

# Red Cross Movement Actions in Venezuela

Update: From January 2019 to March 2021



The Venezuelan Red Cross Society (VRC), founded in 1895, has approximately 4,000 volunteers, 24 branches, 1,400 employees, including medical staff in its 8 hospitals and 34 outpatient clinics, making it the largest health network in Venezuela.

The VRC is considered an important humanitarian institution, known for providing health and emergency response care to the most vulnerable communities. In addition, VRC has volunteers and health personnel specialized in first aid, psychosocial support (PSS), livelihoods, disaster risk reduction, social inclusion, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Despite the challenges facing the country and the impact of COVID-19, the VRC has been able to maintain the provision of health services to people in need. In order to improve these services and key areas of work, a new Strategic National Plan has been developed for the 2021-2026 period.

In compliance with the humanitarian mandate and aligned with the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the VRC, with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), through its programmes and operations, promotes the complementarity of its actions to contribute to the response to humanitarian needs in the country.

## At a glance

1.9M+  
people  
reached



997k+  
Health



91K+  
COVID-19



455K+  
Water, Sanitation and  
Hygiene Promotion



210K+  
Migration



52K+  
Livelihoods



9K+  
Disaster Risk  
Reduction



16K+  
Protection Gender  
& Inclusion



54K+  
Restoring Family Links



3K+  
International  
Humanitarian Law



15K+  
Detention



540+  
Forensic Action



4K+  
National Society  
Development



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## Health

### Health in Emergencies

- **530,042** people reached with emergency health care and medical equipment
- **11,730** people reached with vector-borne disease prevention activities
- **59,490** people reached with malaria treatments
- **1,616** health professionals trained in Emergency Room Trauma and Weapon Wounds Courses
- **110,371** long-lasting insecticidal nets distributed
- **2,243** tons of medicines & medical supplies distributed

### Community Health

- **57,978** people reached through nutritional days
- **228,301** people reached through health days
- **1,835** health professionals trained
- **34** branches carrying out epidemiological control



## COVID-19

- **87,254** people reached with educational sessions
- **417** volunteers trained
- **3,6 M** people reached with key messages
- **99,196** personal protective equipment (level 1 and 2) distributed
- **4,509** health professionals trained
- **3,030** hygiene material for relatives of patients with COVID-19



## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion

- **363,050** people improved their access to safe water and water storage
- **92,474** people reached with hygiene promotion activities



## Migration

- **181,687** people reached with self-care and protection awareness-raising actions
- **28,498** health services, protection, psychosocial support and social inclusion assistance



## National Society Development

- **4,238** volunteers trained in different areas of Red Cross/Red Crescent work
- **23** branches supported in financial, administrative and logistic management
- **35** outpatient clinics in operation
- **8** hospitals in operation

\*\* The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the Red Cross Movement of a territory or its authorities. Sources: ICRC, IFRC, VRC.

\*\* Due to legal measures in response to the COVID-19 emergency, since 19 March 2020, actions in the field have been limited.

\*\*Red Cross Movement internal data.

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## Livelihoods

- **34,156** people reached in public canteens
- **17,414** people reached in activities of livelihoods diversification and food access
- **1,080** people in collective shelter reached with kitchen utensils, mats and hammocks
- **10** public canteens supported



## Disaster Risk Reduction

- **9,266** people sensitized and trained on disaster risk management issues



## Protection Gender & Inclusion

- **16,972** integral services (PSS, Gender and Inclusion)



## Restoring Family Links

- **54,001** connectivity services provided
- **21** connectivity points at nationwide installed



## International Humanitarian Law

- **3,386** people trained



## Detention

- **15,707** detainees visited in **11** penitentiary centers
- **82** visits in **11** penitentiary centers since COVID-19 outbreak



## Forensic Action

- **322** members of local authorities trained on management of dead bodies
- **224** forensic supplies were provided



### Maglee Teran

Maglee Teran is a 25-year-old engineering student who belongs to the Veritas community in Zulia State. She is very grateful for the support the Venezuelan Red Cross has provided in her community, including Health Days. *“It was an incredible opportunity to access primary healthcare, since many hospitals have limited medical consultations due to the pandemic, and people within the community do not have enough resources to attend the clinics. The activities provided by the medical staff and the Red Cross volunteers enabled the community to access health services, including adults, elderly, young people and children.”*

Additionally, Maglee says she was very enthusiastic about the first aid trainings provided, since now the community can provide support to its members in case of an emergency. She is also grateful for the education sessions on sexual and reproductive education given to girls and adolescents. Maglee says the psychosocial support that was provided to members of the community was very significant, given many families do not have access to these types of services.

With optimism and gratitude after the different trainings, Maglee decided to be part of the community brigade that was formed in her community and is hoping to help others the way the Venezuelan Red Cross helped her.