



**Malteser
International**
Order of Malta Worldwide Relief

**Order of Malta Worldwide Relief
MI Americas**

2024
Year in Review



A letter from the President and Executive Director of Malteser International Americas

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your support of our mission.

The enclosed report is for our great work in the Americas in 2024. You will read about how we fulfill our mission to serve the sick, the poor, and the most vulnerable in locations without access to traditional services.

While the report is for 2024, our work continues. And, it does so in a very changing landscape.

Malteser International Americas and its affiliate in Cologne are responding to a world still very much in need—even more so—while government funding sources are contracting.

We are 100% dedicated to continuing our mission and see an opportunity for us to connect more fully with you and all members of our Order as we look to relaunch nimble projects, possibly in more countries. Our Board of Directors and leadership team are in process regarding this strategic planning and look forward to keeping you apprised along the way.

We were particularly encouraged by the Papal audience provided to our Grand Master in Rome. Pope Leo's words that day provide inspiration and guidance to us for our mission: ***"it is not enough to merely assist the needs of the poor; one must proclaim to them the love of God, both in word and in witness."***

Please continue on this journey with us, we cannot do this work without you!

Thank you.

Sincerely,



John E. McInerney III, KM
Board Chair and President



Margi English, DM
Executive Director

"It is not enough to merely assist the needs of the poor, one must proclaim to them the love of God, both in word and in witness."

Pope Leo XIV

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Our Impact in 2024



Sector: Health For Children

Child malnutrition is a major global health concern and a significant cause of preventable deaths. We are addressing this urgent humanitarian issue by focusing on fighting malnutrition and improving healthcare access for vulnerable children in Colombia, Haiti, and Mexico.

In Colombia, our team travels to remote communities and performs health screenings, where we distribute treatment kits to children suffering from malnutrition, educate families on healthy eating, and offer personalized case support.



Sector: Health For Women

Migrant and indigenous women and mothers are among the 7 million displaced people in Colombia, many of whom face pregnancy risks and life-threatening malnutrition.

Without proper nutrition or prenatal care, the risk of complications and even death for both mother and baby increases dramatically. In the department of Magdalena, Colombia, the maternal mortality rate has exceeded the national average, making it the ninth highest in the country. MI Americas is on the ground delivering critical prenatal and postnatal care, ensuring safe deliveries, and providing life-saving nutritional assistance and psychosocial support to the most vulnerable.

In Mexico, MI Americas has partnered with the Order of Malta Mexico (OMM) to support mothers and children affected by HIV. Our aim is to protect newborns and infants from the virus and help families access healthcare.



Sector: Nutrition & Food Security

MI Americas partners with local healthcare centers and schools to assist individuals, especially children and pregnant women, who are impacted by malnutrition. In Haiti, we provide essential medications, nutritional supplements, and ongoing medical monitoring to combat and prevent the harmful effects of malnutrition. Our team also educates parents on recognizing and managing malnutrition and offers training to small-scale farmers in sustainable farming techniques.

In Peru, MI Americas has joined hands with the Order of Malta Peru (MAPE) to provide nutrition education and income-generating opportunities to families in under-served communities on the outskirts of Lima.

Our goal is to help communities achieve lasting access to nutritious food for their families.



Global Emergency Response: Gaza

In a world facing growing humanitarian crises, we respond swiftly with a focus on health and lifesaving care. Backed by the unique global reach of the Order of Malta, we operate where others cannot. Since the escalation of violence in the Holy Land in October 2023, the people of the region have endured immense suffering. Despite extremely challenging conditions, Malteser International (MI), in partnership with local organizations, was able to deliver critical aid in Gaza throughout 2024.

MI's emergency relief experts delivered urgently needed food kits to families in crisis. Over the course of the year, six humanitarian convoys carrying food supplies reached northern Gaza, while plans for providing health care services in the region were also set in motion.



515,742
PEOPLE SERVED



49,245
PEOPLE SUPPORTED BY
MANGROVE RENATURATION



9,319
WOMEN RECEIVING PRE- AND
POSTNATAL SUPPORT



27,323
CHILDREN SUPPORTED



97,098
MEDICAL PATIENTS



36,274
REFUGEES SUPPORTED



7,435
MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTATIONS



23
HOSPITALS AND HEALTH
FACILITIES SUPPORTED

Malteser International Americas and Malteser International are the worldwide relief arms of the Sovereign Order of Malta.

