



IMPACT LATIN AMERICA 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Planting God's people in Latin America
by multiplying disciples leaders of churches



A message from Ricardo Gómez IMPACT'S Executive Director

Latin America is a beautiful region of the world, filled with diverse landscapes and peoples. Its landscapes include glaciers, deserts, mountain ranges, plains, and beaches. Its people are just as diverse in appearance and culture - a charming kaleidoscope. God's creative design is evident in this region!

As a society, however, Latin America continues to spiral out of control. Peaceful protests become violent. Inflation rates leap. The gap between rich and poor grows. Education systems promote non-Christian belief systems. Politicians opt for corruption over accountability. Natural- and man-made forces wreak havoc on diverse ecosystems. Ethnocentrism chips away at increasingly multicultural societies. The list goes on.

We believe God has called us to respond to this reality. Ordinary men and women leave their church pews to learn to share their testimony with others. This year alone, 3,311 people received Disciples Making Disciples training and are sharing His Good News with others. As a result, 3,522 people proclaimed faith in Jesus Christ this year and are being discipled in 1,181 Houses of Peace.

The movement is growing fastest in areas of greatest difficulty. For example, over 50% of the growth is taking place in Venezuela where each day is hard. There is also great momentum in Uruguay, thanks to the inexhaustible efforts of young leaders such as Daniela and Lucas, as you will read in this annual report.

God is at work in Latin America! He has invited us to plant His peace in the hearts of individuals, families, and communities.

Thank you for your partnership to IMPACT Latin America. May God's peace reign in your heart and mind.

Ricardo Gómez, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Impact Latin America plants God's peace in
individuals, homes, and communities by engaging partners
to equip Latin American leaders to multiply disciples, leaders and churches.





Lucas and his work in Uruguay is the feature of this report. He is a remarkable young man and exemplary of the hundreds of individuals that serve the Lord through IMPACT all over Latin America. The work that he is doing, the discipleship and church planting that you will read about, are representative of what is currently happening across 18 nations.

Meet Lucas

Lucas was born in Montevideo, Uruguay, but moved with his family to nearby Durazno. While still a teenager, serving at his church, he participated in IMPACT's Disciples Making Disciples training. He learned how to share the gospel effectively, disciple new believers, and start Houses of Peace (house churches) in a new believer's home, inviting friends and family to join. Lucas's work with IMPACT in Durazno is featured in this video: Use this QR code to access the video.



One Year Later - 2022

As a 19-year-old, Lucas moved to Montevideo to attend university, with the intention of applying the church planting model there. He worked with Daniela DeCunha, IMPACT's Regional Mentor for Uruguay, Paraguay, and Bolivia. Through her coaching, Lucas became more involved in IMPACT and skilled in leadership. He was eventually asked to be the Assistant Regional Mentor for Uruguay.

Together, Daniela and Lucas focused on sharing God's peace with the people in Montevideo. They walked the neighborhoods and prayed that the Lord would give them an entry strategy, a way of building relationships with people, and show them a Person of Peace (Luke 10).

They met Donato; a teenager who played soccer in one of the fields by the square. After getting to know him, Lucas and Daniela realized they could meet more of the community that way. That was their entry strategy - fútbol! Lucas and Donato regularly met in the square, but this time with a ball. They invited others to play with them.

