



Turimiquire Foundation

Annual Report 2016

Our U.S.-based non-profit 501(c)3 Foundation has served the low-income population of Sucre state in north-eastern Venezuela since 1996. Based on more than 40 years of living and working in impoverished rural regions of northeastern Venezuela, we have developed our [Recipe for a Thriving Community](#) as a four point blueprint for action that guides our work in these rural communities:

(1) FAMILY PLANNING: *Empowering women and families with the means to control their own fertility.*

- ⇒ In 2016, we offered our services to more than **3,000** additional reproductive-age women and their families, delivering **10,226 Couple Years of Protection (CYPs)** - the metric by which USAID measures family planning achievement - to the low-income populations that we serve.
- ⇒ Calculating an average family of five, approximately *12,000 additional family members* also benefited.
- ⇒ Cumulatively, from May 1997 through December 2016, we have delivered a total of **99,965 Couple Years of Protection** to low-income families seeking to control their fertility.
- ⇒ To achieve this, we have served over **41,300 rural and urban women** with birth control methods, including **5485 tubal sterilizations**, the most popular method for mature women and their families here in Venezuela.
- ⇒ Since 1997, we have done this on an average budget of less than **\$52,000** a year dedicated to family planning and reproductive health . Our operating costs, at **\$11.07 per CYP** in 2016, are well below documented averages.
- ⇒ Venezuela has a large young population with one of the highest teenage pregnancy rates in Latin America and the Caribbean. Starting in 2003, we have offered a total of **2,807 Workshops in Sexual and Reproductive Health** to **53,283 participants**, primarily students and teenagers.
- ⇒ We are reaching more and younger women with reversible family planning. In the past, rural women survived significant infant and maternal mortality and morbidity — as well as economic adversity often directly related to supporting large families -- until they would finally seek surgical sterilization in their 30's. Now, in 2015, the average woman we serve is in her mid 20s with two children, taking control of her reproductive health and fertility with a variety of reversible options much earlier in life.
- ⇒ Women relieved of the burden of involuntary fertility become outspoken examples for their extended families and neighbors, showcasing the improved quality of life accessible through controlling the size of their families.
- ⇒ As the *only* civil organization offering these services in the eastern half of Venezuela, we have become the local reference point for family planning services and reproductive health education. In the current economic crisis, with contraceptives largely unavailable, our resources have been stretched to an extreme.

(2) EDUCATION: *Once families gain control of their fertility, they concentrate on giving their children the best possible future through schooling.*

- ⇒ Our **Scholarship Program** for the *Vía Cumanacoa* community enables **60 rural students** each year to continue their studies at local high schools. Over 500 students from semi-literate families have now attended high school and almost 100 have graduated. Previously, most students in this community abandoned their formal education at or before the sixth grade.
- ⇒ Twenty-five of these high school graduates are now studying at the *college level* with ongoing Foundation support, a real precedent. Each year more students graduate from high school and continue to college.
- ⇒ Two of our rural college students have graduated with *nursing degrees*, two in education, and one in food technology.
- ⇒ Three of our high school graduates run outlets out of their rural homes offering *subsidized school supplies* for these remote primary and high school students.
- ⇒ Our *Brito-Barrancas Education Program* offers staffed library and computer facilities upriver – two hours walking distance from the nearest road—to support students at the remote rural high school, and to maintain a government-sponsored satellite Internet connection.
- ⇒ We help support several kinder and primary rural schools with supplementary teacher training, school supplies, maintenance and lunch programs.
- ⇒ Our rural high school and college students, as well as low-income urban students, regularly study at our urban *Computer Center* in Cumaná, which offers *free Internet, tutoring and a study area* for schoolwork.

(3) COMMUNITY: *Investing in people first!*

We develop community infrastructure in the remote road-less rural valley that we work and live in. We support projects in water delivery, electricity, public trail improvement, and agriculture, including the cultivation of unusual tropical fruits like Durian, Mangosteen, Jackfruit, Rollinia and Canistel. Our downriver Community Center serves as a base for local commerce and town-related activities.

(4) HUMANITARIAN AID: *Venezuela in crisis.*

Chronic poverty is now exacerbated by the severe socio-economic crisis in Venezuela, and small problems become insuperable obstacles. With modest amounts of assistance, we help resolve individual and practical problems that permit families and their rural communities to overcome.

We work hard to accomplish a great deal on a small budget. We simply *do more with less*:

- ⇒ We spend very little on infrastructure and staffing. Instead, we ride "piggy-back" on existing public and private health infrastructure, working with motivated personnel and adding only specifically what is needed for them to deliver their services more effectively.
- ⇒ Donations, *social marketing*, and sliding scale fees for our medical services all help to cover our operating costs. Our services are offered at highly subsidized prices, and *no one is turned away* for not being able to pay. Most everyone can help with *something*, and a few need extra help from us.
- ⇒ We invest *minimally in public outreach*. Women and families proactively promote our services through word-of-mouth. State public health facilities and private agencies now regularly refer clients to us.
- ⇒ All of our Officers and Board Members are 100% volunteer. All paid staff is Venezuelan.
- ⇒ [Fundación ServYr](#), our non-profit organization in Venezuela, independently received **\$9,325** in patient co-pays and in-country support in 2016.
- ⇒ Administrative costs for 2016, including fundraising, were **5.3%** of our overall budget. **94.7 cents** of every dollar went directly into the field. Over the past fifteen years, an average of over **93.5%** of our budget has gone directly into the field, and we are striving to be even more efficient.
- ⇒ We believe that in the crucible of *small, community-based experiments like our own*, effective on-the-ground solutions for poverty are being forged today.

In Venezuela, a little can go a long way. We appreciate the help that many of you give us, and hope that you'll continue to support us. *Thank you!*

Our Finances in 2016

Expenses		%	Income	
Administration:		5.3%	Donors \$5000 and over	\$ 60,000
Office	\$ 6,602	4.2%	Grants and Support from Organizations	\$3,750
Fund Raising	\$ 1,758	1.1%	Individual donations up to \$5000	\$35,492
Programs:		94.7%	Interest Income	\$36
Family Planning and Education in Responsible Sexuality and Reproductive Health			Total	\$99,278
\$ 133,584		84.7%	The crisis in Venezuela has provoked our biggest annual deficit.	
Humanitarian Assistance: Surgical, Medical, Nutritional and Family Emergencies			At the same time, we are pleased that Rural Education and Development were primarily funded through local Venezuelan revenue to our partner Fundación ServYr, and supplemented by only smaller amounts of assistance from our Turimiquire funds, freeing up more funds for Humanitarian Assistance.	
\$ 11,384		7.2%		
Rural Education Center and Student Scholarships				
\$ 2,641		1.7%		
Rural Development and Agriculture				
\$ 1,739		1.1%		
TOTAL				
\$157,708		100%		

Most years our income does not quite cover our program expenses, but in 2016 we spent down a significant amount of accumulated savings to respond to the humanitarian crisis that is unfolding in Venezuela.

Please help us with this urgent work !!!

The Turimiquire Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Donations are fully tax deductible.

Please contribute by check, payable to the Turimiquire Foundation, or online at

www.turimiquire.org/donate-now/

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