



TURNING UNUSED SCHOOLS INTO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

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WORDS FROM OUR FOUNDRRESS & CEO

First of all, thank you for your attention to our project and for the time and resources you devote to helping organizations achieve their goals.

This project was born as a direct result and in response to what we have been actively working for over 2 years in which we have made pilots, changes, and the necessary adjustments based on the needs of the population we were impacting.

Puerto Rico Rises has been able to feel first-hand the needs of our people, families and communities. Our task, from the moment we started to this day, has been faithful and consistent with our mission: to ensure that aid and supplies reach directly into the hands of those who need it most. The type of supplies or the aid needed are changing, expanding or decreasing according to the stage in which we find ourselves, but they continue to be crass necessities for the complete development and well-being of our people.

For the past 18 months, we have been implementing our programs and projects from our operational center in Aguadilla. However, we understood that we could do more and that we had the capacity to expand. This is how the project of opening CEDECO (Center for the Community Development) in 6 strategic points of our Island was born.

Taking into account the disastrous situation that causes the permanent closure of 300 schools, which leaves over 27,000 students without a classroom and 2,000 teachers without jobs, we focus our efforts to retake those buildings in disuse and in some way, return them to the community.

With the implementation of our 12 programs, plus the amplitude of impact that the areas of La Escuelita, La Plazita, La Finca, and El Terminal will create, we are ready to put this project into execution at its maximum capacity.

CEDECO purpose is to contribute so that the Island can surpass itself after that happened in this particular disaster, but, to recover stronger and prepared to achieve greater equity, prosperity and justice. The goal is to create a resilient and proactive community that works aimed at achieving better outcomes, with an economy more solid and diverse that will result in a healthier and happier population. A place where everyone wants to live at.

Thanks for your support.

Sara López

II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Puerto Rico Rises, Corp. (PRR) is a nonprofit organization that was born to address the immediacy of the survival needs of families that, as a result of the disaster caused by Hurricanes Irma and María, were left without access to water, food, medicine and / or shelter. We have been operating continuously for the past 18 months from a 60,000 square foot warehouse located in Aguadilla.

"As we went deeper impacting communities, we were feeling that their needs were much more than water and food. The only alternative we had, was to start looking for a way to resolve the problems"

We put before your consideration this project that will allow us to expand to six (6) CEDECO (Community Development Center) in the North, South, East, West, Mountain and Central of Puerto Rico what we have been doing from Aguadilla.

Each CEDECO will start operations generating approximately 15 direct jobs immediately. Including direct, indirect, permanent and part time projects, we forecast a total of 225 jobs in its initial phase joining the six centers around the Island.

Thanks to the support of hundreds of volunteers who contribute a labor equivalent of \$300,000 in voluntary hours per year, we have been able to develop and implement since 2017 the variety and breadth of offers and opportunities offered by our programs that cover all phases of disaster such as:

Prevention - Classes, workshops and seminars that cover all stages of a disaster; radiocommunications, first aid, rescue, food handling, emergency delivery, CPR and survival, among others.

Mitigation - Collection of key and specific information through a house-to-house survey whose data will allow the creation of a concurrent action plan with specific needs by sector.

Preparedness - Alliance with sisters organizations that will receive the necessary training and preparation to execute this plan of action, becoming Relief Centers around the Island and whose activation will be immediate with the National Alert System.

Response- Delivery of basic hand-to-hand supplies in house-to-house missions, ensuring that the necessary help arrives where it has to arrive.

Recovery - Providing equipment to families or communities, as a loan, to provide their immediate needs while basic services are restored. Construction materials and assistance in the workforce for the repair of damaged homes during a disaster. In addition, support, training and skills that encourage the development of small businesses for women entrepreneurs. We will also create spaces and projects that foster Puerto Rican agriculture and industry.

We understand that our organization, Puerto Rico Rises, has been able to demonstrate both its organizational effectiveness, good revenue management, and its Fiscal Transparency. We are prepared and have the voluntary, corporate and community support to develop, implement and achieve the proposed objectives through our five (6) Community Development Centers to be opened around the Island.

III. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

A. OWN IDENTITY

CEDECO will be established in strategic regions with a high and diverse profile of social problems. To do this, we have identified several programs that can address these problems according to each region.

B. RESPONSIBILITY

Puerto Rico is going through a socioeconomic crisis and it is time to assume a responsibility as professional citizens and social entity to expand the offer of better services for the benefit of the communities of our Island. Focusing our efforts on a common goal as it is the community empowerment and resilience, supported by the group of experts in the diversity of specialties that compose us, gives us the security of being able to develop and achieve the proposed objectives based on the concept of community and community processes.

C. CEDECO MISSION

Being a space where the community develops, the leader grows and the citizen becomes empowered. To create a resilient and proactive community that works aimed at achieving better outcomes, with a robust and diverse economy that will result in a healthier and happier population.

D. VISION

CEDECO will minimize the percentage of unemployment by region, open 12 new micro-enterprises per year, having 20 sister organizations offering their own programs and projects to the community permanently, promote the industry and agriculture of Puerto Rico and develop community programs by region.

E. COMMITMENT

To serve as facilitators to the residents of the disadvantaged communities of each region, increasing the offer of services, programs and projects of quality and excellence, which encourage and develop their individual skills to the maximum. Promote alliances with other organizations and providing a physical space where they can develop their programs and implement their projects.

F. INTENTION

The programs and services offered by PRR from its CEDECO, are designed to empower, strengthen and promote self-sufficiency among local residents. The final benefit of these services is the improvement of the results related to social, family and community functioning, as well as greater mental and physical well-being. In addition to becoming a community space for learning and meeting point for cultural development.

G. PURPOSE

From these centers, and in harmony with our mission, PRR will impact the community by offering the services that our 12 programs have developed and that adapt depending on the emergency or the phase that we may be going through. Our main objective is to provide educational, recreational, cultural, health and lifelong learning opportunities to young people and adults at low or no cost that can be used in their personal, work or business development.

IV. DETAILED USE OF SERVICES AND LONG-TERM IMPACT

From each CEDECO, services adapted to the location region will be offered. In this way, specific needs are met and the particular characteristics of the area are promoted.

A. ADULT EDUCATION - La Escuelita (Little School)

Our educational program seeks to help families build strong skills and expand their vocational skills. It provide individuals with the tools to develop their talents and skills on a personal, business or community level. It also focuses on the preparation and prevention of an emergency situation or natural disaster. In addition to the courses offered permanently in the CEDECO, tours are made throughout the Island. With these, we reach the population that does not have the transportation resources to reach the centers. In these tours, we offer condensed versions of the courses.

Approximately 50 adults will attend classes monthly at each CEDECO. The courses will be offered on a weekly basis and depending on the category they will be completed in 4, 6, 8 or 12 sessions. There will also be specialized courses in the needs of women and senior citizens.

Among them are:

- Money management and checkbook
- How to make a family budget
- Planning to eat healthy and nutritious
- English classes
- Computer classes
- Preparation for the GED test
- Home gardens
- Steps to open your own business
- Family planning
- Up to date with the technology
- Self Defense
- How to be the best version of you
- Recycling
- Art and Crafts
- Use and management of power tools
- Do it yourself
- How to create an effective business plan
- Develop the leader in you

LONG-TERM IMPACT

- About 250 adults with little or no Economic resources for education will have the opportunity to register for courses in any of our six (6) CEDECO.
- By promoting education among residents, resilient and successful communities are built.
- Impact on individual, collective and community economic development.
- Increase the opportunity

This program will create direct, indirect, permanent and temporary jobs.

B. HEALTH PROGRAMS

The programs, A Tu Salud and Pepe & Lucía, will implement in each CEDECO, Community Prevention Clinics, with exams and evaluations such as: depression, breast cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure, cholesterol, mammography and vaccination. They seek to mitigate the health problems of the surrounding communities. The health services during Hurricane Maria crashed. Hospitals closed due to lack of basic services. Our clinics offers a viable and accessible alternative during a disaster.

In addition, three annual health fairs will be held. These fairs will be carried on collaboration with volunteers and professionals from the Department of Health, SILAMP, CrearConSalud, Casa WEPA and various Health Colleges and Association.

