

Accompanied and Shared LIVES 2024



JRS LAC
Regional Annual Report





ACCOMPANIED AND SHARED LIVES 2024

JRS LAC Regional Annual Report

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»Presentation

WE PROTECT PEOPLE RAISING HOPE

Taking on the role of Regional Director of JRS in Latin America and the Caribbean is, above all, an act of profound gratitude and commitment. I join this journey knowing that I am not starting from scratch, but rather approaching a community that is already walking, resisting, building, and accompanying others with a profound sense of humanity.

In that spirit, today I am honored to present the 2024 Annual Report, which is more than a document; it is a living snapshot of the thousands of lives accompanied, the borders crossed with dignity, the pain that has been heard, and the actions sown as JRS.

In a deeply challenging regional context—marked by increased migration and forced displacement, insufficient responses from states, rights violations, and persistent structural violence—JRS LAC has not backed down. On the contrary, it has redoubled its commitment in light of its mission of service, reconciliation, and hospitality.

2024 was a year of consolidation and projection. Consolidation took place because we made progress in the six regional processes that articulate our mission: Protection and Mental Health, Education and Livelihoods, Reconciliation, Advocacy and Communication, Collaborative Management, and Care and Development. We focused on projection because the Strategic Framework for Regional Collaborative Action 2023–2027 provides us with a roadmap to continue moving forward with purpose, clarity, and unity.

This report details the support provided to more than 79,000 people from our national offices in Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Ecuador, as well as our sister organizations in Brazil and Peru. These are people with faces, names, and stories. This includes people like David, the boy who walked again with timely medical intervention in La Guajira, Venezuela or Massiel and Richard, a couple in Barrancabermeja who managed to transform an idea

into a family business that today feeds their community and maintains their dignity.

It has been a year in which we reaffirmed that protection is not just assistance, but a comprehensive commitment: legal, psychosocial, educational, and economic. Reconciliation is our way of proceeding, because we understand that accompaniment is a process of healing and transformation.

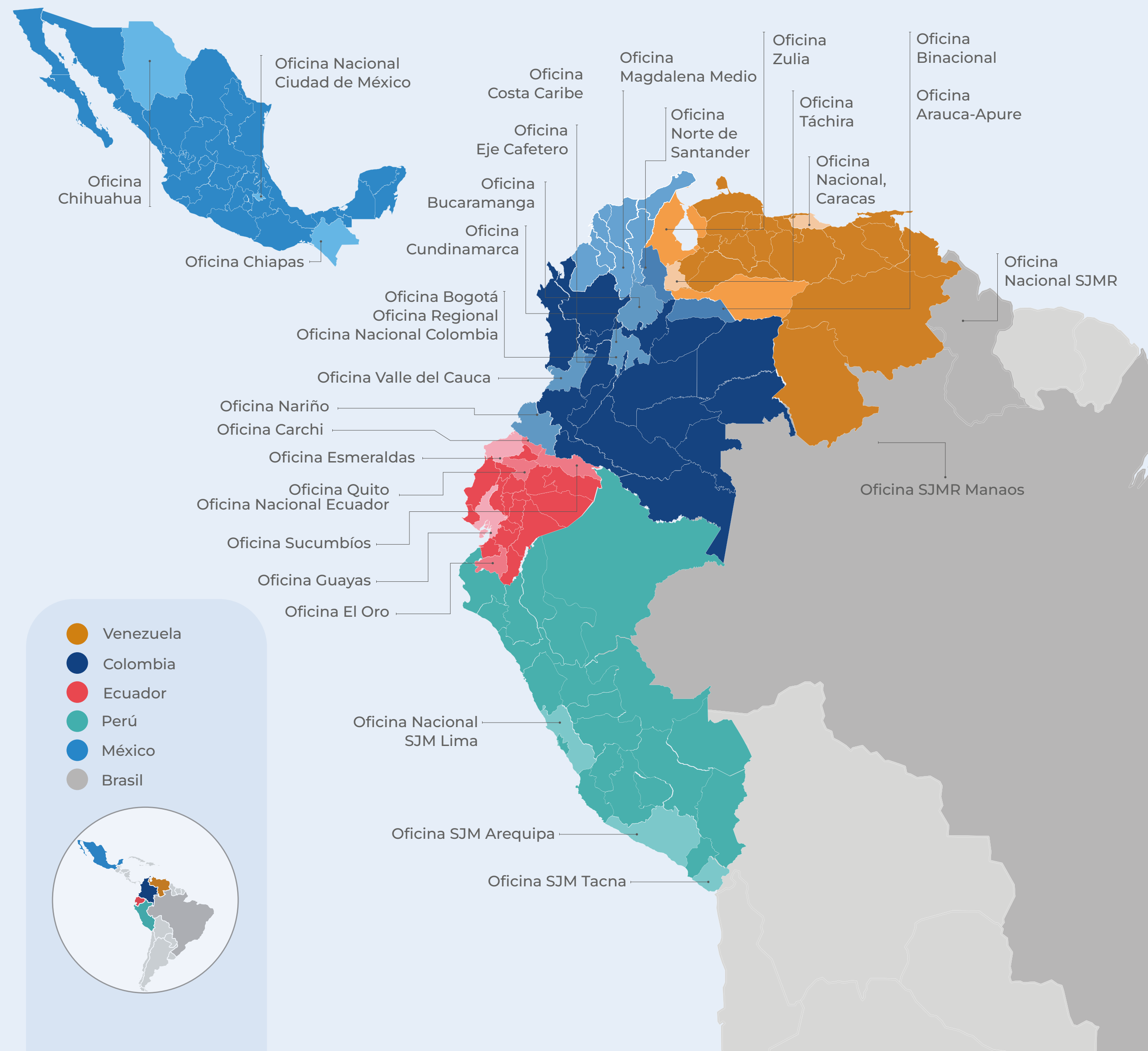
Today, as I humbly and committedly take on this new responsibility, I gratefully acknowledge the legacy of those who have come before me and look towards the future. We are aware of the great challenges we face including progressive defunding, institutional fragmentation, growing risks along multiple migration routes, and repressive measures that promote exclusionary and fearful attitudes toward difference. Despite this, we reaffirm the urgency of building comprehensive and contextualized responses based on the realities that our regional and national teams experience every day. We are committed to strengthening our advocacy in decision-making spaces, consolidating solid regional networks, and advancing toward resilient communities where our humanitarian responses guarantee transformative participation throughout the entire process.

I invite you to read this report for what it is: a collective testimony. A call not to become accustomed to pain, not to normalize injustice, and to continue working for a welcoming and reconciled region where refugees, migrants, and forcibly displaced persons, through their capacity for agency, are treated with justice and live with dignity.

On behalf of the regional team, thank you to each and every one of you for your commitment. Thank you to our partners, donors, and allies for walking alongside us. And thank you, above all, to the people we accompany, because they are the ones who truly show us the way.

