

# SERVING THE VULNERABLE IN CUBA

## DECEMBER 2021 REPORT



It takes only a moment to change someone's life!

## Changing the Lives of the Young & Old with Kindness

We believe that God uses people to impact people and those who have received assistance during the pandemic have expressed the impact your generosity has made on them. You have impacted the lives of many kids, seniors, families and pastors in Cuba, particularly children in the regions of Camaguey, Palma Soriano and Holguin.

In many places, not only is there a shortage of food, there is a major increase in food prices that has left many on the streets hungry. The pandemic has also greatly affected the availability of jobs, but we believe that God has a plan and purpose for Cuba. Many pastors subsist on very little income. Sadly, it is the children of the pastoral couple who suffer the most. While there are opportunities for supporting pastors, ImpactHope is beginning to investigate ways to create a better measure of sustainability through agriculture or small business ventures.

Thank you for your continued support towards providing essential needs like food and water, to those who are in dire need. YOU play an important role in being the hands and feet of Jesus to bring hope and love to these people.



### CUBA FOOD PROGRAMS

Our workers in Cuba were able to purchase bags of rice, lard, beans, corn flour and eggs for seniors & families.



Seniors receiving bags of food from the Food Program. Elderly Woman in Palma Soriano (left) and Romelia in Camaguey (right).

### Cuba Emergency Relief



Back in July, we sent out an update about the situation in Cuba, emphasizing the need for help as people were going hungry due to increased food prices, long lineups, and lack of availability. Due to the lack of resources, medication, and people to treat patients, the people of Cuba

needed help more than ever. We asked our donors to support the purchase of food and medicine for those who were desperately in need. Thanks to your response, we were able to support our partners in providing food to individuals and families in need!

AFFILIATED MEMBERS WITH:



Spending of funds is confined to approved programs and projects. If any given need has been met or cannot be completed, the understanding is that the gift will then be used where it is most needed or where another opportunity of similar nature exists.

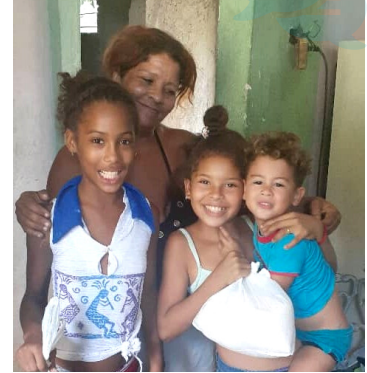
(ImpactHope is operating under Missionary Ventures Canada)

## The Last 3 Months in Cuba

### PALMA SORIANO

- Food is becoming scarce and prices are increasing drastically as covid continues to spread within the island. Before the economic recession, 1 lb of meat was \$1 USD and 5 lbs of rice was \$1 USD. Now, 1 lb of meat is close to \$5 USD and 1 lb of rice is now \$3 USD. With the help of donors, several families were blessed with food during the last 4 months.
- Though Covid cases have relatively decreased in the country, it now faces the dengue epidemic caused by the Aedes mosquito that is keeping all hospitals at maximum capacity, while food and essential items continue to sell at high prices.
- In spite of being struck with COVID and related health-issues, Jorge and Sandra were able to help over **48 families in the last 4 months**, with food packages that include rice, cooking oil, chicken, and beans!
- Jorge and Sandra continue to encourage the community with personal house visits, to provide support and encouragement.

"We are much grateful to this ministry, ImpactHope. The families that receive this present every month are grateful and send their gratitude for your efforts and sacrifices." - Pastor Samuel



#### Cuba Food Program:

Jorge preparing food packets for distribution (L), Family grateful to receive rice and minced chicken (R).

### CAMAGUEY

"I'm very grateful for ImpactHope's support and for the provision of financial assistance, especially during a very difficult time for my family." - Pastor William



Happy Kids enjoying their Snacks (L), Bibles being handed out to the kids (R)



The Kid's Club organizes activities for kids that include Prayer, Worship, Dance, Story Time, and Meals.

- Carlos & Rosa continue to work in the ministry, helping people, pastors and seniors. With the help of generous donors, they were able to support 7 Pastors and their families financially, since August 2021.
- Pastor William and his family struggle as they continue to adapt to the challenges from COVID-19 affecting their community. Working in ministry in Cuba often means a lack of financial income and this means that Pastor William's family may not have much to eat for weeks to come.
- Carlos & Rosa are also helping pastors and leaders with transportation for their work, also providing gasoline for a tube bike and a van.
- Children's ministry is on pause right now because Churches remain closed.
- A 'Special Kids Program' supports around 10-15 kids. Food like juice, cookies, chicken or anything that can be bought in the local market is provided in a food bag. The aim is to do this every month. However, procuring the food can be challenging.
- The program targets poor kids in different churches in the city, all around Camaguey. They thank the Lord for his blessings every day!

### Praise & Prayer Points

- Jorge and Sandra had covid in September but by God's grace, both have recovered. Prayers are needed for Jorge's full recovery as he still has issues and pain in his lungs.
- We pray and hope that Churches can open soon so that the kids club programs can be restarted again in Camaguey.
- The food support and kids' program in Camaguey, worked to support 10 children from low-income families, by providing food and guidance every month. They are thankful and express their gratitude to all of you who generously donated! Watch their video message here: <https://bit.ly/3EltHTg>

### Funding Needs

- Since 2003, ImpactHope has worked together with our partners to reach and impact people in several places such as Palma Soriano, Holguin and Camaguey in Cuba. You can assist families with proper **nutrition** through the Feeding Program: <https://bit.ly/3qfk2J9>
- Your SUPPORT and PERSONAL PARTICIPATION can encourage and bring hope to **Pastors**, Seniors and Children here: <https://bit.ly/3EfYp07>.

Donate Online: [www.impacthope.ca/caribbean](http://www.impacthope.ca/caribbean) OR Mail A Cheque: 201B - 727 Woolwich Street Guelph, ON N1H 3Z2

\*Please write out your donation to: CUBA