In 2020, Acacia Network continued to solidify our presence in Puerto Rico through our earthquake relief efforts, which included visits to underserved communities to carry out informational workshops, wellness initiatives, and music & artistic interventions, and to provide critical supplies & equipment. Our efforts later pivoted to COVID-19 relief, as the pandemic further exacerbated health and economic disparities across the Island.

Throughout this time, we have worked with diverse nonprofit, community-based, private, and government partners, including: Banco Popular; Fundación Banco Popular; ERS Consulting; Executive Home Search; Enlace Técnico; Young and de la Sota Architects; R4 Capital; EcoBuilders; Municipality of Toa Alta; Municipality of Caguas; Marvel Marchand Architects; Manchester Bidwell Corporation; SIM - Salud Integral de la Montaña; SANOS / Caguas; Mezcolanza; Sistema de Salud Menonita; Meson del Amor; SAPR - Proyecto de Salud y Acupuntura para el Pueblo; Ministerio Marc; Esperanza para ja Vejez, among others.

- **4,000+ meals** distributed during earthquake and COVID-19 efforts
- **20+ partners** from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors engaged
- **100+ units** of affordable, green housing for vulnerable individuals
- **1,000+ supplies** delivered, including mosquito nets, solar lamps, and more

**Earthquake Relief**

In 2020, Acacia Network launched an initiative titled “Brigadas al Sur” in collaboration with 15+ local partners to provide direct aid and services to communities affected by the earthquakes in the southwest region of the Island. Among other resources, we provided:

- Approximately 1,000 meals
- Nearly 600 body massages
- More than 500 acupuncture sessions
- More than 160 haircuts
- 1,000 mosquito nets, solar lamps, and school supplies

**COVID-19 Response**

Acacia Network’s crisis response work in Puerto Rico was expanded in 2020 through an initiative titled “Sustento en Red”, aimed at serving communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including seniors and other vulnerable individuals.

Among other resources, we distributed **over 3,000 meals and grocery boxes** to individuals and communities at risk of going hungry.

**Affordable Housing**

- **Palacio Dorado**: An affordable housing complex developed by Acacia Network in Toa Alta, PR serving 100+ seniors. In September 2020, it was awarded an ENERGY STAR Score of 100, meaning it is more energy efficient than 100% of similar properties nationwide.
- Resilient Prototype Home: A project in Caguas, PR that aims to provide long-term sustainable, green, and resilient housing for two (2) low-moderate income families, while creating a scalable model for implementation across the island and in other disaster and non-disaster areas.

**Workforce Development**

Acacia Network is part of a multisector effort to develop the Puerto Rico Centro de Artes y Tecnología Corp. (PRCAT). PRCAT was established in 2018 to address deteriorating education and employment trends on the island, and includes a visual arts training program for at-risk youth and a career training program for adults-in-transition.

PRCAT is working with the National Center of Arts and Technology to open a CAT in San Juan by 2022.