Alejandra Castellanos Bretón
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»Territories Where We Are Present



01



» Regional Protection and Mental Health Process



Protection is defined as all activities aimed at ensuring full respect for the rights of all people, without discrimination, in accordance with existing legal regimes (Global Protection Cluster, 2016). At the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), **we promote justice** by providing protection to refugees (de facto refugees¹), migrants, and forcibly displaced persons, or those at risk of becoming so, through actions that restore human rights in light of international refugee law and international humanitarian law, bearing in mind the recognition of nationality and the prevention of statelessness.

We are guided by the guiding principles for internal displacement and other guarantees established in national constitutions and regulations, as well as in human rights treaties, especially in contexts where the population faces serious abuse, coercion, and violence. In this sense, at JRS we understand our work as a commitment to **comprehensive protection**, where everyone involved with our teams takes measures to prevent and reduce risks, as well as to restore the **well-being** and **dignity** of people affected by crises, especially the most vulnerable, helping them to mitigate the effects and recover from the situation they have experienced. We also work from a conflict-sensitive approach to ensure that our actions do not cause harm or have a negative impact on the lives of the people and communities that we accompany.

¹ "There is a specific group of forcibly displaced persons who do not fall into any traditional category of protection and therefore end up being excluded or receiving a lower level of protection. This highlights the urgent need for a broader, internationally agreed legal definition of refugee that covers each and every one of the causes that force a person to leave their country. In this sense, the concept of de facto refugee seeks to extend this protection and raise awareness of all those forced to emigrate due to structural violence, misguided economic policies, or natural disasters, among other causes" (Morera, 2023). "We see the need to call for the use of a broader definition of refuge, such as that offered by the Catholic Church in the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People in 1992, where the Pontifical Council Cor Unum incorporates the concept of 'de facto refugee', which refers not only to any person persecuted because of their race, religion, or membership of social or political groups, but also to 'all victims of armed conflict, misguided economic policies or natural disasters, and, for humanitarian reasons, all internally displaced persons, that is, any civilian uprooted from their home by the same type of violence that generates refugees'" (JRS LAC, 2022).



Humanitarian Assistance

JRS accompaniment is characterized by building bridges between people to foster processes of reconciliation and hospitality that fairly restore relationships fragmented by violence. In this sense, for JRS, humanitarian assistance includes complementary actions motivated by accompaniment with a comprehensive approach resulting from the identification of needs, the life project of the people accompanied, and comprehensive case management.





Total by Office

	JRS Mexico	JRS Colombia	JRS Venezuela	JRS Ecuador	SJM Peru	JRS LAC
Persons	1,200	11,762	679	8,547	1,227	1,622
Resources	\$ 204,652.22	\$ 1,631,311.08	\$ 47,707.71	\$ 563,902.00	\$ 360,002.00	\$ 175,557.74

Regional Total

	Women	Men
Persons	15,873	9,164
	25,037	
Resources	\$ 2,983,132.75	

Table 1. Population Assisted and Resources Executed in 2024: Humanitarian Assistance²

² All tables and graphs in this document are our own. The currency of the amounts referenced in all tables and graphs is US dollars.



"Now our children can go to school, and our youngest son is receiving medical treatment. We never imagined we would make so much progress in such a short time"

Diliben del Carmen Delgado Márquez

How We Accompany

Lima / Peru

Comprehensive Support that Transforms Lives

Mrs. Diliben del Carmen Delgado Márquez, along with her husband and three children (aged 5, 6, and 14), arrived in Peru in August 2022 seeking a new beginning. In 2023, they attended an information session at the Refugee and Migrant Support Center (CAREMI) of Encuentros Jesuit Migrant Service in San Juan de Lurigancho with the intention of arranging their immigration status. A medical emergency was recognized in their youngest son, which motivated them to approach the Social Protection area.

Since then, especially during 2024, they have been provided with comprehensive support:

- Given guidance on the Peruvian health system and enrolled in the Comprehensive Health Insurance (SIS) program, allowing their son to begin appropriate medical check-ups.
- Arranged access to the education system for the children, and places were found in public schools for the 5-and 6-year-olds.

- Advised on the process of formalizing their immigration status, which now allows them to exercise their rights and access services.
- Family was included in the Socioeconomic Accompaniment Program for Human Development (PASEDH), through which their housing conditions improved.
- Received guidance and resources to start a family business selling Venezuelan food, strengthening their economic autonomy.

This process not only transformed their current situation but also laid the foundations for a sustainable improvement in their quality of life. The support they received enabled them to have better access to opportunities and to also exercise their rights, by generating their own income and rebuilding their life in a new country.



Protection and Legal Assistance

For JRS, people are at the center of our mission. That is why we provide legal guidance as the first level of support for protection, and legal assistance that provides information on rights, institutions, and access routes for the effective guarantee and enjoyment of rights. We also provide support in filing mechanisms for the enforcement of rights, including legal representation. In this sense, legal assistance—based on comprehensive protection—contributes to and influences the reduction of gaps, loopholes, and barriers to access.





Total by Office

	JRS Mexico	JRS Colombia	JRS Venezuela	JRS Ecuador	SJM Peru	SJMR Brazil	JRS LAC
Persons	8,213	6,409	6,342	4,316	449	318	576
Resources	\$ 451,489.93	\$ 705,860.06	\$ 112,080.36	\$ 428,766.00	\$ 176,124.00	\$ 15,641.00	\$ 9,330.23

Regional Total

	Women	Men
Persons	15,267	11,356
	26,623	
Resources	\$ 1,899,291.58	

Table 2. Population Assisted and Resources Used in 2024: Protection and Legal Assistance



How We Accompany

Tapachula / Mexico

Snoopy reactivates his asylum application

Snoopy Dukinley Michel, a 34-year-old Haitian man, approached the JRS office in Tapachula on September 17, 2024. He was accompanied by seven other people of the same nationality, all with many questions about the procedure for applying for refugee status with the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees (COMAR). Snoopy was particularly distressed as he had missed a follow-up appointment with COMAR and feared that this meant the definitive closure of his case.

On that day, he first participated in the informational talk and then asked to be seen individually. He shared with great concern that he had begun his application on August 23, 2024, registering with COMAR #1. A week later, on August 30, he received an email instructing him to report to the COMAR headquarters located in the Ecological Park to continue his application. However, his mobile was not working properly, and he was unable to see the

message until several days later. When he realized this, he tried several times to go to the COMAR offices to explain what had happened, but he was unable to reactivate or continue the process.

Concerned, he was advised by one of the lawyers on the legal team, who helped him draft a letter titled "Access to initiate application for recognition of refugee status," which was submitted on September 20 to one of the COMAR #3 offices.