In 2024, our global family reached...

One vision:
Health and
dignity for people
in need



36 countries

Malteser International had active projects in 36 countries across Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Latin America, and the Caribbean.



152 projects

In 2024, we carried out over 152 humanitarian and development projects and initiatives, working hand in hand with local partners and communities.



7.2 million people

Across 36 countries, we served over 7.2 million individuals with a special focus on displaced persons (refugees, migrants, and IDPs), health, and emergency relief.

Mission Statement

We improve the health and well-being of suffering and displaced people in crisis situations around the world. In this way, we especially fulfill the mission of the Sovereign Order of Malta to “serve the poor and the sick,” regardless of gender, political belief, origin, or faith.

Vision

We aspire to a world where all individuals—particularly those in need and those who are displaced—live a life of health and dignity.



Gina Mélé (center) took part in a cooking demonstration in Baradères and shared her knowledge: “To eat well, people need to eat foods that give them strength, foods that build the body, and foods that protect the body.”

Photo: Malteser International Americas

Haiti: Fighting Hunger

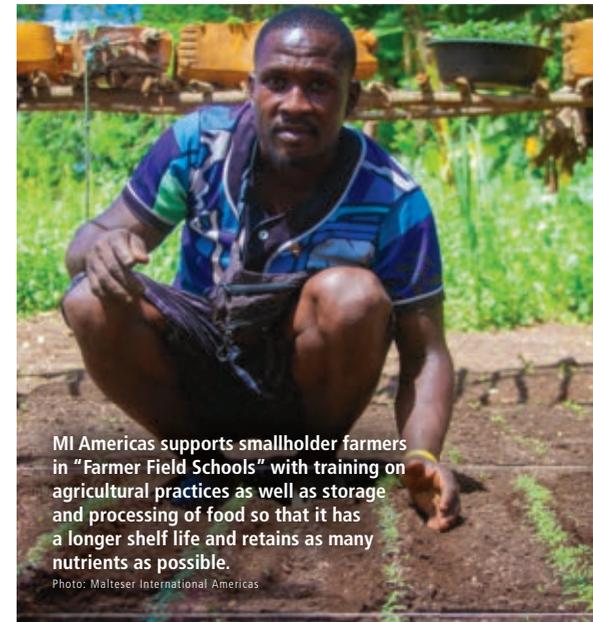
For over a year, Haiti’s population has had to rely almost exclusively on the dwindling food resources, and those are very scarce. According to a World Food Program study conducted in March 2024, more than 4.97 million Haitians were affected by food insecurity. “Hunger is growing since the food production cannot respond to the increasing needs in regions where many IPDs have fled,” reports Yolette Etienne, Partner and Program Coordinator for MI Americas in Haiti, and a native Haitian herself. “As a culture, we never lose hope. But the dark is very deep right now,” she adds. Working together with those most affected by hunger and malnutrition, MI Americas has two active projects in Haiti focusing on food security and nutrition.

Identifying Need

While widespread child malnutrition is a heartbreaking reality in Haiti, it is often challenging to identify the families most affected. MI Americas works directly with community health centers to reach children as well as pregnant and breastfeeding mothers. In this way MI Americas’ staff identifies and supports more people with essential medicines and nutritional supplements. In 2024, we distributed cash assistance to select households that were identified as particularly food insecure.

Tools for a Healthier Future

To prevent malnutrition, MI Americas empowers families and communities with knowledge and resources to achieve self-sufficiency through nutritious food. Cooking demonstrations teach participants the essentials of healthy eating and how to make the most of locally available ingredients. MI Americas also equips communities and small-scale farmers with seeds and livestock, as well as tools and expertise. This enables them to use husbandry, increase yields, and create family and community gardens with a diverse mixture of crops that satisfy their nutritional needs. By selling surplus crops and meat locally, families can strengthen both their income and the health of their communities. At every step, MI Americas places a particular emphasis on equipping communities with the tools and know-how to sow a more resilient future for themselves.



MI Americas supports smallholder farmers in “Farmer Field Schools” with training on agricultural practices as well as storage and processing of food so that it has a longer shelf life and retains as many nutrients as possible.

