



# Turimiquire Foundation

[www.turimiquire.org](http://www.turimiquire.org)  
[www.facebook.com/Turimiquire](https://www.facebook.com/Turimiquire)  
[turimiquirefoundation@gmail.com](mailto:turimiquirefoundation@gmail.com)

**“When we dream alone, it is only a dream.  
When we dream with others, it is the beginning of reality.”**

*Dom Camera Helder*

February 16, 2016

## ***Our Mission, Achievements and History***

The Turimiquire Foundation is a US-based 501(c)3 non-profit organization that has served the low-income population of *Sucre* state in northeastern Venezuela since 1996. With 20 years of experience, we believe that *small, community-based experiments like our own* offer a particularly effective pathway towards realizing the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) adopted by the United Nations in the year 2015.

Our [Recipe for a Thriving Community](#) defines our mission and work in three key areas:

### [Health and Women](#)

The first and crucial step towards truly empowering women is to offer them the means to control their fertility. Through 2015, we have provided **89,739 Couple Years of Protection**, the metric by which USAID measures family planning achievement, to over **38,300** low-income rural and urban women and their families. The vast unmet need for family planning and reproductive health services in our area still far exceeds our capacity to provide.

### [Education and Children](#)

Once families gain control of their fertility, they concentrate on giving their children the best possible future through schooling. We support students in remote rural areas and marginal urban *barrios* through scholarships and educational and cultural programs at our rural *Community Center* and at our urban headquarters, *Casa ServYr*.

### [Sustainable Livelihood](#)

We focus on environmentally sensitive rural community development, introducing low impact utilities like solar electricity and gravity water systems, and promoting ecological agriculture, generating tools and self-sustaining employment for an enduring rural future.

# Turimiquire Foundation

## Reproductive Health and Family Planning

The Turimiquire Foundation in the USA and our associate *Fundación ServYr* in Venezuela execute our programs in collaboration with the Ministry of Health of the State of *Sucre*, with various State and Municipal Offices for Health, Education and Agriculture, with the Venezuelan non-profits *PROSALUD* and *PLAFAM* (IPPF-WHR), family planning and reproductive health organizations in the national capital, Caracas, and in partnership with private sector doctors and health facilities.

We offer free family planning consultations and distribute free contraceptives under medical supervision at selected public health establishments. Through the private sector, we subsidize family planning and reproductive health consultations for low-income patients, offer contraceptives through social marketing, and provide laparoscopic surgical sterilizations. In public health facilities, in public and private schools and via other public venues, we present workshops on sexual and reproductive health and family planning for adolescents and adults.

The following table summarizes our activities from May 1997 through December 2015:

<b>Total Number of Women Attended</b>	<b>38,300 +</b>
<b>Total Number of Family Planning Visits</b>	<b>170,000 +</b>
<b>Hormonal Contraceptives Distributed</b>	<b>130,000 +</b> (pills, injections and emergency contraception)
<b>Intrauterine Devices Placed</b>	<b>6,861</b> (IUDs)
<b>Tubal Sterilizations</b>	<b>4,854</b>
<b>Annual Distribution of Condoms</b>	<b>16,000 +</b>
<b>Sexual and Reproductive Health Workshops</b>	<b>2,623</b>
<b>Student and Adult Participants in our Workshops</b>	<b>50,677</b>

### Chronology of Selected Projects in Reproductive Health and Family Planning:

<b>1997:</b>	Initiation of family planning services in <i>Cumanacoa</i> and rural <i>Montes</i> County.
<b>1999:</b>	Initiation of family planning services in <i>Cumaná</i> and rural <i>Sucre</i> County.
<b>2000:</b>	Initiation of a family planning clinic in the <i>Fe y Alegría</i> Public Health Clinic.
<b>2002:</b>	Establishment of the <i>Adolescent Orientation Center</i> in the <i>Fe y Alegría</i> Urban Public Health Clinic, <i>Cumaná</i> , in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the State Office of Gender and Women's Affairs, offering education and information on sexual and reproductive health to adolescents both within and outside of the school system.
<b>2003:</b>	Initiation of Educational Workshops on sexual and reproductive health, family planning, sexually transmitted infections and diseases, gender-based perspectives, etc., in schools and public health facilities in several counties.
<b>2003:</b>	Initiation of family planning services in the " <i>Dr. Julio Rodríguez</i> " Urban Public Hospital, <i>Cumaná</i> .
<b>2005:</b>	Adolescents who have attended our responsible sexuality workshops write and present a play titled <i>Nothing's Going to Happen to Me... (But It Did!)</i> organized by the youth theater group of the Culture Foundation of <i>San Juan de Macarapana</i> .