Five days later, on September 25, Snoopy received a response by email where he was told to appear on September 27 to continue with his application. Upon receiving this news, he wrote a message full of joy and gratitude, expressing his indescribable happiness at having been heard and being able to continue with his application. His message was a reminder and confirmation of the impact that timely and committed legal guidance can have.





Health

At JRS, we strive to provide high-quality accompaniment to meet people's needs in a timely, differentiated, and intersectional manner, so that protection can be realized as a comprehensive humanitarian response. Although JRS does not specialize in health response, our commitment to comprehensive accompaniment has led to the establishment of agreements with specialized institutions that follow quality criteria as a mechanism for access to medical consultations, specialized medicine, care for pregnant and lactating women, medical examinations, specialized diagnoses, and access to treatment and medication for chronic or catastrophic illnesses. This process is complemented by legal advice to enable individuals and communities to access the right to health in each country's public systems.





Total by Office

	JRS Mexico	JRS Ecuador	JRS LAC
Persons	1,213	171	240
Resources	\$ 139,149.31	\$ 255,727.00	\$ 2,152.70

Regional total

	Women	Men
Persons	1,139	485
	1,624	
Resources	\$ 397,029.01	

Table 3. Population served and resources used in 2024: Health

"It was distressing to see my son like that and not be able to do anything. We couldn't afford a doctor, and at the hospital we had to wait more than a month. This help came just in time. Thank God, David is better and can walk"

Deisy

How We Accompany

Zulia / Venezuela

David regains his health and growth

David is a one-year-old boy who was diagnosed with acute malnutrition and lactose intolerance. He lives in the community of Jurubá, in the municipality of Guajira. David's condition seriously affected his physical development where he had lost weight, had constant stomach problems, and was unable to walk. His mother, Deisy, had to take time off from her job as a teacher to care for him, which resulted in the suspension of her salary. With only one source of income from artisanal fishing and no possibility of urgent access to specialized care in the public system, the family faced a critical situation.

In response to this medical emergency, immediate access to a private consultation with a pediatric gastroenterologist was arranged, as well as the purchase of initial treatment. This allowed David to be treated without the more than month-long delay with the public system. In addition, the specialist coordinated the continuation of treatment through a public health center to reduce future expenses and ensure the necessary medical follow-up.

At the same time, Deisy received support for child care and respectful parenting, strengthening her ability to support her son's recovery at home. She also received support to strengthen her weaving business, which would allow her to generate income, increasing her ability to cover David's health and treatment expenses.

After these steps, David gained weight, started walking again, and is developing according to his age. His recovery highlights the importance of facilitating timely access to health services, especially in communities with economic limitations and barriers to medical care.

"It was distressing to see my son like that and not be able to do anything. We couldn't afford a doctor, and at the hospital we had to wait more than a month. This help came just in time. Thank God, David is better and can walk," says Deisy.



Mental Health and Psychosocial support - MHPSS

Our programs are designed to provide quality services that promote the psychosocial well-being and mental health of refugees, migrants, and forcibly displaced persons, who face constant vulnerability and violence in their places of origin, transit, and reception. For this reason, JRS has developed individual, family, group, and community mental health and psychosocial support processes that recognize people's needs, plans, and life projects.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, these processes seek to accompany emotion management, strengthen support networks, develop life skills ("soft skills"), mitigate the impact of traumatic events or violence on mental health, and work on family roles and functions, thus acquiring elements to build a culture of reconciliation and hospitality.





Total by Office

	JRS Mexico	JRS Colombia	JRS Venezuela	JRS Ecuador	SJM Peru	JRS LAC
Persons	1,915	3,567	497	2,091	671	104
Resources	\$ 208,949.47	\$ 723,458.21	\$ 27,725.62	\$ 264,265.00	\$ 86,202.00	\$ 7,271.47

Regional Total

	Women	Men
Persons	6,248	2,597
	8,845	
Resources	\$ 1,317,871.77	



Table 4. Population Served and Resources Used in 2024: Mental Health and Psychosocial Support



How We Accompany

Bogotá / Colombia

Regional exchange of experiences in Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

The exchange of experiences in Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) for the JRS Latin America and Caribbean regional office has served as a starting point for strengthening psychosocial care for vulnerable populations. This meeting brought together 24 people from teams in Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Peru to discuss and build a new perspective for addressing mental health concerns in the region. The meeting was also supported by two colleagues from HIAS to understand how to address gender-based violence (GBV) and worked in collaboration with the Global Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Network (MHPSS-Net) to address community-based MHPSS.

In the five participating countries, progress was identified in terms of the impact of the interventions on well-being, recognizing that the MHPSS approach is an integral part of the support provided.

- In **Mexico**, where JRS mobile teams perceived distress, sadness, and fear among people on the move, psychosocial support strategies were strengthened.
- **Colombia** has mainstreamed psychosocial support, promoting a systemic approach that links psycho-emotional well-being with socio-economic factors. Listening spaces, entrepreneurship, and group support have strengthened community resilience.

- In **Venezuela**, JRS has implemented emotional support and sisterhood groups, breaking the taboo on mental health and providing tools to cope with stress and anxiety exacerbated by the crisis.
- **Ecuador** has improved the identification of needs and vulnerabilities by integrating legal, psychosocial, and livelihood support. There are shelter homes and comprehensive support programs which offer more effective assistance to vulnerable populations.
- **Peru** has strengthened access to mental health services through a model that includes individual, group, and community intervention. There are safe spaces, psychoeducational workshops, and inclusion programs that have strengthened support networks.

The most significant impact is the strengthening of the capacities of JRS and SJM teams to provide more comprehensive and effective MHPSS care. The first steps have been taken to move from a reactive to a proactive approach, promoting resilience, integration, and long-term well-being in the communities accompanied, contributing to more just and inclusive societies.

02



» Regional Education and Livelihoods Process



For JRS, education is a fundamental universal right that States must guarantee, regardless of people's origin. We recognize that access to education provides a sense of stability in the lives of refugees (de facto refugees), migrants, and forcibly displaced persons. It also generates hope while preparing them to face future challenges and offering them opportunities to integrate into new social, economic, and cultural contexts.

In this sense, JRS is committed to ensuring that children and adolescents who have been forced to migrate, leaving behind their homes and communities, are not deprived of their right to education and the possibility of forging a path towards a productive and hopeful future. Efforts are also made to offer opportunities through education, especially non-formal education, to young people and adults to accompany their socio-economic integration processes in transit and destination places.



Education

We accompany refugees, migrants, and forcibly displaced persons so that they can access, remain in, and complete their education, strengthening their autonomy and capacity for agency in their communities so that they can integrate and live with dignity. JRS's commitment and experience in education includes capacity-building processes in formal education settings at different stages of the educational trajectory (primary, secondary, and higher education). Support for formal educational centers is aimed at strengthening pedagogical practices that promote inclusive and participatory action in humanitarian contexts where quality care favors educational retention.

