We faced a global humanitarian crisis together.
And yet, we still expanded our programs to reach people in need across the world. Grounded in the conviction that all life is precious, we responded quickly to the pandemic and nearly doubled the volume of our programs.

With your help, we reached more than 300,000 people in the Americas last year.
We are grateful to know that we can overcome great tragedies with your support, and we look forward to continuing to be ambassadors of hope where hope is so urgently needed. Thank you for making our good work possible!

Celina Cotes is a Colombian doctor by profession. She fled Venezuela two years ago after living there for nearly 20 years. Her journey back to Colombia was not easy. After losing nearly everything due to Venezuela’s socioeconomic collapse, she settled in the village of Sumain Wayuu in La Guajira (northern Colombia). Here, embraced by the village community, she has turned her suffering into a greater call to action, using her professional skills to mitigate the Covid-19 crisis as a hygiene promoter.

Through this work - the result of an MI Americas project in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) - Celina is providing life-saving information and dispelling myths about the virus in her community. She is one of 5 million people who have fled Venezuela, and one of nearly 2 million who have chosen to settle in Colombia. She is also part of a majority of migrants, refugees, and returnees who are changing their communities for the better.
Together, we adapted.

Covid-19 in the Americas

In Colombia & Venezuela, we reached 27,978 individuals in vulnerable communities.

With a worsening humanitarian crisis in Venezuela, the impact of the pandemic amplified the country’s existing woes, and creating additional pressures on its neighboring countries, particularly Colombia.

- 7,000 L of hand sanitizer produced & distributed in partnership with the University of Magdalena, Colombia
- 7,670 people received hygiene kits to prevent the spread of Covid-19
- 9,988 individuals reached with food and nutritional assistance in Colombia
- 10,320 persons reached with in-person information campaigns on Covid-19
- 2,141 community and hand-washing stations renovated or installed
- 10 radiospots disseminating information campaigns on Radio Guajira Viva

In the Americas, we localized.

In our over 65 years of experience as a humanitarian organization, we’ve learned that successful programs start from the ground up, and 2020 was no different.

Community leaders and local partners in all of our projects from Colombia, Haiti, Venezuela, Peru, and Mexico were instrumental in our Covid-19 response projects, particularly in developing information campaigns in indigenous languages.
The pandemic affected every part of our society

While our Covid-19-related interventions were primarily focused on distribution of PPE, ensuring continued access to hand-washing stations and health clinics, and that the uninsured were able to access medical and mental health care, the overwhelming impact of the pandemic was not lost on us. The consequences of daunting lockdowns caused losses of income, school interruptions, isolation, and upticks in domestic violence across the world, and all of our programs in the Americas adapted accordingly. We opened mobile clinics, delivered food to the most vulnerable including children and the elderly, and used our social media channels to communicate directly with our beneficiaries.

With your help, we were not only able to respond to the immediate needs of our communities, we were also able to expand our services in our maternal care program, as well as in refugee and migrant centers.

Covid-19 in the Americas

In the United States, we stood in solidarity with our home city & the Eastern Seaboard

- Delivered PPE, hand sanitizers and non-perishable food items to food pantries & churches in NYC, Florida, Connecticut, and Massachusetts
- 340 flu vaccines given to homeless and underprivileged New Yorkers

In Haiti, our programs continued to grow while responding to the Covid-19 pandemic:
- 60,694 individuals benefitted
- 4,400 hygiene kits distributed to prevent the spread of Covid-19
- 211 community and household washing stations installed
- 42,519 individuals reached with Covid-19 prevention training information campaigns
Despite a global halt, our boots remained on the ground.

Safe childbirth for migrants and refugees
Thanks to our trained medical professionals in Santa Marta and Riohacha at our mobile medical brigades, Zuleydis (left), gave birth to Thyannis, a healthy baby boy in September of last year.

Food Security in Haiti
Despite increasing security concerns, our program in Haiti continued to benefit Haitians in need. In 2020, in addition to building more community and household gardens, known as “jaden lakou”, our beneficiaries were also able to reap their first harvest, working towards building more resilient food systems.

Medical Assistance and Social Cohesion in Colombia & Venezuela
In many places throughout the Americas, MI Americas is the first line of defense, acting as a source of information and safety.

- 30 new houses built for arriving refugee families
- 36,485 medical consultations in mobile clinics and local brigades in Colombia
- 21,896 consulations in primary health care from mobile clinics and hospitals in Venezuela
- 299 participated in trainings and workshops on civic engagement and social cohesion

1,000 household gardens + 12 community gardens built
645 goats distributed to families
13,775 individuals receiving nutritional and food assistance
In Peru: care and nutrition for children & the elderly

In Lima, our soup kitchen for children and their families went mobile, delivering meals to 70 families.

Our senior center in Querecotillo delivered non-perishable food & hygiene kits to 35 residents.

Mexico: Protecting infants from HIV

1,712 families received nutritious meals & medication for pregnant mothers to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

Emergency Responses in The Bahamas, Guatemala & Colombia

As a humanitarian organization, part of our mandate is responding to crises in real time. In the Americas, a region often subject to extreme weather patterns, we were active in Guatemala, The Bahamas, & northern Colombia.

In The Bahamas, we rebuilt two schools in the community of Abaco that were leveled by Hurricane Dorian.

1,073 victims of Hurricanes Eta & Iota benefitted in Guatemala, receiving shelter items such as mattresses and hammocks, as well as food packages.

Financials

2020 was a record year for MI Americas. In addition to your invaluable contributions, we diversified our funding, developed new partnerships, and nurtured longstanding relationships with remarkable foundations & organizations: USAID/BHA, Global Fund for Forgotten People, Christus Health, Conrad H. Hilton Foundation, Raskob Foundation, the Lynch Foundation, the Stephanie and Peter Nolan Foundation, and the Order of Malta American and Western Associations.

2020 Income $9,309,161

Restricted funding $8,021,148
Unrestricted funding $1,008,680
Other Income $279,334

2020 Expenses $8,954,375*

Colombia $3,600,392
Haiti $2,824,908
Venezuela $1,281,613
USA $216,246
Guatemala, Bahamas, Peru, Mexico $73,790

Administrative $184,108
Fundraising $197,757
Program Management $555,628

*Surplus is reflective of restricted funding earmarked for ongoing, multi-year projects.

A special thank you to: the Claugus Family, the Gibson Family, the Gunderman Family, the Hartnett Family, the Jones Family, the Kellner Family, the Kelly Family, the Lee Family, the Mifsud Family, the Moloney Family, the Ruppert Family, the Striano Family, the Sharp Family, the Wessels Family, and the Wilbur Family.
In a year of unprecedented instability, crisis, and chaos, your continued support has made our work possible, and in turn, you’ve bettered the lives of hundreds of thousands of individuals across the Americas.

Thank you.
Charitable contributions can be made online at www.orderofmaltarelief.org or by sending a check to:
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EIN 26-3701623