



# **SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES**

## **Despite the Distance**

Impact Newsletter  
June 2020



For two months, Colectivo Maki has supported families in achieving food & medical security through providing immediate economic support. Thanks to our generous donors and a grant from World Connect, we have been able to support **35 families** for the month of June!

Of these 35 families, or 200 individuals:



6 are single mothers,  
16 are elderly, &



3 are living with a chronic illness

While the majority of donation funds are used by families to cover essential and immediate costs such as food and medical supplies, about half of the families have invested a small portion of donations into long-term food source options. This includes planting crops, chickens, and creating fish ponds. We are very excited to see how the beneficiary families continue to be resourceful and resilient in the face of such difficulties.

Have you followed us on social media yet?

Please 'like' our **Colectivo Maki** Facebook page and follow our Instagram account **@colectivomaki** for bi-weekly updates!



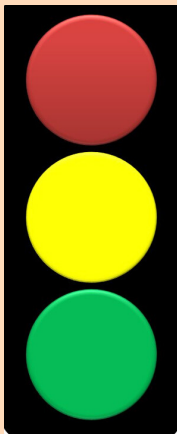
# THE COVID-19 REALITY JULY 2020



As of July 1st, there are 59,486 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 4,639 confirmed deaths in Ecuador

For the month of July 2020, lockdown measures will continue countrywide, varying at the county level. In the province of Imbabura where Colectivo Maki operates:

## **2 counties will remain on "red"**



- 2pm Curfew for all citizens
- Only "essential businesses" can operate
- Limited vehicular circulation

## **4 counties will move to "yellow"**

- 9pm Curfew for all citizens
- Essential businesses, restaurants and stores may operate at limited capacity
- Limited vehicular circulation

The public hospital of the Imbabura province is almost at full capacity and could soon be overwhelmed given current infection rate.

Countrywide, the pandemic and prevention measures continue to have negative social and economic impacts.

- 70% of economic activity still suspended
- 150,000 people officially unemployed
- Estimated 4 million more people unemployed from informal labor force

## FAMILY SPOTLIGHT: The Garcia Carcelen Family



My name is Carmen Carcelen, and I live in the Chota Valley in Imbabura. I have 6 kids, and I adopted 2 more. My husband is Carlos Garcia. We have been following the government's social distancing and lockdown measures, and we have tried to face it with a positive attitude. This has helped us unify and strengthen our family, so the lockdown hasn't been all negative. However, this has impacted our finances. These are difficult times that only together we can overcome.

We help foreigners, specifically Venezuelan refugees and migrants, who are on their way to larger cities. When we began doing this in August 2017, we would pick up people on the highway, who were wandering aimlessly, sometimes hurt, thirsty and hungry, and we would bring them home and help them. Now, people arrive at my house, we feed them, and let them shower, rest and sleep. We also give them shoes, clothes, blankets, and personal hygiene supplies.



Many of those that arrive at my home don't have anything with them. Many are robbed on their journey. Most people only stay a day or two at my house, before resuming their travel. Others, like pregnant women or those with critical illnesses, have stayed at my house for weeks, and even months. They stay here to receive a proper diet and care, until they are strong enough or able to leave. We like being able to help and support people.



Sometimes it is very difficult to support 40-100 people on my own every day. I have to clean and cook for a large number of people. My family helps, but I have kids that are in school, and so they also have other responsibilities.

I do this expecting nothing in return. I have been lucky enough to receive the support of the United Nations. They provide cleaning supplies. The Jesuit mission also has helped us with food during these months. However, we still have a lot of needs, because we haven't been able to work for almost 5 months now. My husband and I still support our 4 children. During this lockdown, some of my eldest kids are also staying at my house with their own children.

We used to travel to Colombia to sell crops and other products. In the past three years, we have been able to help so many people because my husband worked. Now, we have to wait for others to help us because we have no source of income. Despite the pandemic, we are still helping and receiving people at our home.

I would like for more people to find out about what I do. I would like to have a bigger space to receive more people, and also for them to be more comfortable. I would like to have someone with first aid knowledge help me clean wounds of those that arrive hurt. I would also like to have a psychologist that supports people's mental health.



On behalf of  
Colectivo Maki and  
the families you have  
supported through this fund,

*Thank  
You!*