JRS also promotes informal education spaces at the community level as protective environments for children, fostering their learning and skill development processes, as well as the participation of parents and/or caregivers in the educational process. Across the board, it supports the strengthening of leadership, community and organizational processes to promote the right to education and the prevention of violence in the context of migration in the region.



Total by Office

	JRS Mexico	JRS Colombia	JRS Venezuela	JRS Ecuador	SJM Peru	SJMR Brazil	JRS LAC
Persons	76	5,784	502	279	406	204	254
Resources	\$ 6,220.94	\$ 616,839.39	\$ 41,993.94	\$ 88,257.00	\$ 11,376.00	\$ 17,675.00	\$ 3,612.12

Regional Total

	Women	Men
Persons	4,354	3,151
	7,505	
Resources	\$ 785,974.39	

Table 5. Population Served and Resources Executed in 2024: Education



How We Accompany

Manaus / Brazil

Learning Portuguese, living together, and accessing rights

Refugees, migrants, and forcibly displaced persons face a variety of challenges at each stage of their journey. Some of these challenges are exacerbated when the languages spoken in their new transit or reception locations are different from their own.

In Brazil, learning Portuguese has been fundamental for the integration of migrants and refugees.

Through Portuguese language teaching, the Jesuit Migrant and Refugee Service (SJMR) seeks to ensure the autonomy of the people it accompanies, improving their access to rights such as healthcare, other public services, and the development of various skills to function in daily life.

Alongside the Portuguese teaching and learning process, participants also took part in cultural activities that allowed them to learn more about their surroundings and explore new ways of interacting with various members of local communities. This advances their process of coexistence and integration.

Ana is a Venezuelan woman who has participated in this process. Her words summarize her experience and what she values and appreciates about participating in it:

"My experience in the Portuguese course was very good. I was able to learn what I really wanted for my personal communication, which was the alphabet, the letters, verbs, pronouns, and many other things that were taught in the course.

Something else I really liked was how well organized it was, the help provided during the course, such as transportation vouchers, snacks, and materials like pencils, erasers, notebooks, and workbooks, which were very necessary and useful.

I would also like to thank the Jesuit Service for making all this possible, for providing this assistance to Venezuelans. I would like them to continue offering more courses and providing this support to those who need it."



Livelihoods

JRS accompanies refugees, migrants, and forcibly displaced persons so that they can use their agency to create spaces where they can explore and develop their skills and thus take steps to rebuild their lives through two different strategies. Firstly, support for entrepreneurs, which includes training in soft skills, finance, marketing, value chains, production, and other relevant topics to strengthen their businesses. It also includes the capitalization and recapitalization of productive units and a sustained process of monitoring and support. Second, a strategy for employability through higher education processes that allow them to complete their educational trajectories and influence socioeconomic integration through formal, informal, and non-formal education processes, while generating incentives for businesses to hire migrants, refugees, or forcibly displaced persons accompanied by JRS.





Total per Office

	JRS Colombia	JRS Venezuela	JRS Ecuador	SJM Peru	JRS LAC
Persons	3,178	42	780	546	37
Resources	\$ 1,130,852.10	\$ 41,627.46	\$ 175,745.00	\$ 274,673.00	\$ 96,705.62

Regional Total

	Women	Men
Persons	3,295	1,288
	4,583	
Resources	\$ 1,719,603.18	

Table 6. Population Supported and Resources Executed in 2024: Livelihoods

"Everything I learned has helped me grow my business. I value each of the topics covered in the training as relevant to what 'Date un gusto' is today.

Massiel



How We Accompany

Barrancabermeja / Colombia

‘Date un gusto’: a profitable and sustainable livelihood

The Bravo Guzmán family consists of Massiel, Richard, and their three children, aged 12, 14 and 21. They arrived in Barrancabermeja from Venezuela in 2020. The first few months were difficult as they struggled to meet their household needs. Massiel worked as a domestic worker and Richard as a security guard.

In 2022, Massiel learned about the work of JRS Colombia through a friend. Once her family's situation had been assessed, they began to receive humanitarian assistance with rent and food, psychosocial support, and guidance on accessing rights and services in the area.

Their search for a better life took a new turn when Massiel's brother lent them an oven, and they began to bake bread and pastries, which they sold in the surrounding areas. This led them to ask JRS for support for their small business. Massiel began training to strengthen different aspects of her business model and plan, which they called 'Date un gusto' (Treat Yourself). Alongside this support, her husband and eldest son participated in workshops on employability and access to other rights and services, with a view to securing other means of support for the family.

Massiel received technical training in baking, pastry making, and accounting. She said, "Everything I learned has helped me grow my business. I value each of the topics covered in the training as relevant to what 'Date un gusto' is today." After structuring her business and conducting a purchasing plan, in 2023 she received her first seed capital grant, which enabled her to purchase the products, machinery, tools, equipment, raw materials, and supplies needed to strengthen her business.

The venture's production capacity increased, allowing them to work together to produce and market different types of products, thereby increasing their income. Despite these advances, significant challenges remained in ensuring sales and sustainability in general. Therefore, in 2024, new steps were taken to strengthen marketing and financial management, and a second seed capital grant was provided, this time as a cash transfer.

Massiel acknowledges that this allowed her to purchase the products she needed directly, which not only made her feel satisfied and empowered, but also enabled her to respond more directly to her needs and take greater responsibility for the process. Existing customers were consolidated, and new ones were sought through the strategic use of various digital channels.

By the end of 2024, the family's income from their business amounted to four times the minimum monthly wage, and their profits were estimated at around two times the minimum wage, allowing them to make the business their main source of income. They allocated 10% of their income to reinvest in the business and set aside 5% as a "love offering" voluntary donation to help others, just as someone had once helped them.

They also managed to formally establish themselves as a business, open a bank account, and rent a storefront. As they continue to realize their dream of making this venture a profitable and sustainable livelihood, they participate in community processes promoted by JRS and in a Self-Managed Savings and Credit Group, based on a social and solidarity economy approach.



03



» Regional Reconciliation Process



At JRS LAC, we understand reconciliation as a call and a choice to "reunite what has been broken." This is expressed in a way of promoting just relationships at the level of JRS teams, individuals, and communities that have been fragmented by violence and conflict in Latin America and the Caribbean. We want their life projects to develop within a framework of hospitality, respect, dignity, and guaranteed rights, generating political, social, cultural, environmental, and spiritual conditions that promote a culture of encounter and help overcome cycles of violence.

It is therefore possible to recognize that the dialogue between the Strategic Framework for Regional Collaborative Action, national autonomy, and contextual needs generates a specific call that must be heeded: discuss, reflect, and commit to making reconciliation a way that allows for the development of principles that can be appropriated in the territories. This makes it possible to measure the impacts of actions and contributes to the re-establishment of just relations as an institutional commitment.