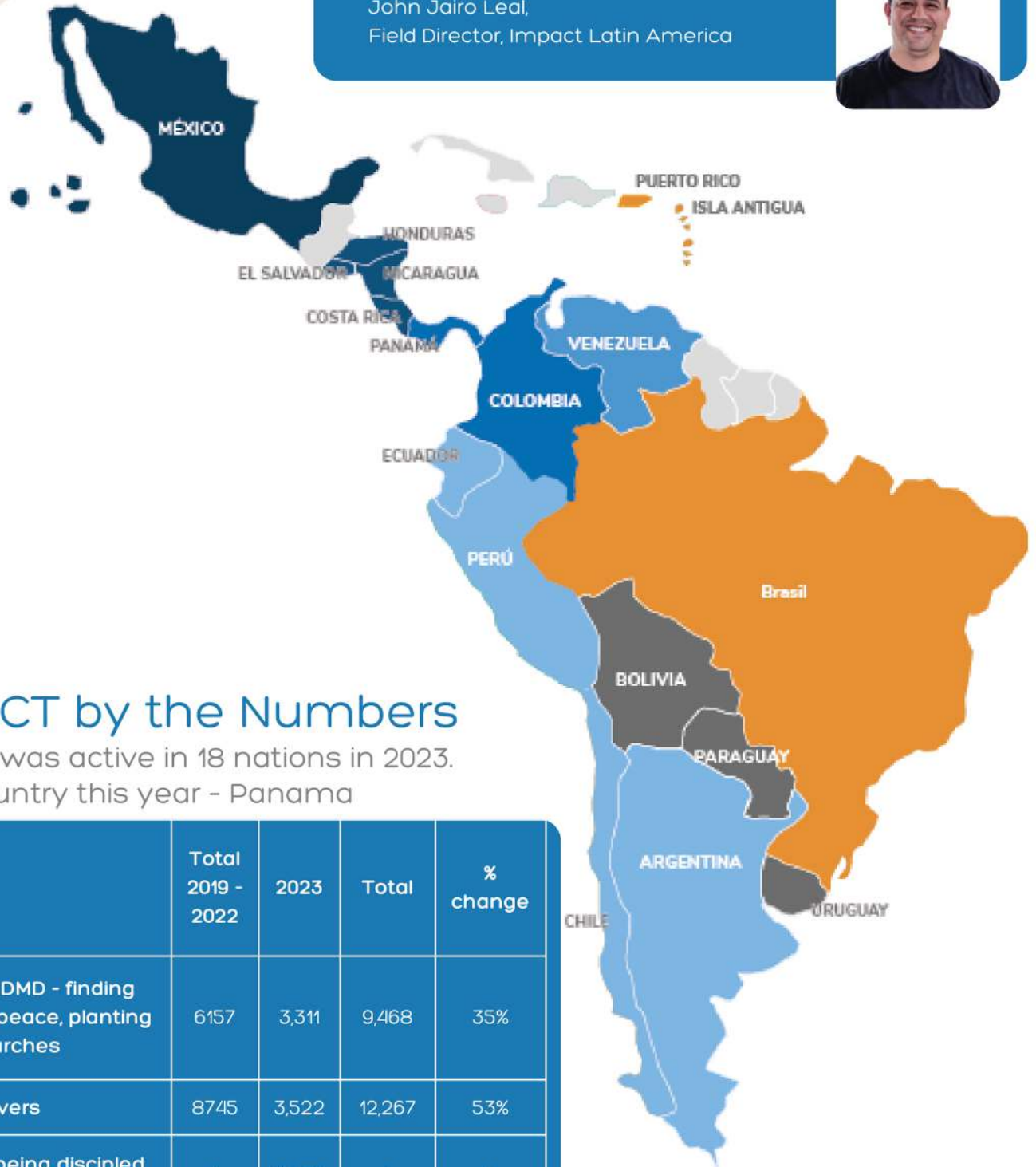
Today - 2023



A year later, there are 20 youth that regularly meet once a week to play soccer and be discipled. The transformation that God is making in these young people caught the attention of their parents. They began to meet together. Now there are four Houses of Peace consisting of these parents, their kids, and their neighbors. Without a doubt the peace of God is being planted in this city.

"I believe that we will see the Gospel extend from Uruguay to the ends of the earth! Imagine what God could do with these young adults who understand the secular mindset in their country. I believe God can do much through the generation that is rising there."

John Jairo Leal,
Field Director, Impact Latin America



IMPACT by the Numbers

IMPACT was active in 18 nations in 2023.

New country this year - Panama

	Total 2019 - 2022	2023	Total	% change
Trained in DMD - finding people of peace, planting house churches	6157	3,311	9,468	35%
New Believers	8745	3,522	12,267	53%
Currently being discipled *new statistic	.	10,129	.	.
New, Active Houses of Peace	938	243	1181	26%

Highlights of 2023

Impact Latin America Leadership Summit - Medellin, Colombia

This September, 42 IMPACT leaders and staff from 11 countries met in Medellín, Colombia. The purpose of the Summit was to empower and refresh the leadership in their work to multiply leaders, disciples, and churches in an urban, postmodern context. Training focused on three topics:

- **The power of the Holy Spirit;**
- Learning from the historic **Wesleyan church planting movement** as an inspiration to continue driving the movement of multiplication forward; and
- **Missions in an Urban, Multicultural Context** - development of an integral mission in a transcultural and intercultural reality,



An Evening with IMPACT

Our second annual appreciation and fundraiser in the greater Seattle area was very successful. Held in September, we had 100 in attendance and raised \$40,000. Most importantly we had churches from six different denominations represented in the audience, as well as key supporters. At least 50% of the audience was new to IMPACT.