# Turimiquire Foundation

<b>2005:</b>	We begin the first program of less invasive laparoscopic surgical sterilizations for low-income patients in our state of <i>Sucre</i> .
<b>2006:</b>	Initiation of <i>Pana a Pana</i> (Buddy to Buddy) project in <i>Cumaná</i> to serve educators and peer facilitators in sexual and reproductive health.
<b>2007-2009:</b>	Project financed by the State government in 2007, continuing through 2009, executed by <i>Fundación ServYr</i> for the reduction of unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections in adolescent populations of four rural counties.
<b>2009:</b>	Increasing reproductive health outreach and family planning at public health facilities along the rural <i>Cumaná-Cumanacoa</i> road.
<b>2010-2011:</b>	Strengthening family planning services at the “ <i>Dr. Julio Rodríguez</i> ” Hospital, <i>Cumaná</i> .
<b>2012:</b>	Increasing reproductive health outreach and family planning at public health facilities along the rural <i>Santa Fe - Nurucual</i> road.
<b>2012:</b>	Reproductive Health Education Project financed by the <i>Sucre</i> Municipal government in 2012 and 2013, executed by <i>Fundación ServYr</i> ; for the reduction of unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections in the adolescent population of <i>Sucre</i> County.
<b>2012:</b>	Collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health in the Establishment of the <i>Adolescent Orientation Center</i> in the <i>Salvador Allende</i> Urban Public Health Clinic, <i>Cumaná</i> .
<b>2013:</b>	We incorporate and train several new staff to present our expanding responsible sexuality workshops. Our family planning program continues to expand into more rural areas.
<b>2014:</b>	We strengthen our rural family planning service delivery with new personnel, additional health care facilities, increased social marketing and more onsite evaluations.
<b>2015:</b>	We increase our surgery program to perform 700 laparoscopic tubal sterilizations, repair 143 hernias, and facilitate a number of cesarean sections, partial mastectomies and biopsies, responding to low-income patients who can no longer count on the public health system during the current economic crisis in Venezuela.

## General Health

We collaborate periodically with the State Children's Foundation (*Fundación del Niño Sucre*), the National Ministry of Health (*FUNDASALUD*), the Lion's Club (*Club de Leones*), and the State University (*Universidad del Oriente*) in rural medical campaigns, offering attention in the areas of pediatrics, vaccinations, family planning, tuberculosis, *chagas* disease testing, treatment of respiratory inadequacy, dentistry and other health issues.

## Rural Education

We help to fund and maintain the following educational programs in the rural areas of *Barrancas-Tigre*, *Río Brito*, and nearby communities along the *Cumaná-Cumanacoa* road.

- Three outlets of *subsidized school supplies*, beginning in 1995.
- *High School Scholarship Program* for the *Río Brito* community that each year enables up to 50 rural students to continue their studies at local high schools. Before we instituted this program in 2003, most students in this community abandoned their formal education at or before the sixth grade. More than 500 students have attended high school to date, with more than 100 students receiving their high school diplomas.
- *College Scholarship Program* for the *Río Brito* community. In 2008, our first students graduated from high school and some of these students entered college. Each year a few more enter college, and we now have 20 selected students studying at the college level with ongoing Foundation support -- a significant advance for this community. To date, five of our students have graduated from college in nursing, education and food technology.

# Turimiquire Foundation

---

- *Brito Education Center* two walking hours upriver with laptop computers and a small library, to serve the new rural *Brito* high school.
- *Support* for the rural *Río Brito* elementary and high schools and the *Barrancas* pre-school.
- *Internet-Computer Center* in *Cumaná* where our scholarship and other low-income students come to study and to learn computing skills.

## Chronology of Selected Projects in Rural Education:

- 2001:** Establishment, with the financial support of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, of the first **Kindergarten** and **Barrancas Community Library** in *Tigre-Barrancas* for students along the *Cumaná-Cumanacoa* road.
- 2003:** Renovation, with the financial support of the Embassy of the Netherlands, of the *Madre María* Child Care Center in the *Agua Santa* Community, and of the *Barrancas* Community Library.
- 2003:** Initiation of our **Scholarship Program** for remote rural students who wish to continue their studies in high school, soon increasing with up to 50 students participating yearly.
- 2004:** Installation of an **Internet/Computer Center** in *Casa ServYr*, *Fundación ServYr*'s headquarters in *Cumaná*, with free access for low-income members of the rural and urban *barrio* communities for their studies and general use.
- 2004:** State University (*Universidad de Oriente*) makes a major donation of books and materials for the rural **Barrancas Community Library**.
- 2005:** Construction of the **School Cafeteria** for the remote *Río Brito* elementary school.
- 2006:** Creation of the **Brito-Barrancas Community Center** integrating a variety of programs for children, adolescents, and adults, including a staffed library, tutoring, and computer lessons; art, dance, and cultural activities; dental attention (with support of *Sucre* State Children's Foundation); and medical attention (with support of *Sucre* State Public Health Ministry).
- 2007-2009:** *Fundación ServYr* and the *Brito-Barrancas* Community Center receive financing from the *Sucre* State Government for development of community programs.
- 2009-2012:** Our high school **Scholarship Program** now has graduating students who are continuing to college. Each year's high school graduating class sends several more rural students to college. Two of our early rural staff members graduate from college with our help.
- 2013:** Fifteen students are enrolled in college with our support. Two of our early high school scholarship students receive their degrees in nursing, our first college graduates through the scholarship program!
- 2013:** We extend our rural center to a remote site up the *Río Brito* valley, several walking hours from the road, where we offer computer activities and tutoring for our high school scholarship students. In *Cumana*, we offer tutoring for our high school graduates entering university.
- 2014:** One more student enters college, and one more graduates from college. One nursing graduate joins the public health workforce and works with our Foundation on rural family planning.
- 2014:** We enable three of the rural school teachers to begin coursework for college education degrees.
- 2015:** Eleven more students join our college scholarship program, with a total of twenty now enrolled.