Reconciliación con la Creación

JRS



Pasión Por el Cuidado del Mundo





Total by Office

	JRS Mexico	JRS Colombia	JRS Venezuela	JRS Ecuador	JRS LAC
Persons	925	105	892	1,098	165
Resources	\$ 9,917.82	\$85,732.96	\$ 77,064.85	\$ 194,217.00	\$ 14,416.85

Regional Total

	Women	Men
Persons	2,150	1,035
	3,185	
Resources	\$ 381,349.48	

Table 7. Population Accompanied and Resources Executed in 2024: Reconciliation

“Here, I learned to recognize that I am not alone. My story, which I thought was only pain, is also a source of strength for other women. And together we can rise up.”



How We Accompany

Ecuador

Women's Circles: Weaving networks of reconciliation and hope

For several years, JRS Ecuador has been promoting **Women's Circles** as spaces for meeting, trust, and accompaniment. In 2024, this methodology gained new momentum as a key practice for reconciliation, spreading to the five territories where JRS works: Quito, Lago Agrio, Tulcán, Guayaquil, and Huaquillas.

These Circles offer a **safe space** where Ecuadorian women in vulnerable situations can meet to share experiences, reframe their life processes, and recognize the value of their journeys. Through talking, listening, and trust, psychological and psychosocial support processes are strengthened. This **generates community networks that sustain, care for, and transform each other.**

One of the greatest achievements has been the creation of bonds of solidarity that transcend individual stories. As one of the participants recounts:

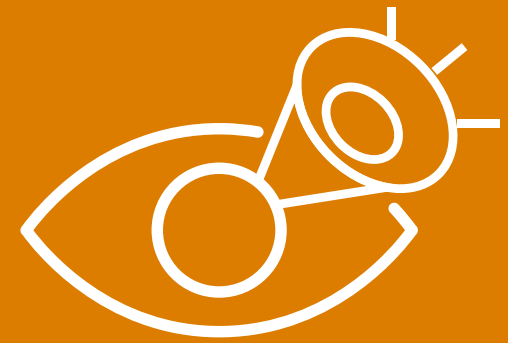
“Here, I learned to recognize that I am not alone. My story, which I thought was only pain, is also a source of strength for other women. And together we can rise up.”

The Circles have also become **a starting point for new opportunities.** Women, who are already leaders, receive training in community management and rights, strengthening their capacity to influence their communities. Others find a bridge to socioeconomic integration: access to livelihoods, job placement, or support in their children's education, ensuring their continued school attendance.

In this way, Women's Circles are consolidating themselves as **a living practice of reconciliation** that transforms pain into hope, isolation into community, and vulnerability into shared strength.



04



» Regional Advocacy and Communication Process



At JRS, we understand communication as a constantly changing human dimension and capacity (personal, interpersonal, community, and social) that allows us to understand, "shape," and build different human realities based on the actors, contexts, and intentions that interact with each other. We also understand advocacy as the set of political, legal, social, and community actions that seek to influence decision-makers, institutions, and political, legal, and regulatory bodies at the local, national, regional, and international levels, so that a culture of comprehensive protection, hospitality, and reconciliation becomes a reality that fully guarantees the human rights of those we accompany.

In this sense, we are committed to strategically developing impactful communication and communicative advocacy from a comprehensive protection approach that raises public, political, and social awareness about regional realities, especially from the experiences and voices of refugees (de facto refugees), migrants, and forcibly displaced persons. We seek to contribute to the transformation of society so that people are treated fairly, can coexist peacefully, integrate, participate, and live with dignity.



caminante

An important achievement in 2024 around this regional process was the launch (in Spanish and Creole) of **Infocaminante**, an information support tool with a regional, preventive, and protective approach, designed to support refugees, migrants, and forcibly displaced persons ("caminantes") —with information from 13 countries—in their migration processes throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, for accompanied, informed, and protected migration.



Total by Office

	JRS Mexico	JRS Colombia	JRS Venezuela	JRS Ecuador	JRS LAC
Persons	0	1,196	0	0	778
Resources	\$ 161,949.09	\$ 240,980.28	\$ 22,088.51	\$ 139,548.00	\$ 39,018.98

Regional Total

	Women	Men
Persons	1,327	647
	1,974	
Resources	\$ 603,584.86	

Table 8. Population Supported and Resources Used 2024: Advocacy and Communication

Along with internal lessons learned about collaborative work, the start of the implementation of Chile's Action Plan presents new challenges for the next 10 years, both in terms of advocacy with States, coordination between various actors and regional networks, and maintaining constant and systematic monitoring that allows people, their rights, and their needs to remain at the center of the international protection system.

How We Accompany

Latin America and The Caribbean

“Comprehensive protection for dignified migration”: Jesuit advocacy in Cartagena +40

Based on the clarity and options provided by the Society of Jesus, the Discerned Strategic Framework for Regional Collaborative Action, and the 2022 Assembly of the Jesuit Network with Migrants, in 2023, we were able to envision 2024 as an important advocacy opportunity for the protection of refugees, migrants, and forcibly displaced persons in the region as we enter the new decade of the Cartagena Declaration process.

To this end, initiatives and efforts were brought together, such as an **event in Quito** within the framework of the meeting of JRS national and regional directors, the defense and presentation of Moisés Morera's **doctoral thesis**, and, in June 2023, the proposal to various Jesuit works to form a **Working Group** on the Cartagena +40 process. This allowed the first internal steps to be taken during the second half of 2023 through different stages and sub-teams.

Within the framework of the World Refugee Forum in Geneva, the Chilean government's leadership in the Cartagena +40 process was formalized, and together with the CLAMOR Network, it was possible to hold a parallel event there in December 2023 with the **participation of Angie Torres**, a young Colombian refugee in Ecuador.

With these preparations in place, 2024 began. While coordination was taking place among a wide range of civil society actors and networks in the region and attempts were being made to engage in dialogue with the Cartagena +40 Technical Secretariat, the internal preparation process—co-led by the Jesuit Network with Migrants

and the LAC regional office of the Jesuit Refugee Service—reached a key moment: the **design of a regional advocacy strategy**. This was a result of a **face-to-face meeting** in Bogotá in March 2024, where the key elements during the year were defined, along with various themes and sub-teams to achieve this including lobbying, communication/dissemination, and working with civil society.

Amidst the various negotiations and deadlines for each official event, it was possible to position the voice of JRS as one of the civil society networks that could and should contribute key elements—from their experience of direct accompaniment to the people—so that the **Chile 2024-2034 Action Plan** would respond to the challenges and protection needs experienced in the region.