Photo: Malteser International Americas

MI Americas’ support for Haiti in 2024

625
children
successfully treated
for malnutrition

7
health centers
supported with
nutrition therapy

7,720
people supported
by food and
nutrition treatment

26,420
gained access to
safe water

770
people received
cash assistance

43,503
people reached
by all activities in
country

The political upheaval and escalating gang violence since January 2024 have drastically worsened living conditions for the people of Haiti. Closed borders and road blockages are hindering the availability and circulation of essential goods—even humanitarian relief goods have been confiscated or stolen by gangs. Amidst the chaos, the team from MI Americas is working at full capacity to maintain vital relief efforts.



MI Americas assessed the nutritional status of more than 8,293 children at health centers in 2024.

Photo: Malteser International Americas

“I have been a volunteer community health worker since 2016. Joining MI Americas has accelerated the process of finding, diagnosing, and treating children. Seeing children getting better is simply amazing!”



Photo: Malteser International Americas

Merlande Jacques, Community Health Worker for MI Americas since January 2024

Health and Dignity

Colombia, MI Americas

For an on-the-ground view of our work in Colombia, we spoke with our Head of Programs, Jack Byrne about his team's recent trip in-country.

What does “a life of health and dignity for all” mean in the context of our work?

At the heart of our mission is the belief in life and dignity for all. Our work supports migrants in transit, families uprooted by conflict or disaster, vulnerable families from rural, peri-urban, or urban areas. Our primary health care programs are designed to meet the needs of these vulnerable communities holistically, while focusing on the health and nutrition of children and pregnant women as they seek stability, safety, and a path to recovery.

Our programs provide immediate medical care alongside psychosocial support to help individuals heal and rebuild resilience after enduring trauma and chronic hardship. Through a comprehensive range of services, including primary and maternal health care, training and resources for farmers, nutrition support and education, access to clean water, and emergency response, we offer not just relief, but a pathway to recovery and renewed hope for those affected by violence, natural disasters, poverty, and hunger.

Can you share a personal story from your most recent visit to Colombia?

I traveled to Colombia in February to visit our staff and accompany donors on a tour of our project sites. What left a lasting impression on me was the unwavering dedication of our team, their resilience in the face of ongoing challenges, and their deep commitment to the mission we serve in Colombia. I saw a sense of pride and purpose not only among our staff and partners, but also in the individuals and families who benefit from our programs. Meeting our project participants brought me tremendous joy. Hearing directly from them about how our work has made a meaningful difference in their lives reminds me why this mission



MI Americas staff, IPSI Anashiwaya partner representatives, and community members at the ribbon cutting to celebrate the new Comprehensive Community Care Center in Manaure, La Guajira, Colombia in November 2024.

Photo: Malteser International Americas

matters—because it changes lives, creates hope, and brings real good into the world. That’s what motivates me every single day.

How do we incorporate local voices and perspectives into program development and implementation?

MI Americas is deeply committed to ensuring that local voices and perspectives are at the heart of every project. From the project design and start, and throughout implementation, community members play an active role in shaping our work. They help identify where interventions are most needed, determine which

groups are most vulnerable, and ensure their neighbors understand the project’s goals and the importance of local participation in achieving lasting impact.

Community leaders, elders, and women regularly share their insights on how our efforts remain aligned with the evolving needs of their communities. MI Americas is committed to including community members in the earliest phases of project design, ensuring they have a seat at the table when key decisions are made. When local leadership is engaged from the beginning, the likelihood of long-term ownership and sustainable outcomes increases significantly.

Our Donors and Partners

Thank you! Our work is only possible with the generous support of our donors and the collaboration of our partners on the ground as we continue to serve local communities. Together with institutional donors, private foundations, individual donors, community fundraising efforts, as well as the Order of Malta Associations who mobilized their time and resources in support of MI Americas in 2024, we are helping to create lasting change. Below are just a few of our supporters and partners we worked with in 2024:

• Government

German Government: German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

U.S. Government: The United States Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration and United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance (BHA)

