



Project for GlobalGiving platform:
Healthcare for 96 Women&Children Violence Victims

Context

Guerrero is a state of the Mexican Pacific coast. It is one of the poorest states in Mexico with a population of 3.4 million people, of which between 30 and 40% live in conditions of extreme poverty. In addition, approximately 20% of its population is indigenous.

In the 1960s and 70s, Guerrero was the scene of a high number of homicides and disappearances against students and left activists by agents of government forces, in the framework of the so-called "Dirty War". At the moment it is one of the Mexican states in which more heroin and marijuana are produced for its subsequent illicit traffic, being the center of activities of criminal groups and scenario of different types of violence.

Between 2005 and 2014, more than 19,000 homicides were reported to the Attorney General of Guerrero. In 2014, Guerrero had the highest homicide rate reported in Mexico until that time, which reached 48 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants, according to Federal Government figures. This figure was three times higher than the national average (16 / 100,000) and seven times higher than the world average.

It is important to note that in 2018 around 200 women were murdered in the state, according to figures from representatives of feminist organizations; this despite the fact that the gender alert was declared in 2017 through the National Commission to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women (Conavim) in different municipalities of the state such as: Acapulco, Chilpancingo, Zihuatanejo, Iguala, Coyuca de Catalán, Ometepec, Tlapa and Ayutla de los Libres. In December 2018, Guerrero was the state in Mexico with the highest number of feminicides, a situation that had already been experienced in 1987, 1998, 2006 and 2007 according to the study "Femicide Violence in Mexico" prepared by UN-Women, the National Institute of Women and the National Citizen Observatory of Femicide (OCNF), ranking second in the country in 2017.

No reliable information is available regarding other high impact crimes such as death in custody, enforced or involuntary disappearance, torture and kidnapping.

On the other hand, the number of reported crimes is substantially lower than the actual figure, largely due to the impunity that perpetrators usually benefit from and the resistance of victims to denounce because of their fear of being retaliated against. those.

The basic principles and guidelines on the right of victims of gross violations of international human rights standards and serious violations of International Humanitarian Law, urge States to adopt "appropriate measures to ensure their safety, their physical and psychological well-being" and their privacy, as well as those of their families. "

Accordingly, there is an obligation that, "as far as possible, its domestic law provides that victims of violence or traumas enjoy special consideration and attention so that legal and administrative procedures designed to do justice and grant reparation do not give rise to a new trauma. " It establishes that among the rights of the victims is the availability of remedies against human rights violations, such as "equal and effective access to justice [...] adequate, effective and rapid reparation of the harm suffered [...] [and] [...] access to pertinent information on violations and redress mechanisms". That is why States have a duty to publicly and privately disclose information about all available resources to address violations, adopt measures to minimize the inconvenience of victims and their representatives, provide appropriate assistance to victims who seek justice and use all possible means so that victims can exercise their right to lodge appeals.

Unfortunately, in fact there are severe deficiencies and structural obstacles (corruption, lack of budget, etc.) for the State to recognize and grant the status of victim to a person or family, and so that with this declaration they can access some measure of assistance. In turn, these are in most cases insufficient, given the complex situation faced by someone who has been robbed by violence by a loved one or has survived a violent event, since that violence will permanently impact their health, and face its effects requires a lot of time and resources.

According to several national specialists and local social organizations, the damage that is causing violence to people in Mexico goes far beyond physical damage. This causes post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and anxiety, among other mental health disorders. Also, in combination with other personal and contextual factors, can promote the occurrence of cancers, heart disease, stroke and even HIV acquisition, because in some cases victims of violence, who do not receive attention, adopt risky behaviors, for example, abusing substances or having risky sexual practices. In that sense, violence is a factor that can lead to serious deterioration of health or even an early death.