This JRS voice, in coordination with various voices from civil society in the region, made contributions whose core content was summarized in the communication campaign **"Comprehensive protection for dignified migration"**. The campaign was based on thematic consultations held in **Mexico City, Brasília, and Bogotá**, and other opportunities such as **World Refugee Day**, a parallel event in **Colombia**, a diplomatic event in **Rome**, a thematic hearing of the **IACHR** on the subject, among other national initiatives. Efforts then focused on **preparation and advocacy** in Geneva around the start of negotiations on the Chile Declaration and Plan of Action, its internal follow-up, and advocacy at the **ministerial event** in Santiago, Chile, for its formal adoption.





Research

At JRS, we see research as a multidisciplinary field that allows us to understand, reflect on, and act in relation to the movements of refugees, migrants, and forcibly displaced persons. We also explore the motivations, causes, and effects of forced displacement in order to develop our own analysis of the realities faced by these people. With this knowledge, we can generate advocacy actions that promote their comprehensive protection.

In 2024, research and analysis were carried out in the context of countries where forced migration occurs, which allowed us to identify risks, vulnerabilities, impacts, as well as opportunities for reconciliation and hospitality for and with refugees, migrants, and forcibly displaced persons.



Published research:

February 9, 2024

Regional Context Report – Second Semester 2023: Trends in Forced Migration in the Americas

August 15, 2024

Haitian Forced Migration in the Americas: Trajectories and Protection Gaps

September 26, 2024

Regional Context Report – First Semester 2024: Trends in Forced Migration in the Americas

October 22, 2024

Cross-border migration context analysis – Northern Ecuador, Southern Colombia

November 6, 2024

Cross-border migration context analysis – Northern Peru, Southern Ecuador

December 19, 2024

Cross-border migration context analysis – Peru, Chile, Bolivia triple borde



This is because advocacy means walking together, weaving responses from a place of dignity and encounter

Ruth Huarancca – Political Advocacy Specialist (Encuentros SJM Peru)

How We Accompany

Peru / Colombia / Ecuador / Bolivia / Chile

Cross-border analysis: Advocacy based on dignity and encounter

Participating in cross-border analyses promoted by the Community of Practice and Learning on Advocacy and Communication has been one of the most significant experiences of my career in advocacy. Not only because of the technical expertise of these spaces, but also because being on the frontlines transforms the way we understand migration dynamics and the challenges faced by people on the move.

Being at the borders means understanding that geographical boundaries are just lines on a map; in real life, those lines are blurred by the force of the social, cultural, and economic life that crosses them. Borders are living spaces, where cross-border life exists and resists, and where people see not limits, but instead their intersecting paths. There, stories of search, survival, and hope transcend any rigid notion of the nation state, demanding perspectives and responses that go beyond political borders.

In the exercises carried out on the borders of Colombia-Ecuador, Peru-Ecuador, and in preparation for the analysis on the Peru-Chile-Bolivia border, I confirmed that migratory challenges cannot be addressed from decontextualized regulatory frameworks. Public policies require an understanding of the complexity of these territories, where needs are continuous, changing, and deeply human.

These spaces were not just technical exercises; they were moments of deep accompaniment, in which active listening,

empathy, and respect for the dignity of each person became the true methodological axes. I learned that accompanying is not just observing, but being present from an ethical and human commitment, recognizing that the most effective responses are built in dialogue and community.

This experience also reaffirmed the richness of collaborative work. When we set out to build together, drawing on diverse knowledge and a willingness to join forces, it is possible to move toward more humane and effective public policies.

This call to work together is not fortuitous. As Jesuit Works, we have a mission to respond to the signs of the times, to approach frontiers—geographical, social, and existential—with the conviction that advocacy is a path to transformation. Advocacy that, from an Ignatian spirituality, is built by placing the dignity of people at the center, especially those who are most vulnerable, and by promoting changes that are the result of discerned processes, the constant search for the greater good, and action committed to justice.

Returning from the frontlines means doing so with the certainty that advocacy does not begin in decision-making spaces, but in encountering people, understanding their daily lives, allowing ourselves to be touched by their stories, and taking responsibility for bringing their voices to the spaces where policies and actions are defined.



05



» Regional Collaborative Management Process



This process seeks to promote an organizational culture in the region based on transparency, trust, and collaboration that leads to collective innovation by implementing continuous learning strategies within the organization. This positively impacts the operations of JRS and ensures quality services for refugees, migrants, and forcibly displaced persons (according to The Core Humanitarian Standard - CHS) that provides technical guidelines for accompanying refugees. To this end, we strengthen capacities for regional management and collaboration at all levels (local, national, regional, and global), promoting peer-to-peer encounters, team interdependence, practical learning, knowledge management, and the generation of agreements to respond jointly to common problems.



We accompany each other in the implementation of policies, procedures, and tools that ensure effective functioning, quality operations, and financial sustainability, adapting what has been developed by the international JRS system. We manage and execute projects that allow us to guarantee and sustain the development of the mission at all levels, as well as monitor our progress and impact. We create mechanisms to coordinate and cooperate with the provinces, the networks of the Society of Jesus in the region, and the humanitarian community, promoting collaborative governance.





These are the policies and practices that have been developed in the JRS offices, which enable us to improve our accompaniment with and for people:

JRS Colombia

- Programmatic guidelines associated with MHPSS and teacher well-being;
- Programmatic guidelines associated with care for our common home, prevention of climate change impacts, and guidelines on printing and use of recyclable materials.

JRS Ecuador

- Care model for the First Reception Center in Argelia.

JRS LAC Regional Office

- Well-being Policy;
- Teleworking Policy;
- Work Disconnection Policy.



How We Accompany

Ecuador - Colombia - Venezuela

Learning visits on education

In July 2024, the JRS offices in Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, and Latin America and the Caribbean carried out two learning visits in the field of education. Through experiential learning, these visits provided an opportunity to learn about the contexts, challenges, and strategies of the territorial teams that accompany refugees, migrants, and forcibly displaced persons.

These visits were carried out between the following JRS territorial teams:

- Ecuador-Colombia-Venezuela: Teams from the La Argelia Shelter (Quito) and the Arauca-Apure Binational Office.
- Venezuela-Colombia: Teams from the Caracas-La Vega and Suacha (Bogotá) territorial offices.

Through the phases of operations, training and methodological readiness, conducting visits, and systematization/evaluation, this regional strategy contributes to collaborative management through technical strengthening and the development of teams'

skills/competencies based on diverse experiences, thus promoting a regional perspective on the Education program. In particular, these visits sought to:

- Strengthen technical and methodological capacities;
- Share tools, methodologies, and practices that can be replicated;
- Promote a regional perspective for specific contexts;
- Contribute in a participatory manner, based on each country's experiences, to define shared minimum standards for programmatic and organizational quality;
- Advance the design of high-quality, impactful, and sustainable care models.

Strategies such as this are expected to include specific mechanisms for providing feedback and documenting lessons learned, best practices, significant experiences, tools, methodologies, and approaches for the technical strengthening of those who make up the territorial and national teams in Latin America and the Caribbean.



