## **Inter-Agency Coordination** Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela









**FUNDING SITUATION\*\*** FUNDED: 39 M 40% REQUIREMENT: 98 M

#### Situation

- For the first time since taking office in January 2019, President Jair Bolsonaro visited Operation Welcome in Roraima. Accompanied by the Governor of Roraima and the Ministers of Citizenship, and Justice and Public Safety, the President visited the Rondon 5 shelter, where he spoke with refugees and migrants from Venezuela waiting to be internally relocated to other destinations in the framework of the "interiorization" strategy.
- On 5 October, the Government approved Ordinance 658, an update to Brazil's exceptional and temporary entry restrictions for foreigners to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. The new regulation lifts restrictions for air travel based on nationality or country of departure, allowing all nationalities to enter the country by air, provided the passenger presents a recent negative COVID-19 test. The entry of foreigners into the country by land remains restricted (except at the border with Paraguay); however, since Ordinance 655 of June 2021, Venezuelans have been authorized to register after arrival in order to subsequently obtain legal status, despite their irregular entry.
- As reported in previous months, the homeless population in the border town of Pacaraima is increasing daily, despite Operation Welcome and R4V partners' assistance efforts. Reports from R4V partners indicate that 3,213 Venezuelans are in a situation of homelessness in Pacaraima, and 2,009 in Boa Vista.

### Response

## Education

In Manaus, Education Sector partners organized the third webinar about intercultural education in an emergency context, part of a broader initiative to promote fundamental rights for Venezuelan children, including indigenous youth. The event "Where are the indigenous voices?" encouraged dialogue and the exchange of experiences among government officials, indigenous leaders, and civil society representatives. The initiative aims to create an intercultural protocol that will guide government actions and protect indigenous rights, with a special focus on Warao peoples in the Amazon.



#### Health

- Considering the importance of access to primary healthcare for pregnant and lactating refugee and migrant women, R4V partners launched the Spanish version of the booklet "Recommendations for Pregnant and Postpartum Women in the Context of Coronavirus Pandemic (Covid-19)". Drafted in an accessible language, the booklet is a reference material for healthcare providers and users.
- R4V partners held various events to mark National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and promote overall women's health. In Manaus, Venezuelan women living in multiple shelters and at the Bus Station Reception and Support Center participated in information sessions on breast and cervical cancer prevention, with instructions on selfexamination for the early detection of breast cancer. The session was followed by clinical consultation and sexually transmitted infections (STI) testing. In Pacaraima, R4V partners conducted focus groups to better inform health and hygiene interventions, with the participation of 18 girls and women living at the BV8 shelter. All participants received menstrual cups, a sustainable and safe alternative to regular disposable menstrual pads.



#### Integration/Interiorization/Humanitarian **Transportation**

- To promote the integration of Venezuelan refugees and migrants through entrepreneurship opportunities, R4V partners working together with the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights, Virada Feminina and Casa Venezula provided makeup and hair styling training for 115 women in São Paulo. As part of the initiative, partners held information sessions on labor rights, LGBTIQ+ rights, women's health, gender-based violence (GBV) prevention, and job search tips.
- R4V partners and the Ministry of Citizenship launched the Pre-Departure Orientation Guide - Guia de Orientación Pre Viaje. Written in Spanish, the guide aims to support Venezuelan refugees and migrants willing to participate in the programme with essential information about all stages of the relocation programme, including pre-departure, intransit and post-relocation. The guide also offers information about access to rights and essential services.
- To mark World Day for Decent Work, R4V partners and the Ministry of Economy announced the second phase of the campaign Proteja o Trabalho, or "protecting work". The webinar What is a temporary work contract Brazil? launched the new phaze. A booklet on temporary work was also released on the campaign's website.



## Nutrition

In Brazil, R4V partners continued nutritional surveillance and screenings in shelters in Pacaraima, Boa Vista, Manaus, Belém, Ananindeua, and Santarém. Partners screened 611 children under the age of 5 for malnutrition and distributed daily micronutrient tablets (including iron/folic acid) for 232 pregnant or lactating women. In addition, R4V nutrition partners held 1,442 counseling sessions on appropriate feeding for caregivers of infants and toddlers aged 0-23 months.

