



Turimiquire Foundation

Annual Report 2017

Our U.S.-based non-profit 501(c)3 Foundation has served the low-income population of Sucre state in north-eastern Venezuela since 1997. Based on more than 40 years of living and working in impoverished rural regions of 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 2017, we offered our services to more than **2,600** additional reproductive-age women and their families, delivering **5,788 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, over **10,000 additional family members** also benefited in 2017.
- ⇒ Cumulatively, from May 1997 through December 2017, we have delivered a total of **105,753 Couple Years of Protection** to low-income families seeking to control their fertility.
- ⇒ To achieve this, we have served over **44,000** low-income **rural and urban women** with birth control methods, including **5866 tubal sterilizations**, the most popular contraceptive 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 average operating costs, at **\$11.03 per CYP** since 2011, are well below documented averages.
- ⇒ Venezuela has a growing 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 **2,882 Workshops in Sexual and Reproductive Health** to **54,200 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 that is often directly related to supporting large families, until they would finally seek surgical sterilization in their 30's. Now, in 2017, the average woman we serve is in her mid 20s with two children, taking control of her reproductive health and fertility with 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 becoming 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.
- ⇒ Everyone agrees: **Education is the priority.**

(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, 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, and state public health facilities and private agencies now regularly refer clients to us.
- ⇒ Our Officers and Board Members are volunteer. All of our paid staff are Venezuelan.
- ⇒ *Fundación ServYr*, our non-profit organization in Venezuela, received the rough equivalent of **\$12,837** in patient co-pays and in-country local currency support in 2017.
- ⇒ Administrative costs, including fundraising, were **6.4%** of our overall budget. **93.6 cents** of every dollar went directly into the field. Over the past fifteen years, an average of over **94%** of our budget has gone directly into the field, and we are striving to be even more efficient.
- ⇒ We believe that effective on-the-ground solutions for poverty are being forged today in the crucible of *small, community-based experiments like our own*.

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!*

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/

Our Finances in 2017

Calendar Year Expenses		%	Calendar Year Income	
Non-program overhead:		6.4%	Multiple Donors \$5,000 and over	\$ 60,000
Adminis-tration	\$ 3,498	5%	Grants and Support from Organizations	\$6,000
Fund Raising	\$ 1,002	1.4%	Individual donations \$1000-\$5,000	\$ 26,688
Programs:		93.6%	Individual donations up to \$1000	\$ 23,204
Family Planning Services and Education in Responsible Reproductive Health			Interest Income	\$35
\$ 54,883		78%	Total	\$115,927
Humanitarian Assistance: Surgical, Medical, Nutritional and Family Emergencies			In 2017 our in-country social marketing revenues and donations were able to fund most of our rural high school and reproductive health education programs, plus our work in rural development and agriculture. We were able to dedicate more of our dollar resources to medical and humanitarian aid and critical family planning. With careful budgeting and with all of your support, we brought in more funding than we spent. But we are starting 2018 with significant expenses, and face a very challenging year ahead here in crisis-ridden Venezuela.	
\$ 7,824		11%		
Rural Education Center and Student Scholarships				
\$ 1,820		2.6%		
Rural Development and Agriculture				
\$ 1,382		2%		
TOTAL				
\$70,409		100%		
There are no short cuts — please help us with this urgent work !!!				

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