LONG-TERM IMPACT

- Annually, nearly 5,000 residents will have access to a variety of health services that will be offered directly in their community for the benefit of those who do not have a medical plan or access to transportation. Creating awareness of: good nutrition, preventive medical care and follow-up in treatment will improve public health. We will use as indicators the statistics of the CDT (Government administered clinics) of each region.
- It will decrease the emergency transit in emergency rooms, by providing access to preventive medical services. In addition, in times of emergencies or a disaster, it provides space for co-dependents of durable medical equipment or that require access to electricity.

The average impact made in this category is between 350 and 500 people per fair.

This program will create direct, indirect, permanent and temporary jobs.

C. SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

CEDECO will provide education for young people in ceramics, dance, art programs, sports activities, and summer jobs for young people. It will also be home to the Youth Leadership Program that each community will create based on the needs of their region. We will offer a summer camp specialized in the peculiarities of each region.

This program will be worked in collaboration with community leaders and other organizations.

LONG-TERM IMPACT

- We expect 360 young people will attend annually in the special programs throughout each center.
- The summer camps register 1,200 participants per session.
- Increase in the participation of youth in voluntary work and community development.
- Minimize juvenile crime by providing an alternative of learning, recreation and fraternization.

D. FOOD BANK (ALACENA) AND LA FINCA (The Farm)

The Alacena program will establish a food bank in each CEDECO to handle referrals from: social workers, organizations, community leaders, doctors and churches. Clothing, toiletries and household items will also be offered.

We will have a space for the creation of gardens and orchards to encourage agriculture. Participants will have the opportunity to participate in the process of growing and harvesting food. Hurricane Maria caused the loss of 80% of the agriculture in Puerto Rico. La Finca offer a space to farmers that loss their land as consequence of the disaster.

Under this program, events, competitions and sports clinics are offered.

This program will work both as a warehouse and first-line model. If a national emergency or disaster occurs, the Alacena inventory will be used if necessary, to meet the needs of our SACA and Mano a Mano programs during the response phase.

LONG-TERM IMPACT

- Monthly assistance to 250 families referred to in each CEDECO for a total of 18,000 annual food baskets to be distributed at Island level. We project an increase of 20% in the next year.
- It will create 12 jobs in the agricultural area during the first two years.
- Improvement in individual and community nutritional habits.
- Minimizes food waste due to the surplus of local businesses.
- Increases the access of citizen response organizations in need.
- Facilitates the distribution of basic necessities in remotes communities in times of emergency
- Ensure water and food supplies for families and individuals during emergency recovery in the first 2 weeks and up to 6 months
- Obtain a thorough assessment of the situation of people during the first 6 months after the environmental disaster
- Increased awareness of the supplies needed to assist communities affected immediately after an environmental disaster
- Greater knowledge of the safety measures that families and community members must take before an environmental emergency
- Decrease neighborhood conflicts and mortality due to poor preparation before and after disasters

V. SELF-MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS

The following programs, apart from providing and expanding the options of social organizations to provide their services and the micro-enterprises to develop their businesses, offer CEDECO the opportunity to generate income that contributes to cover operational expenses .

A. COLLABORATIVE EL TERMINAL (The Terminal)

With the growth of organizations, projects and services due to the new social-economic reality facing Puerto Rico, communities lack spaces where projects can offer services in an accessible manner. Each CEDECO will offer this area in which companies and social entities share a work space under a cooperative environment for the implementation of their programs and projects that serve each region.

It is composed of work areas, conference rooms, and rooms for events or training.

LONG-TERM IMPACT

- Access and breadth of services, programs and projects offered by the organizations and scope of the participants in need of each region.
- Organizations will have a cost reduction for greater performance of their budget.
- Obtain an assessment of the specific needs for each region in the first 6 months of operation
- Disaster prevention plan based on the specific needs of the region

There will be 3 categories of spaces: Permanent, transitory and quarterly. The goal is to have 20 active organizations monthly in each CEDECO, for a total of 120 at the Island level.

The Collaborative will support 5% of the operational expenses of CEDECO the first year, until reaching 20% in the fifth year.