• Individuals

Shep Abell, GCMOB and Kathryn Abell, GCMOB
Maria V. Acosta-Rua, DM
Brock Akers, KM
Guadalupe Alcocer, DM
Joseph Amaturro, KM and Winifred Amaturro, DM
Paul Antle and Ellen Barrosse, DM
M.C. Aviles-Asman, DM
Ted Balestreri, KM
Terrance Barry, KM
Daniel Bigaouette, KM
John Blackett and Marissa del Rosario-Blackett, DM
Catherine A. Bonnici, DM
HE Archbishop Raymond Burke
Thomas Cabrinha, KM
Bianca Calcagnini
Mary Cannon
Anthony Caputy, KM and Martina Caputy, DM
Teresa Claugus, DM
James Collins
Dominique Conseil, DM
William J. Cumbelich, KM and Sara K. Cumbelich, DM
Remigio Damiano Del Toro, KM
Benoit Dargelos
Sandra Davis, DM
Emilie De Brigard, DM
Edward Delaney, KM and Kathy Delaney
G. Edward Dickey, Ph.D., KM and Susan Dickey, DM
HE Timothy Cardinal Dolan, BGCHD
Brian Duperreault, KM
James Egan, KM and Marianne Egan
William English, KM
Michael Erdek, KM
William Fessler, KM and Mary Beth Fessler, DM
Margaret Flannery, DM
Peter Frank, KM
Jonathan Frase, KM and Tracy Frase
Margaret Garesché, DM
John W. Given, KM and Margaret Given, DM

• The Sovereign Order of Malta Associations

Order of Malta American Association
Order of Malta Canadian Association
Order of Malta Federal Association
Order of Malta Western Association
Malteser Peru (MAPE)
Orden de Malta Mexico (OMM)
Orden de Malta Venezuela (AVOM)
Malteser Hilfsdienst e.V.

• Individuals

Elizabeth Gooding and Kevin Pekar
Thomas E. Goundrey, KM and Kathryn Goundrey
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Ronald Ignelzi, KM
George Isajiw, KM
Edward and Kathleen Jacobs
James Janz, KM
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Charles F. Joy
John P. Keegan, KM
Rory Kelleher, Esq, KMOB and Camille Kelleher, DMOB
Michael Kelley, KM
Peter Kellner II, KM
Richard Kelly, KM
Brian Kenney, KM
Daniel Krieger, KM and Jenna Krieger
Thomas Kroeger, KM and Christine Kroeger, DM
Michele Laporta
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Stephen and Margaret Libera
Stuart Lichtman
John and Sandra Long
Jean Lown, DM
William Lytton, KM and Christine Lytton, DM
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Anthony P. Martocci, KM and Mary A. Martocci, DM
John McInerney III KM and Sally McInerney
Ken McNicholas
Kevin Meskill, KM
Anthony Molinaro Jr, KM and Rosalie Molinaro
Glennon Mueller, KM and Madeleine Mueller, DM
Richard Newcomb Stillwell, KM
Minh Nguyen, KM
Dejan Nikolic, KM*
John Norton, KM

• Foundations and Corporate Social Responsibility

B.E.A.R. Family Charitable Foundation	Fisher Family Fund
Benebone, LLC	Hartnett Family Foundation
Charles Delmar Foundation	Latter-day Saint Charities Australia
Charles Edison Fund	Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation	Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace Generalate
Edel Family Fund	Suplee Family Fund

• Individuals

Bogdan Nowak, KM and Rita Nowak
Ken Olsen, KM
Anne Orban, DM*
Michel Orban*
Gregory Oussani, KM
Gregory Pang, KMOB
Stephen and Gabriella Papale, DM
Matthew Pasts, KM
Chris Pilalas, KM
Brian Ragen, KM
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Catherine B. Reedy and Thomas Reedy, KM
Paul Regan and Barbara Regan, DM
William Regan III, GCMOB and Anne Regan, DM
John F.X. Reilly, KM
Howard and Linda Renner
Catherine Sahu
Stephen Sammut, KM
Thomas Schlafly, KM and Ulrike Schlafly, DM
Evelyn Schlosser, DM
Boyd Sharp Jr., KM
Joseph Sindelar, Jr., KM and Carrie Sindelar, DM
Brandon Lawrence Sipple, KM
Richard Smith, KM
Thomas Snider, KM and Elizabeth Snider
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Thomas Wilbur, KM and Marisel Wilbur
Christopher Ansel Wilson
Gayle Wilson
Dorothy Zolandz, DM

