MIGRATION

ABOUT PADF

The Pan American Development Foundation (PADF) believes in creating a hemisphere of opportunity for all. We work across Latin America and the Caribbean to make our region stronger – more healthy, peaceful, just, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable for current and future generations. For nearly 60 years, we have served the most vulnerable communities, investing resources throughout the hemisphere. We partner with and enable civil society, governments, and the private sector for the greater good of the region.

WHAT WE DO

We work throughout Latin America and the Caribbean to provide sustainable solutions for individuals who have made the difficult choice to leave their homes in search of better, safer lives. Migrant populations in the region typically come from Venezuela, Haiti, Nicaragua, Colombia, and Central America’s Northern Triangle. As they travel, they endure harsh and often dangerous conditions, including the risk of exploitation, trafficking, violence, and disease.

PADF works with local community organizations, government entities, and the private sector to foster a hemisphere of opportunity where everyone can access basic resources and rights. With its community partners, we listen to the priorities of vulnerable populations to provide solutions that are sustainable, comprehensive, and address evolving needs. From emergency humanitarian assistance in the Darién Province of Panama, to business mentorship and vocational training in Aruba and Curaçao, to capacity building for local governments and civil society organizations in Colombia, PADF strives to provide support services that are effective, participatory, and create sustainable change. PADF equally responds to host communities’ needs by supporting capacity building and integration efforts.

In 2021, PADF directly supported over 100,000 migrants and their communities in Aruba, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Curaçao, Guyana, Panama, Peru, the Bahamas, and Trinidad and Tobago.

AREAS OF INTERVENTION

With the help of our local partners, PADF provides migrant families with:

- Humanitarian assistance
- Shelter
- Food security
- Water, sanitation, and hygiene
- Health services
- Education
- Livelihoods
- Legal support
- Gender-based violence interventions
- Mental health and psychosocial support
- Integration and peaceful co-existence
- And much more

A hemisphere of opportunity. For all.

www.padf.org
**JUAN’S PASTRY TRAINING**

In Costa Rica, PADF works with local partner and diaspora organization SOS Nicaragua to provide livelihood skills training to migrants. Juan*, a 26-year-old man from the Miskito indigenous community, is one such student. Before connecting with SOS Nicaragua and PADF, Juan never thought he would be able to complete his studies due to economic hardships. Moreover, Juan has a cognitive disability that makes studying and finding employment even more difficult. Through SOS Nicaragua, Juan has been taking a cake and pastry making course, which is helping him gain confidence and learn marketable skills to boost his income-earning potential. Juan has never missed a class and always comes motivated and ready to learn. As mentioned by his teacher, “[Juan] is an inspiring example” of the lives reached by PADF’s work.

**NAIRUBI CHANGES HER LIFE**

In 2021, PADF witnessed an increase in gender-based violence (GBV) in Peru due to isolation, confinement, and economic hardship related to COVID-19. Among the most vulnerable were Venezuelan women, who often live in precarious and unstable conditions. In partnership with Centro de Atencion Psicosocial (CAPS) and Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), PADF provided psychosocial care to more than 1,500 women in Peru while simultaneously building the capacity of smaller organizations fighting GBV. PADF, CAPS, and local women’s networks also developed a GBV prevention manual and safety kit for survivors and those at risk of GBV. Nairubi, a Venezuelan network member living in Lima, told PADF:

“These workshops changed my life 360 degrees. When I began, I used to cry every time I talked about my experiences, and today I can calmly share because I learned it’s part of my past. I’m grateful for everything the team has done for me. Now I feel good, in a country that is not my own, but where I have learned many things, and where I have been able to grow as a person.”

**JALISA FROM IAMOVEMENT**

In Trinidad and Tobago, PADF has trained 155 vulnerable Venezuelans to date in skills that they can use to support their livelihoods. One such training course, led by PADF local partner IAMovement, trains indigenous Warao women in the art of weaving vetiver grass into baskets that they can then sell online and at various locations throughout the country. The program also trains participants in marketing and branding to boost their income-generating potential. One program participant, Jalisa*, showed a great passion for weaving and worked closely with IAMovement staff and workshop leaders to learn more about how to perfect her craft and market her products. In nine months, Jalisa sold all the crafts she produced, earning about USD180 in profits. Jalisa plans to use these earnings to provide for her three children and eventually start her own business.

*Names changed

---

**STAY CONNECTED!**

CAROLINA BREA  
Migration Director  
Email: cbrea@padf.org

A hemisphere of opportunity. For all.  
www.padf.org