training in nutrition, global health practices and disaster medicine, as well as improving the infrastructure of medical training facilities.



Project: Community Health Worker Certification

Organization: University of Houston Foundation, on behalf of the University of Houston's Community Health Workers Initiative

DESCRIPTION

Through this partnership, the Simón Bolívar Foundation supports the University of Houston Foundation in delivering the Community Health Worker (CHW) Certification program. This initiative trains individuals to become certified CHWs through the Texas Department of Health and Human Services. The program includes the option to take a 160-hour instruction course online or in person, ensuring flexibility and accessibility. The classes are designed to prepare participants to serve Spanish-speaking, vulnerable, underserved and low-income populations in Katy, Texas, in a linguistically and culturally appropriate manner. In addition, the students participate in an internship, delivering health education workshops to the Katy community. The program provides students with an entry-level pathway to employment in the health and social service sectors and builds a network of CHWs equipped to address health disparities in our communities.

LOCATION

Katy, Texas and surrounding areas

GRANT AWARD

\$123,422

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

35 health workers

UN SDGS



Through this project, I've gained a deeper understanding of the community we're working to serve. One of the most inspiring parts has been seeing how the students continue to work together and support each other regardless of the challenges or different perspectives. I have no doubt that this project will continue to inspire and empower both students and instructors/mentors alike.

Valeria

Lead CHW Intern

Project: Pathways to Wellness: Advancing Maternal Health in Priority Neighborhoods

Organization: William Marsh Rice University, on behalf of the Kinder Institute for Urban Research

LOCATION

Houston, Texas

GRANT AWARD

\$125,000

UN SDGS



DESCRIPTION

The Kinder Institute is undertaking a three-year research project to improve maternal health for women in priority neighborhoods in the Greater Houston area. This project aims to collect critical data to inform the development of best practices, health services and targeted interventions for this population. The initiative is establishing a Community Advisory Board comprising health organizations and authorities to conduct a comprehensive assessment of community needs. This assessment identifies knowledge gaps in maternal health, maps underserved areas and analyzes health disparities using qualitative and quantitative data. Findings from this research will help shape strategic priorities for maternal health services and interventions in the region. The Foundation is funding part of the first year of this initiative.



This work comes at a critical time. By centering mothers whose experiences are often overlooked and collaborating directly with them and the community, we are closing knowledge gaps and co-creating real solutions that are reshaping how maternal health is approached—not just in theory, but in practice.



Katherine Perez, PHD

Researcher, Center for
Community and Public Health
Kinder Institute for Urban
Research, Rice University

Project: Life After Transplant III

DESCRIPTION

This project provides the post-transplant follow-up for liver or kidney transplant patients, including medical care in case of complications. This organization and other partner organizations deliver immunosuppressant medications, perform relevant laboratory tests and imaging studies such as Abdominal Echo Doppler, and conduct follow-up visits for these patients. They also provide medical care for low-income patients with complex liver diseases.



LOCATION

Caracas, Venezuela

ESTIMATED BENEFICIARIES

22 children

49 adults

134,250 medicines

GRANT AWARD

\$285,326

UN SDGS



(My experience at Social Security) was traumatic for me because I kept praying to get my medication. I couldn't walk before, but now (after the transplant), I run. I do everything around the house because I feel so good now, wonderful!

Beneficiary



Updates to ongoing grants and closed grants

From 2020 through the end of 2024, the Simón Bolívar Foundation has signed 113 grants, with 17 projects still active.

Some of the grants signed in earlier years were extended due to challenges in implementation, which required no-cost extensions or temporary suspensions. Likewise, grants signed in 2022 and 2023 have been extended overtime, after new proposals were presented and evaluated following our procedures. By the end of 2024, some projects from earlier years are either being executed or under final review and verification.

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 2024, 28 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 within the approved budget. However, as is common in complex environments, actual outcomes sometimes differed from initial or revised targets. For instance, some programs experienced an increase in the migratory flow and the needs of the people they served. In certain areas, persistent insecurity throughout the year limited the delivery of services. Additionally, factors such as high inflation affected the prices.

Amendments and adjustments were made to reflect the changing realities and expectations and, in many cases, negotiations on prices of items and services provided to beneficiaries allowed for a better utilization of resources. The community interest and outreach were often greater than anticipated, thus affecting the number of beneficiaries.





We have worked with the Simón Bolívar Foundation as a fiscal sponsor for Baylor College of Medicine Children's Foundation Colombia since 2020. Throughout these years, we have collaborated to deliver health services to vulnerable communities in La Guajira, Colombia, through various grants, achieving outstanding results that significantly exceed the original targets. Our partnership with the Foundation is essential to the work we do and has benefited close to 30,000 children, mothers and other vulnerable individuals, ensuring they have better access to health services.

Adam Gibson, Assistant Director, Global Health
Texas Children's Hospital



Closing comments



In 2020, we revised our mission to achieve a greater impact. We never anticipated that within just five years, we would reach the lives of more than one million vulnerable individuals through our work and partnerships. We are grateful for the support from CITGO and the trust of our partners. As we look ahead, we remain committed to our mission and to the people we support.

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.



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