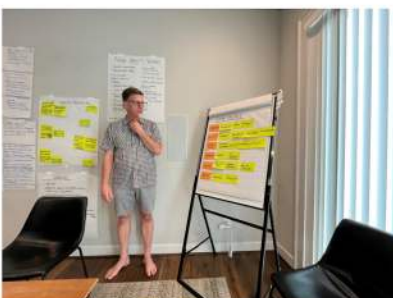


Three Year Strategic Planning and Executive Coaching

With funding from the Murdock Trust, IMPACT launched an inaugural strategic planning process in August. The purpose was to position IMPACT to be sustainable, flexible, and expandable to support ongoing growth and health as a church planting movement.

Strategic Initiatives for 2024 - 2026

- **Develop healthy leaders.** Refine leader development to fully equip our leaders spiritually.
- **Grow interdenominational partnerships.**
- **Improve communication.** Build effective communication systems with all partners.
- **Implement sustainable organizational structure.** Enhance executive leadership for growth.
- **Expand capacity and partnerships.** Engage partners to support IMPACT's work by raising \$2.1M over the next 3 years.



Goals for 2023 - How did we do?

Goal - Coach and support 96+ network coordinators

- 178 networks and coordinators each now resource an average 7 of house churches.
- Each coordinator is plugged into an established support and accountability system.

Goal - Mobilize prayer

- Two prayer groups meet weekly to pray for multiplication of disciples and churches,
- The Prayer Leader Network and leadership teams both meet monthly.
- 100 of 178 IMPACT networks have intercessors to pray for their assigned churches.
- A week was set aside in February to do daily prayer walks throughout Latin America.
- New regional prayer leaders - Venezuela, Mexico, Central America, Colombia, and Andes.

Goal - Communicate Testimonies and Statistics

Coordination of communication between 18 nations and the communications team has improved. There is better cooperation and accountability in all areas of IMPACT.

Goal - Raise up one or more assistant mentors

Six regional mentors were each asked to raise up one or more assistants. Throughout the year, 11 assistant mentors were identified and involved in a training plan. This puts us in a stronger position for sustainable multiplication in 2024.

Goal - Develop interdenominational networks

The number of house churches in denominations other than Free Methodist grew by 6% this year. We have strategic cooperation with the following groups:

- Wesleyan Church Iberoamericana - Colombia, Panama, Puerto Rico, and Spain
- Ministerial Association of Sucre Department, Colombia
- Emmanuel Churches and Alpha and Omega Churches - Colombia
- Methodist Church of Mexico
- Assemblies of God churches - Colombia and Uruguay
- Christian Crusade, Renovation Federation, and Interamerican Church - Colombia
- 9 Independent local churches in Paraguay, Colombia, and Venezuela

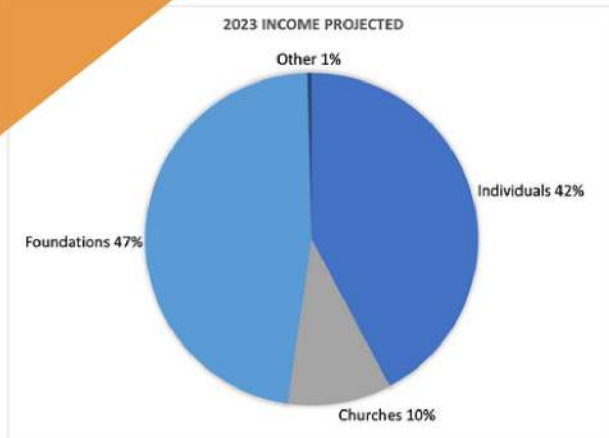
Goal - Grow disciples, leaders, & churches by 33% in 2023

- The number of Houses of Peace grew by 6% from 911 in 2022 to 1181 in 2023, Earlier reports were adjusted downward to exclude discontinued Houses of Peace.
- The number of new disciples has grown by 3522, for a total since 2020 of 12,267 - 28%
- New individual leaders seeking advanced ministerial training this year - 655
- Networks of house churches grew from 96 to 178 with an average of 7 churches each - 46%