B. LA PLAZITA (The Market)

This area offers a space for self-management, entrepreneurship and business development from the business opportunities of each region. Each CEDECO will provide a commercial space for the development of these initiatives of social entrepreneurship and the promotion of local industry that suits the style and consumers of the region, focusing on fair trade. Exhibition space will be offered for artisans and artists within the Open Theater that includes this area.

LONG-TERM IMPACT

- Create space for 20 micro-companies for each CEDECO for a total of 120 businesses in a period of one (1) year promoting the fair trade.
- Increase in the local economy and job creation.
- It will promote the cultural activity of local artisans and artists with quarterly exhibitions.
- Increase in tourism in the region due to its offer of services, local products, agricultural and cultural markets.
- La Plazita will hold 10% of CEDECO operating expenses in the first year with an annual increase of 5-8% to 35%. % in the fifth (5) year.

VI. TECHNOLOGY AT OUR SCOPE

Puerto Rico Rises registers all its transactions electronically, guaranteeing the documentation of all the processes of our organization. Among many other benefits, this allows us to:

- Maintain the privacy and confidentiality of documents and records of the participants of our programs
- Direct communication with our donors to thank them and keep them informed of where and how their donation was used for a transparent relationship
- Total management of the programs and their projects
- Registries of volunteers, participants, donors and resources from anywhere in the world
- Effective and updated internal communication between the Board of Directors, Managers, Employees and Volunteers
- Accessibility to the participant to register and update their file without having to go to a physical office
- Participants have their own online portal with a password that allows them to check the status of their cases, update their information, sign contracts or submit any required evidence in total confidentiality

VII. FACING AN EMERGENCY

Our SACA program (Relief Center Activation System -for its acronym in Spanish) will operate from each CEDECO, the distribution of aid and supplies of first necessity to the Regional Relief Centers that will be activated if a disaster occurs. These Centers are previously registered and certified by SACA, providing them with preventive training in:

- Rescue
- CPR
- Food Management
- Emergency Management
- First Aid
- Radio Communication
- Emergency delivery
- Survival

Thanks to our partnership with LOVELAND, we have unlimited access to their software that provides an interactive mobile application that works offline. It is updated with a population necessities survey conducted by our organization that identified:

- Population per house
- Sex and age of family members
- Medical equipment or prescriptions needed by any family member with disability or chronic illnesses
- If family have access to their own transportation
- If property is equipped with solar power or water cistern
- If family have access to a power generator

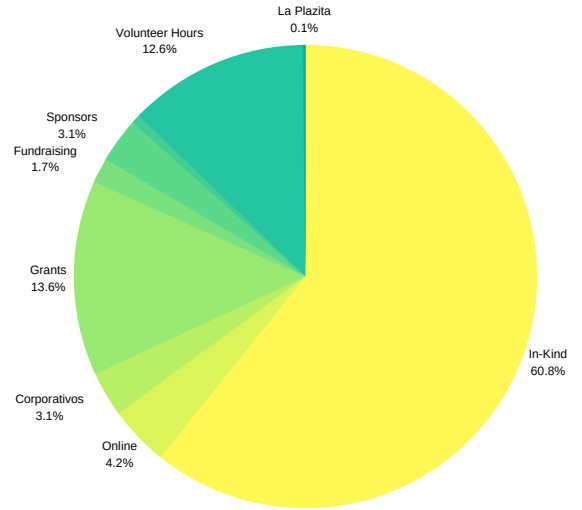
LONG TERM IMPACT

- This data is shared with the Regional Relief Centers for preparedness and prevention plans of their own areas based on their specific needs.
- Increase the effectiveness of the response
- Minimize the duplicity of efforts
- Ensure water and food supplies in the first 7 to 10 days in areas that will be potentially hard to reach
- Faster response from prepared and trained volunteers and brigades in the first hours after a disaster