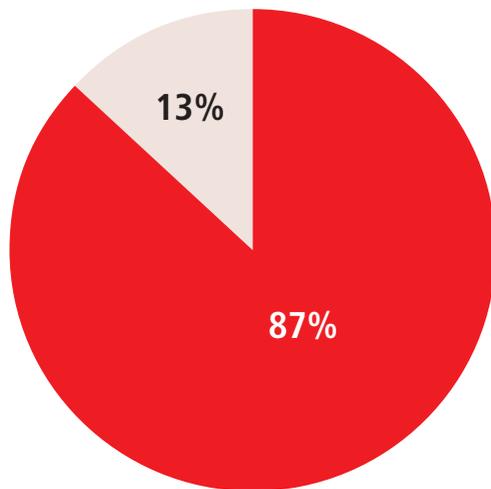
*In memory of Frank Orban

Financials

Income	\$7,241,182
Restricted	\$6,270,091
Unrestricted	\$971,091

Income

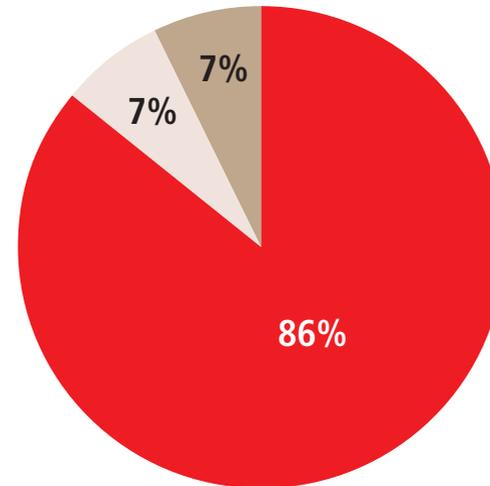
- Restricted
- Unrestricted



Expenses	\$7,299,475
Management and General (7%)	\$486,719
Fundraising (7%)	\$501,391

Expenses

- Program Services
- Management and General
- Fundraising



Colombia (74%)	\$5,408,143
Turkey (3%)	\$232,028
Ukraine (1%)	\$103,991
Haiti (<1%)	\$33,798
Gaza (<1%)	\$30,857
Peru (<1%)	\$17,503
Venezuela (<1%)	\$15,328
Kenya (<1%)	\$10,000
Poland (<1%)	\$10,000
Others (1%)	\$41,540
Program Management (6%)	\$408,177

Malteser International Americas is a legal entity, based in the United States, affiliated with Malteser International e.V., based in Germany. The overall program volume, including program funding via Malteser International Europe managed by Malteser International Americas, for 2024 is \$9.1 million. For full transparency, please visit www.orderofmaltarelief.org to access Malteser International Americas' financials and www.malteser-international.org/en.html for Malteser International's financials.

“We must respond to challenges strategically.”

The new Grand Hospitaller of the Sovereign Order of Malta about his worldwide work and the role of Malteser International

H. E. Dr. Josef D. Blotz was appointed Grand Hospitaller of the Sovereign Order of Malta on February 18, 2025. He is a former Major General of the German Army. In his last position, he served as Deputy Commander of the Eurocorps in Strasbourg, France. Dr. Blotz’s responsibilities as Grand Hospitaller are similar to those of a Minister of Health, Social Affairs, Humanitarian Action, and International Cooperation. He coordinates and supervises the initiatives of the Grand Pries, National Associations, and other entities of the Order around the world involved in charitable and humanitarian actions. He ensures especially that Christian principles of care and human dignity are respected. The Grand Hospitaller also serves as the Patron of Malteser International (MI), is a member of the MI General Assembly, and is invited to attend all meetings of the MI Board of Directors.

Your Excellency, how did you come to join the Order of Malta, and what makes the Order so special?

In the early 1990s, I met several Knights of the Order, and a year later I was given the opportunity to take part in the annual pilgrimage to Lourdes organized by the Order of Malta Delegation in the Archdiocese of Cologne. That experience

changed my life. Being admitted to the German Association, also in Cologne, and later being elected to the Sovereign Council just over two years ago were certainly key milestones. But even more formative were the impressions I gained in Lourdes and at home of the lived charisma of the Order, our very DNA: “Tuitio Fidei et Obsequium Pauperum”*.