06



» Regional Care and Development Process



This process aims to guarantee actions for well-being and care (holistic, comprehensive, and integrated), contributing to the development of individuals and their capacities, linked to the performance of their functions for the organizational mission in interdependence with the four levels (local, national, regional, and global). To this end, we are accompanied in the development of our identity, mission, and collaborative governance by Ignatian philosophy and leadership, which promotes and embodies our values, based on participatory discernment, co-responsibility, the principle of subsidiarity, solidarity, and care for our common home.

One of its effects is to guarantee a work environment free of discrimination and respectful of diversity, promoting free access to reporting and accountability mechanisms, better service, and helping to ensure safety by identifying and managing the risks of the context in which we work. In this way, we promote a culture of care that reconciles.





N° of experiences	JRS/SJM office	Date	Component
1	JRS Norte de Santander Field Office, Pamplona	February 27 to March 1, 2024	Reconciliation
1	Encuentros SJM Arequipa Field Office, Arequipa	July 15 to 17, 2024	Ignatian leadership
1	Encuentros SJM Peru Country Office, Lima	July 17-19, 2024	Ignatian leadership
1	JRS Colombia Country Office, Bogotá	July 23-26, 2024	Reconciliation
1	JRS Tapachula Field Office, Chiapas	September 11-13, 2024	Ignatian leadership
1	JRS Mexico Country Office, Mexico City	September 17-20, 2024	Ignatian leadership
1	JRS Guayaquil and Huaquillas Field Offices, Guayaquil	November 17-19, 2024	Ignatian leadership
1	JRS Ecuador Country Office, Quito	November 20-24, 2024	Identity and Mission

Table 9. Experiences of Care and Development 2024



Norte de Santander / Colombia

Reconnecting with the source of life to build peace

From February 27 to March 1, 2024, as part of the "care for the caregiver" spaces at the JRS Norte de Santander Territorial Office, I had the opportunity to be part of the experience of reconnecting with the source of life in the form of spiritual exercises, thanks to the accompaniment of the JRS Colombia National Office and the JRS LAC Regional Office.

From this very meaningful experience in my six years of working with JRS, I would like to highlight three aspects:

1. Silence as an experience of connection and transformation

In our role of directly accompanying migrants and victims of conflict in a complex border area between Colombia and Venezuela, we hear many stories of rights being violated and life plans being broken. We are overwhelmed by these experiences on a human level. We rarely have the opportunity to stop and listen to our inner voice, which needs to be heard. Perhaps we silence it because we believe that "it is not where the greatest need is," or perhaps we do not know how to accompany ourselves or are afraid to do so.

That is why this experience of care is so important, with silence being one of the cross-cutting themes that allows us to hear ourselves internally, realizing that it is not just one voice, but multiple things, thoughts, questions, doubts, which we may not know how to address. This, together with silence, gives meaning to spiritual guidance, which supports us in finding the "Way and Order" to manage that inner chaos and allow the spirit to guide us.

2. Connection with the source of life

After spending time guiding others, analyzing legal and psychosocial strategies, it was necessary to allow myself to be guided in order to enjoy the "Way and Order" and return to the "Source of Life," to recognize ourselves as humans with multiple dimensions, to allow ourselves to be forgiven and to forgive ourselves, which is also an essential process for strengthening our vital and professional purpose, discerning once again what moves us, and understanding that we are part of and connected to as a whole.

3. Commitment to Reconciliation

This translates into a commitment to reconciliation, understood as the "restoration of just relationships" connected to the source of life and illuminated by discernment and calm in the face of inner chaos, so that we can approach our daily work of identifying structural violence, the pain of victims, and the responsibility of perpetrators with new eyes, without being consumed by chaos.

These days were a transformative experience for me in terms of my approach to life and my contribution to building the lasting peace that our country so badly needs after many decades of conflict. I can now say that, for the sake of ourselves, we should all experience something like this at least once in our lives.

Ricardo Rojas – Legal Advisor, Protection Area (JRS Office, Norte de Santander, Colombia)