# **BRAZIL**





- In order to improve peaceful coexistence between the LGBTQI+ community and other Rondon 3 shelter residents, Protection Sector partners held information sessions on gender identity, sexual orientation and expression, sexuality, and diversity.
- In Boa Vista, the GBV Sub-sector conducted the workshops "Community-Based Protection for the Prevention of GBV in Shelters: referral pathways, community mobilization and promotion of Safe Spaces?" and "Sexual Violence: ideal vs. real pathways how to guarantee full access and protection to survivors?". In total, 55 humanitarian workers and local service providers were trained through these activities. Moreover, a training session on the rights of refugee and migrant women was delivered for 21 members of the Rio Grande do Norte State Committee for Refugees, Migrants, and Stateless Persons.
- The R4V Human Trafficking and Child Protection Subsectors offered an online training on Trafficking and Exploitation of Children and Adolescents for 50 humanitarian workers of R4V partners. The activity addressed key concepts related to identification, prevention, and response to Trafficking in Persons (TiP) and child exploitation, with relevant recommendations for public policies and the daily work of R4V partner organizations.



In Boa Vista, R4V partners inaugurated recreational areas in two shelters. The spaces feature playground equipment that stimulates child cognitive and physical development. The initiative reflects broader efforts to improve shelter residents' communal relations and overall wellbeing. The initiative is part of the "Scale-Up Urban95 Boa Vista" project, supported by R4V partners, Operation Welcome, the Bernard van Leer Foundation, and the Boa Vista government.

• On 27 October, R4V partners and Operation Welcome inaugurated an annex to the BV-8 shelter in Pacaraima. The extension is an emergency facility with a capacity to accommodate 550 people for overnight stay. Operation Welcome built the new wing to accommodate the increasing influx of Venezuelans in situations of homelessness in Pacaraima, an issue which has generated tensions with the host community. Partners donated mattresses, hygiene and cleaning kits and diapers to support the first fifteen weeks of its operations.

## WASH

- In response to the growing refugee and migrant population in Pacaraima, R4V WASH partners conducted a rapid assessment of the town's current water and sanitation situation. The evaluation identified a lack of drinking water points, insufficient toilets, open-air sewage flows both from leakage and lack of wastewater treatment facilities, lack of handwashing stations, excessive trash accumulation, and poor hygiene practices among recent arrivals. WASH partners assembled a significant response, including hiring WASH monitors to promote hygiene practices among recently arrived refugees and migrants, as well as installing three drinking water stands, three handwashing stations, and six large trash collection bins, benefitting over 4,500 individuals. In the new BV-8 annex, R4V WASH partners installed and provided the following WASH services: container bathrooms, a water reservoir and pump, a handwashing station, a drinking water station, sewage collection and treatment facilities, and stormwater drainage.
- In Manaus, R4V partners delivered personal hygiene and COVID-19 prevention workshops at several municipal schools for over 1,000 people, primarily children. As part of the initiative, partners distributed personal hygiene items (including menstrual hygiene products and COVID-19 prevention items) as well as cleaning supplies to refugee and migrant families.

#### **R4V Brazil Platform Partners**

ABCAN | ADRA\* | AEBVB | ASAV/SJMR Brasil\* | ASBRAD | Associação dos Amigos | Associação Hermanitos\* | AVSI Brasil\* | CAM | Cáritas Brasileira | Cáritas Manaus\* | Cáritas Paraná | Cáritas Rio de Janeiro\* | Cáritas São Paulo | Cáritas Suíça no Brasil\* | CDDH | CIEDS | CMDH/RR | Coletivo Mosaico | Compassiva | FFHI\*| FSF | ILO | IMDH\* | IMPACT REACH | Instituto Félix Guattari | Instituto Mana\* | Instituto Pirilampos\* | IKMR - | Know My Rights | Instituto Nice | IOM\* | LGBT+Movimento | Missão Paz | PADF | PAHO/WHO | RIADIS | SEFRAS | SOS Children's Village Brazil\* | SPM\* | SPM-NE | UN Women | UNAIDS | UNDP | UNEP | UNESCO\* | UNFPA\* | UNHCR\* | UNICEF\* | UNODC | UNOPS | We World | World Vision Brazil\* |



Education 2,940

Food Security 1,681 Health 3,813

Hum. Transp. 1,948 Integration

ion CBI

CBI Nutrition
4,865 1,091

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Protection Shelte
19,502 8,611

Shelter WASH 8,611 7,416

\* Partners submitting data to Activity Info in October 2021.