When I am asked what will hold the Order and its many works and services together for another thousand years, despite all the inevitable changes, I answer: It is not structures, strategies, constitutions, or social comfort zones. It is the poor and the sick. They, and our service to them, are what make the Order of Malta so special and so enduringly relevant.

What experiences from your time in the German Armed Forces and the Eurocorps support you in your current role?

As a soldier, one is inherently committed to the ethos of service – especially in challenging situations. This is something that is also expressed right at the beginning of the Prayer of the Order: “Lord Jesus, thou hast seen fit to enlist me for thy service in the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.” This idea, combined with many years of experience working in international contexts – often in crisis and conflict zones – helps me greatly in carrying out the complex responsibilities of the Grand Hospitaller. This role, too, requires effective communication and action in international and often highly complex operational environments.

What are your current strategic priorities?

In short: improving communication and coordination across our global works and services – our unique network of the Order. That’s why I travel extensively. As Grand Hospitaller, I can also help draw additional awareness to our projects through these visits. My key areas of focus include our humanitarian aid in Ukraine, the Holy Land – with the Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem and the medical project in Gaza – and strengthening our disaster response capacities. The recent earthquake in Myanmar showed just how important good preparation is, and how reliably Malteser International responds. That makes MI one of my most



As Grand Hospitaller, H. E. Dr. Josef D. Blotz coordinates the global works and services of the Sovereign Order of Malta. He also visits Malteser International projects in his role as patron of MI.

PHOTO: ORDER OF MALTA/NICUSOR FLORIDAICA

significant supports in carrying out the role of Grand Hospitaller.

Why is the work in Gaza a priority project for you?

Together with the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, we are addressing immense humanitarian needs with the Gaza project. The war-affected people are in a situation that many people can no longer really grasp from the news and have come to regard as hopeless. We are currently laying the groundwork for a container

clinic to provide basic medical care. However, to move forward with the next concrete steps, we urgently need an improved security situation, open borders, and additional funding. There is always hope: We must not forget the people in the Holy Land, where the roots of our Order lie.

The current global situation is complex and challenging. How can the Order of Malta respond?

We must respond to challenges strategically and proactively. Protracted crises, growing numbers of people in need, and increasing skepticism about the value and impact of humanitarian aid – these are realities we face. Across all our works, we are responding by continuously developing our concepts and structures. Only then can we truly say: We are modern by tradition.

As much as we might wish to serve our neighbors in more peaceful and less critical times, this, here and now, is our calling. We are called to respond, without hesitation. Malteser International, with its global network, its passionate and experienced staff, and its deep roots in our centuries-old Order, can be seen as a pioneer in this regard. Our charisma – “Tuitio Fidei et Obsequium Pauperum”* – is also a unique feature that sets MI apart from many other humanitarian NGOs. Even in many non-Christian cultures, this holistic approach, grounded in faith, builds trust and opens doors.

Read an extended version of this interview here: <https://orderofmaltarelief.org/blog/grand-hospitaller-interview-2025/>

**Keep the Faith and serve the poor*



Malteser International - a globally active entity of the Sovereign Order of Malta
More than 900 years of service for the poor and the sick

One of the oldest institutions of the western world, this Catholic lay religious order has 13,500 members worldwide who actively practice the values of Christianity and Christian charity. The Order, headquartered in Rome, maintains diplomatic relations with 113 states and holds Permanent Observer status at the United Nations. In addition, it has ambassador-level representation at a large number of international organizations. The Order of Malta is neutral, impartial, and apolitical.



Editorial Team: Olga Palinkasev, Lauren Wiley
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About the Cover

The smiling girl on the cover of this report is five-year-old Isabela*, who lives with her family in a peri-urban settlement on the outskirts of Riohacha, Colombia. Her community is home to Venezuelan migrants who have fled political and economic hardship, as well as Indigenous Wayuu families who have lived for centuries along the northern border region between Colombia and Venezuela.

MI Americas first met Isabela during one of our mobile brigade visits, which bring regular health check-ups, treatment for malnutrition, and essential medical care directly to communities like hers. For many families, both migrant and Indigenous, these visits are often their only access to health services.

**Name changed for protection*

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**Malteser
International**

Order of Malta Worldwide Relief

Charitable contributions can be made online at
www.orderofmaltarelief.org or by sending a check to:

Malteser International Americas
122 East 42nd Street, Suite 1900
New York, NY 10168 USA

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