

Children's International Rescue Foundation Honored by the City of Bucaramanga for Advancing the Fight Against Child Trafficking

Utah-based nonprofit recognized for its partnership with Colombian law enforcement in dismantling trafficking networks and protecting vulnerable children

WEST JORDAN, Utah — JULY 29, 2026 — Children's International Rescue Foundation (CIRF), a Utah-based nonprofit dedicated to combating child trafficking, has been formally recognized by the City of Bucaramanga, Colombia, for its significant contributions to protecting children and supporting law enforcement efforts to dismantle human trafficking organizations.

The recognition celebrates CIRF's years of collaboration with the Bucaramanga Metropolitan Police and Colombian authorities, providing investigative expertise, specialized resources, intelligence support and training that have helped identify victims, strengthen criminal investigations and bring traffickers to justice. The honor reflects the power of international partnerships in addressing one of the world's fastest-growing criminal enterprises.

"This recognition belongs to every law enforcement officer, investigator, volunteer, donor, and partner who refuses to accept that child trafficking is inevitable," said Alex Darelli, co-founder of Children's International Rescue Foundation. "Our role has always been to stand alongside those on the front lines, providing the support and resources they need to rescue children and hold traffickers accountable. We are deeply honored by this recognition from the City of Bucaramanga."

Founded in 2021 by military and law enforcement veterans, CIRF partners with police agencies throughout Latin America to combat child trafficking through three primary initiatives: investigations, specialized training and survivor aftercare. The organization works alongside local authorities to provide investigative equipment, intelligence support, operational resources and victim assistance that strengthen anti-trafficking operations and improve outcomes for rescued children.

The award from the Bucaramanga City Council highlights CIRF's role in supporting successful operations that have dismantled trafficking networks targeting children throughout the region. By combining the expertise of experienced investigators with the authority of local law enforcement, these partnerships have resulted in arrests, prosecutions and the recovery of vulnerable children from exploitation.

While the recognition commemorates achievements in Colombia, CIRF leaders emphasize that the work is far from over.

"Human trafficking is a global problem that requires global cooperation," Darelli added. "Every successful investigation demonstrates what is possible when nonprofits, law enforcement, governments, and communities work together. We remain committed to supporting our partners as they continue protecting children and bringing hope to survivors."

The recognition also underscores CIRF's growing reputation as a trusted partner among international law enforcement agencies. Since its founding, the organization has collaborated with police departments, prosecutors and government agencies across Latin America to enhance investigations, improve operational capabilities and expand support services for survivors of child exploitation.

As a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Utah, CIRF relies on the generosity of donors and volunteers to sustain its mission of rescuing children from exploitation and providing pathways to healing. Every contribution directly supports front-line operations, survivor care, training initiatives and partnerships that help protect vulnerable children around the world.

About Children's International Rescue Foundation

Children's International Rescue Foundation (CIRF) is a Utah-based nonprofit organization founded by military and law enforcement veterans dedicated to rescuing children from human trafficking and exploitation. Working in partnership with law enforcement agencies across Latin America, CIRF supports investigations, provides specialized training, and assists with survivor aftercare to help protect vulnerable children and bring traffickers to justice. For more information or to support the mission, visit [Children's International Rescue Foundation](#).