Financial Report

2023 Budget and Projected Actuals

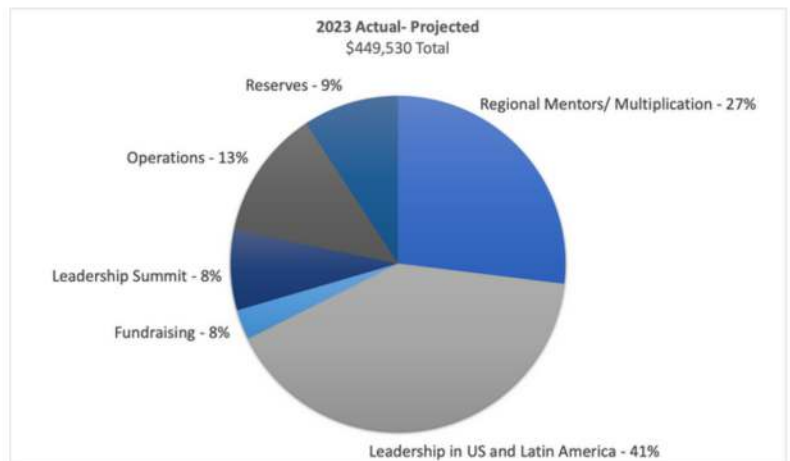
Income



Income	January to December 2023 Planned	November 2023 Actual + Additional Projections	Remaining to raise in December - Reserve building
Individuals	\$152,150	\$191,013	
Churches	\$52,600	\$45,000	
Foundations	\$272,500	\$213,517	
Other		\$1,913	
Total	\$ 477,250	\$449,530	\$27,720

Expenditures and Reserves

Expenditures	Budget	Actual-Projected
Prayer Team	\$6,600	\$6,600
Curriculum Team	\$13,100	\$12,100
Leadership Summit	\$30,000	\$34,374
Regional Mentors	\$100,500	\$101,100
Administration	\$11,800	\$11,800
Communications	\$30,480	\$30,264
Executive Team - L.A.	\$104,600	\$108,718
Personnel - U.S.	\$75,887	\$77,402
Fundraising	\$13,802	\$13,167
Operations	\$24,264	\$13,749
Reserve	\$66,126	\$40,256
Total	\$ 477,250	\$449,530



Board of Directors

Current Members

Devin Bruckner, Treasurer	Consultant in nonprofit leadership and international development, Seattle, Washington, USA
Sabastián Collazo	CEO, FEELS Creative Design Studio, Santiago, Chile
Allison Coventry	Cultural intelligence, leadership development, Pacific Northwest Conference, Seattle, Washington, USA
Will Faircloth, Secretary	Director, Wesley Heritage Foundation and Instituto de Estudios, Columbus, Georgia, USA
Ricardo Gómez	Executive Director, Impact Latin America, Medellin Colombia
Paul Olver, Chair	Operation Director, Board Chair, Impact Latin America, Seattle WA USA
Franciso Sastre	National Director of Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning for Bethany Christian Services, Miami, Florida,/Buenos Aires, Argentina

Founding Members

Margaret Diddams	Author, Retired Provost, Wheaton College
Norm Edwards	Retired, Former Consultant in Nonprofit Development
Romanita Hairston	CEO, The M.J. Murdock Trust
Ricardo Gómez	Executive Director, Impact Latin America
Paul Olver	Operation Director, Board Chair, Impact Latin America
Kathy Stegman	Retired, Executive Administrator, Seattle Pacific University
Glenn Lorenz	Former Curriculum Coordinator for Free Methodist Church in Latin America
Laura Goodnight Guchee	Accountant, Alegria & Company, P.S.
Jonathan Craig	Attorney, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Acts 2:42



Youth in Montevideo, Uruguay praying together. They participate in discipleship and fútbol weekly.

"Let me tell you a story. An aging Assemblies of God congregation in Montevideo had only 25 members. After receiving IMPACT's Disciples Making Disciples training, they began praying that God would do something new and fresh in their church. Between prayer, leadership, and outreach there are about 90 members in their congregation and they have helped to plant eight thriving Houses of Peace in their community. This is what a church planting movement looks like."

John Jairo Leal, Field Director, 2023

"This ministry is pure gospel."

Margaret Diddams,
Founding Board Member

Planting God's Peace in Latin America

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