# Turimiquire Foundation

---

## Sustainable Rural Development

We work with the *campesino* populations in the rural areas of *Barrancas*, *Río Brito*, and along the *Cumaná-Cumanacoa* road to help improve agriculture and rural infrastructure, and to conserve their traditions and lifestyle. We have helped to diversify local agriculture and encourage eco-agricultural practices, including the successful introduction of fruit trees from other tropical areas of the world. We support projects such as the development of carpentry using local timber from fallen and standing dead trees. We have implemented the use of solar energy and gravity water delivery for remote hill communities off the public services grid.

### Chronology of Selected Projects in Sustainable Rural Development:

- 1996-present:** Support for *Los Dos Pasos Juntos*, our eco-agricultural fruit farm, and community resource for the upper Río Brito valley.
- 1996-present:** Periodic **Vaccination** campaigns against paralytic rabies and encephalitis for burros and other domestic animals with the support of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock.
- 1998:** Initiation of our **Solar Energy Program**, which installed solar electric systems in 25 houses, and the church and school of the remote *Río Brito* valley, with financial support from the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in 2001.
- 1999:** Our experimental plantings of *Jackfruit*, *Rollinia* and various locally unknown tropical fruits begin to bear quality fruit. We begin nurseries with seed from this first generation of Venezuelan cultivars.
- 2001:** Distribution of these tropical fruit seedlings to farmers and enthusiasts.
- 2003:** Initial use of *Brito-Barrancas* Community Center to store agricultural products in transit to the Cumaná market and building materials for *Brito* valley projects, and as a care station for the community's pack animals.
- 2005:** Installation of **Gravity-piped Potable Water** for 20 valley families.
- 2006:** Installation of gravity-piped potable water for 95 additional families, using our successful system as a model, now with government funding.
- 2006:** **Carpentry Classes** at the *Brito-Barrancas* Community Center using ecologically-harvested local wood.
- 2007:** Our *Durian* trees begin to produce quality fruit, and we start nurseries with first generation Venezuelan seed for future distribution of this renowned fruit, relatively unknown in Venezuela and the rest of South America.
- 2007-2008:** Classes in food preparation and handicrafts at the *Brito-Barrancas* Community Center.
- 2008-2015:** Increasing distribution of **Durian**, **Jackfruit** and **Rollinia** seedlings to local farmers, along with our other little known tropical fruit cultivars.  
Maintenance of gravity-piped **water** and public **electricity** for over 100 families in the remote Río Brito valley.  
Baseball and soccer **sports** activities for the community youth.

# Turimiquire Foundation

---

## CONTACTS

### UNITED STATES:

William Bloomstein, Secretary and Treasurer  
16 Crescent Street, Cambridge, MA 02138, U.S.A.  
617-721-9445 • wittcreative@comcast.net

### VENEZUELA:

Steven Bloomstein, President  
Apartado 295, Cumaná, Edo. Sucre 6101-A, Venezuela  
011-58-293-431-1935 • bloomst@gmail.com

[www.turimiquire.org](http://www.turimiquire.org)

[turimiquirefoundation@gmail.com](mailto:turimiquirefoundation@gmail.com)

[www.facebook.com/Turimiquire](https://www.facebook.com/Turimiquire)

## **Turimiquire Foundation**

*is a 501(c)3 non-profit private operating foundation registered in the United States.*

*To learn more, please visit us at:*

<http://www.turimiquire.org/>

*where you can read, listen to radio, and see a video about our work,  
download our annual reports, newsletters and fact sheets,  
and make a donation to assist our work!*

*All U.S. donations are fully tax deductible.*

## **Fundación ServYr**

*is our associate nonprofit foundation in Venezuela, established to execute Turimiquire Foundation programs in-country. Fundación ServYr is a registered Venezuelan non-profit service organization, with certification at the national, state and municipal levels. Funds raised by the Turimiquire Foundation are administered through Fundación ServYr, which also raises program funds independently within Venezuela.*

*To learn more about us in Spanish, please visit*

[www.fundacionsservyr.org/](http://www.fundacionsservyr.org/)

[www.facebook.com/Fundacion.ServYr](https://www.facebook.com/Fundacion.ServYr)

**Gracias & Thank you for your support!**