07

» Summary of Operations



Our regional impact

79,376

accompanied person

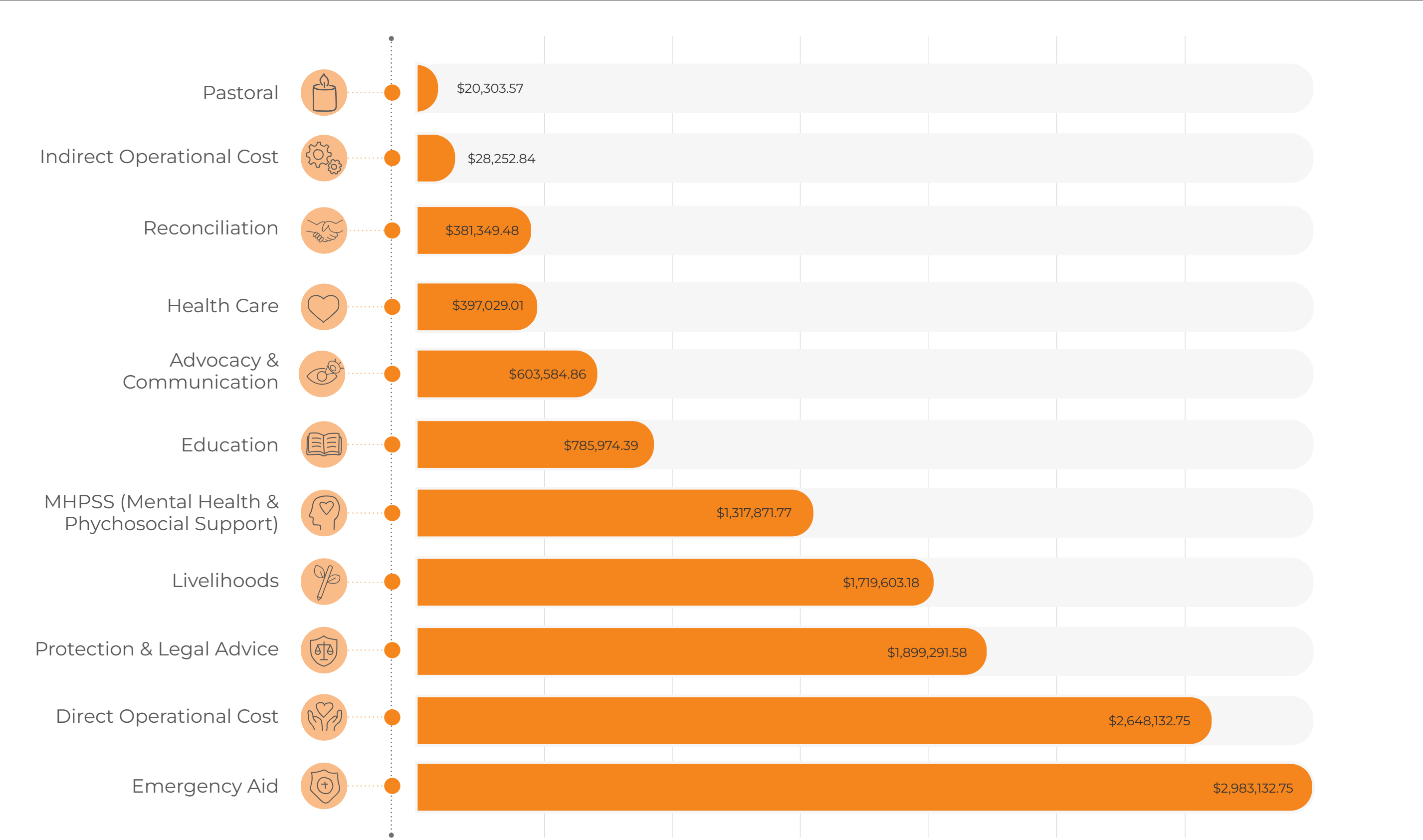
with

\$12,784,545.37 USD

executed

	JRS Mexico	JRS Colombia	JRS Venezuela	JRS Ecuador	SJM Peru	SJMR Brazil	JRS LAC	Totals
Used Resources	\$ 1,333,415.85	\$ 5,689,866.18	\$ 575,035.70	\$ 2,797,715.18	\$ 908,377.00	\$ 33,316.00	\$ 1,446,819.46	\$ 12,784,545.37
Revenue	\$ 1,196,279.35	\$ 5,718,193.83	\$ 575,035.71	\$ 2,797,715.18	\$ 908,377.00	\$ 33,316.00	\$ 1,689,469.30	\$ 12,918,386.38

Table 10. Used Resources and Revenues in the Region in 2024



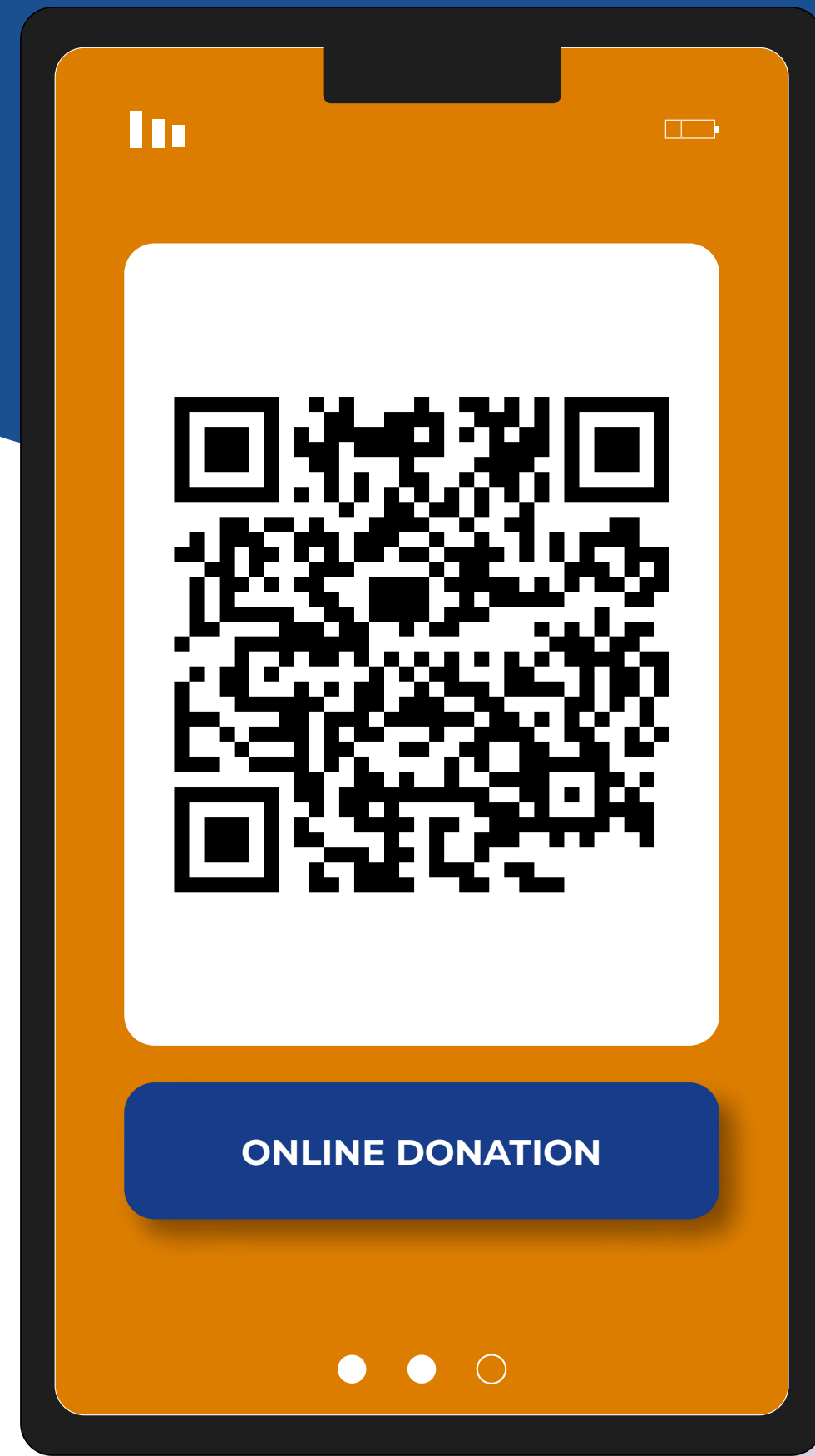
Graph 1. Resources used by each service in 2024

»Partners and donors

We are grateful for the support of our partners and donors for trusting in our work and being allies in the comprehensive protection of refugees, migrants and forcibly displaced persons in the region.

» Become part of our service



By bank transfer

Donations in U.S. Dollars and Euros:

Bank name:

Bancolombia Puerto Rico Internacional, Inc.

Account name:

Fundación Servicio Jesuita a Refugiados para Latinoamérica y el Caribe

Bank account No:

90100000538

SWIFT code:

CFSUPRSJ

Correspondent BIC or SWIFT code for donations in USD:

BOFAUS3M

BIC or SWIFT code for donations in EUR:

CHASGB2L

IBAN of the correspondent for donations in EUR:

GB56CHAS60924241407278

Donations in Colombian pesos:

Name of bank:

Bancolombia

Account name:

Fundación Servicio Jesuita a Refugiados para Latinoamérica y el Caribe

Savings Bank Account No:

031-140470-31

SWIFT code:

COLOCOBM

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