OUR SERVICES

PREVENTION
- Punto Fijo - Reducción de daños
- Brega Bien - Drogas e ITS en jóvenes
- Barrio Vivo - Consumo de alcohol en jóvenes
- Operación Compasión - Rondas nocturnas

TREATMENT
- Centro para la Vida - VIH/SIDA
- PITIRRE - Servicios ambulatorios por uso problemático de drogas
- Compromiso de Vida - Detox para hombres y mujeres

EDUCATION
- Proyecto de Promotores de Salud - Promueve la salud en comunidades
- Educación en Salud - Intervenciones educativas sobre la salud y adicciones

RESEARCH
- PACTo - Alarga servicios clínicos para personas viviendo con VIH/SIDA y uso problemático de drogas. Evalúa la efectividad de un modelo de intervención.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH BRIGADES
- Misión Haití - Formación de promotores de salud
- Misión Guatemala - Clínicas de salud en comunidades afectadas
- Misión Puerto Rico - Clínica de salud temporal y brigadas a toda la isla
Homeless Count 2019

- 2,535 people (27% chronic wonderers)
- 79% men / 21% women
- 45% did not finish high school
- 63.5% problematic use of drugs, alcohol, and prescription drugs
- 38.8% mental health diagnostic
Main characteristics that define homeless people

- Lack of social networks in their usual geographic location
- Solitude
- Lack of self-esteem
- Invisibility
- Misunderstood by society
Homeless people identified by age

- Under 18: 4.3%
- 18-24 years old: 3.4%
- Over 24: 92%

Source: Conteo de personas sin hogar, 2019
Homeless youth

85 homeless youth identified in the Homeless Persons Count, 2019

38 youth responded to the interview

26% (1 of every 4) of these 38 young people confirmed having been under the tutelage of the Puerto Rico Family Department before being on the streets.
12% of young people between 16 and 19 years of age are not enrolled in the public, private or home school education system, nor do they have a job.

Source: Instituto del Desarrollo de la Juventud
• The homeless youth population is invisible

• Which leads us to have a phenomenon of hidden homelessness.
The streets speak...
The streets speak…

Why are they on the streets?

- Unemployment
- Financial problems
- Rejection from family because of sexual orientation or gender identity
- Physical abuse, beating
- Caregiver substance abuse
Consequences:

• The lack of job opportunities for young people is one of the roots of this phenomenon of homelessness.

• Failing to get a job they end up on the streets:
  – Drug Points
  – Forced into sex work
  – Subject to labor exploitation
Challenges for admission to shelters during the COVID-19 pandemic

• Limited capacity of spaces for emergency shelters
• Shared room space
• Design of hostels with shared areas: bathrooms and kitchen
• COVID-19 rapid test
• COVID-19 molecular test
Challenges for admission to shelters during the COVID-19 pandemic

• Not be in active use of controlled substances

• Stabilized and with your medication if you have any mental health condition
The streets speak…

They are not Bums

Regular drug user

Sex workers
The streets speak…

They are youth

Sedentary

They usually stay in certain places keeping the few social networks they have

That their greatest deficiency is not covered. The feeling of belonging to a society that has excluded them
Learn more about
INICIATIVA COMUNITARIA

787-250-8629
IniciativaComunitaria.org
IniciativaPR