VIII. PROJECTED BUDGET 2019

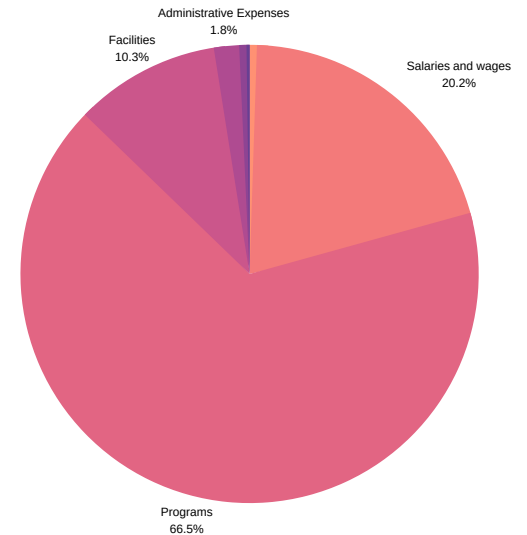
Income

In-Kind Donations	\$ 1,4500,000
Online Platforms Donations	100,0000
Corporate Donations	75,0000
Grants	325,0000
Fundraising	50,0000
Sponsors	75,0000
Memberships	15,0000
Volunteers Hours	300,000
Colaboratorio	2,000
La Plazita	3,000
Total Income	2,390,000



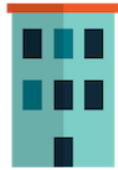
Expenses

Salaries	471,731
Legal & Financial	12,000
Programs Activities	1,555,000
Facilities	240,000
Administrative Expenses	41,5000
Events	12,0000
Emergency Reserve	5,0000
Total Expenses	2,337,231



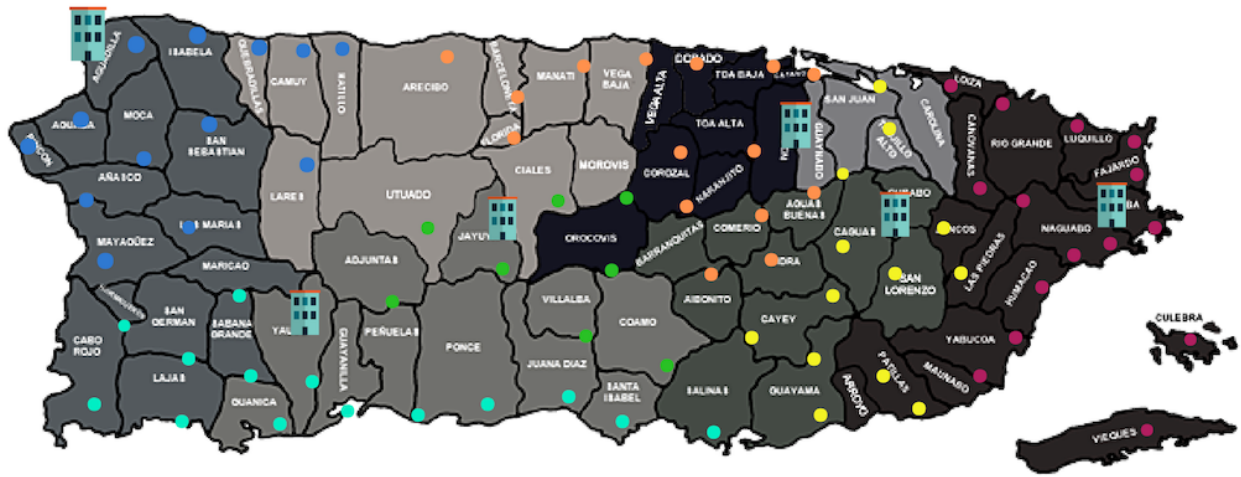
Total Revenue \$ 56,769

IX. SCOPE OF REGIONS BY REGIONAL CENTER



PRR-CEDECO LOCATIONS

● ● ● ● ● PRR-SACA REGIONAL CENTERS



MOUNTAIN
SPC - JAYUYA

WEST
SPC - AGUADILLA

SOUTH
SPC - YAUCO

NORTH-ORANGE
SPC - TOA ALTA

CENTER
SPC - CAGUAS

EAST-BURGUNDY
SPC - NAGUABO

*"As we entered the communities we realized
that their needs went much further than
water or food. The only option allowed was
to do everything within our reach to find a
solution to the problem"*

SARA LOPEZ