



**CAMINO**  
— ALLIANCE —

# LATIN AMERICANS SHAPING THEIR FUTURE





Changed Lives. Transformed Cities.

A Better Future for Latin Americans.

# TABLE OF CONTENT

The Challenge	06
Today's Reality	08
The Urban & Migration Crisis	10
Mission	12
Our Purpose	14
Organizational Structure	16
The Goal: Shalom Cities	18
Four Focus Areas	20
Camino Azul	22
Our Approach	23
Where We Are	24
What We Do	26
Our Strategy	27
The Causes We Support	28
Our Partners	30
What We Value	32
Get Involved	34

# CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LATIN AMERICANS TO THRIVE



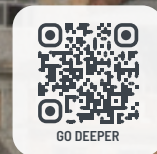


# THE CHALLENGE

## LATIN AMERICA'S URBAN AND MIGRATION CHALLENGE

Latin America is filled with some of the most industrious, capable, and hard-working people looking for opportunities to thrive and create viable futures for themselves and their families. Unfortunately, Latin American cities face many challenges such as rapid urbanization, poverty, violence, inequality, migration, climate change, and political and economic instability, all compounded by ineffective governance.

Without a comprehensive and strategic response, these issues will most likely lead to a future marked by increased violence and inequality, potentially intensifying migration flows and further straining North-South relations. We're on a mission to change that reality.





# TODAY'S REALITY

- Over 200 million Latin Americans do not have enough income to meet their basic needs.
- It's the world's most urbanized region. 82% live in cities. Yet, many cities struggle to provide dignified living for their inhabitants. 162 million live in fragile, low-income urban communities.
- Inadequate planning and services characterize most cities. 82 million are without access to basic sanitation services.
- Urban Development often excludes fragile communities and violence is on the rise. 63 of 100 children suffer from domestic violence. 81 million youth and children are poor, keeping many from completing their education.
- Many cities experience widespread corruption and ineffective municipal governance. The Church's role in community transformation is often very limited, and many NGOs provide only temporary aid but lack long-term impact and capacity for large-scale transformation.
- Widespread crime, violence, and migration is a constant reality, impacting millions of Latin Americans. 42 of the 50 most violent cities in the world are located in Latin America. This has forced 43 million to migrate.
- With 65 million Latinos living in the U.S., their combined economic power ranks as the fifth-largest economy in the world.



# THE URBAN & MIGRATION CRISIS

## 4. INCREASED MIGRATION

Migration on a large scale then contributes back to rapid urbanization, as people swell the numbers of other cities, including border cities, adding to these cities' fragility.



## 1. RAPID URBANIZATION

Rapid Urbanization creates fragile cities because infrastructure becomes overwhelmed and city institutions are unable to provide basic services to residents, resulting in inequality, poverty, and social exclusion.



## 3. VIOLENCE & CRIME

Violence, Crime & Terrorism then drives urban residents to flee their increasingly insecure and destabilized neighborhoods, resulting in growing city-to-city migration patterns and refugee crises.



## 2. CITY FRAGILITY

Fragile Cities become breeding grounds for urban violence, as social exclusion, poverty and rising inequality lead to social unrest, gangs, crime and even terrorism. In fact, fragile cities have become the new frontlines for organized crime and terrorist activities.





# MISSION

Camino Alliance supports local ministries and organizations in Latin America and among Latino Immigrants in the U.S. that address spiritual needs, urban poverty and migration to create thriving communities and cities rooted in Shalom.



# OUR PURPOSE

We exist to build alliances that unleash the power of faith, justice, collaboration, and generosity to help Latin Americans and Latino Immigrants to shape brighter futures in the communities where they live.

Our work emerges from decades of hands-on experience in fragile urban contexts in Latin America and Latino communities in the United States.



# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Founded in 2019, Camino Alliance's structure is strategically designed to maximize the effectiveness of our mission, with two affiliates: one in Mexico (Camino Alliance LATAM) and another in the United States (Camino Alliance USA). Having a legal presence in both Latin America and the United States allows us to broaden our reach, deepen our impact across the region.



# THE GOAL - SHALOM CITIES

## What is Shalom?

We define SHALOM as a state of peace, justice, wellbeing, healthy relationships, spiritual richness, and prosperity. When there is SHALOM, people can live fully in a healthy, dignifying, just and thriving environment.

## What do we want to accomplish?

We want to see fragile communities and cities transformed into SHALOM cities: thriving, hopeful and vibrant places where faith groups, civic organizations, businesses and government agencies foster inclusivity, security, resilience, and sustainability, equipping residents to drive holistic change and build viable futures.





# FOUR FOCUS AREAS

## WE INVEST IN LOCAL LEADERS AND ORGANIZATIONS

We support local leaders and organizations in Latin America and Latino immigrant communities, focusing on spiritual needs and the root causes of urban poverty and migration. Using the Camino Azul strategy, we create opportunities for Latin Americans and Latinos realize their full potential.

## WE SEEK THE TRANSFORMATION OF FRAGILE CITIES INTO SHALOM CITIES

Our goal is to transform fragile communities in Latin America and among Latino immigrants into thriving Shalom Cities by addressing urbanization, violence, spiritual needs, and migration. Creating clusters for urban transformation is key to reshaping the region's future.

## WE EXIST TO CREATE A PHILANTHROPIC MOVEMENT FOR LATIN AMERICA

We seek to build a philanthropic movement for Latin America by mobilizing individuals, churches, businesses, and foundations, while engaging U.S. Latinos and recent immigrants. We secure project funding, offer donor advisory services, conduct research, offer thought leadership, and organize educational trips to promote cross-cultural connections and address key issues.

## WE OFFER A RANGE OF DONOR SERVICES

Our Urban Research Institute conducts research at community and city levels to map local assets, assess urban fragility and migration, and develop evidence-based interventions. We aim to share this data with stakeholders to influence urban development and ensure fragile communities are included in city planning processes.

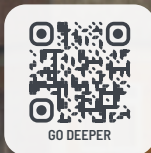




# CAMINO AZUL

## OUR PATHWAY TO FOSTER THRIVING SHALOM COMMUNITIES AND CITIES

Camino Alliance has developed the Camino Azul Pathway to foster thriving Shalom communities and cities, with environments akin to 'Blue Zones'—areas renowned for the well-being and longevity of their inhabitants. Adapted from the Blue Zone movement this strategic approach works to create a healthier life for individuals and communities through the implementation and adoption of positive life habits and activities that have proven to significantly improve both community welfare and individual well-being.



# OUR APPROACH

## THE CAMINO AZUL PATHWAY

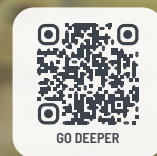
The Camino Azul Pathway centers on ten key areas of intervention designed to improve various aspects of personal life and community well-being. It involves partnering with urban leaders, faith communities, civil society organizations, businesses, and government agencies, enhancing their capacity to deepen their connection with God and others, live with purpose, while promoting holistic health and transformative community change. The following graph provides an overview of the Camino Azul Pathway:





# WHERE WE ARE

Since 2021, we have invested in projects and come alongside organizations in Mexico, El Salvador, Colombia, Venezuela, Argentina, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Guatemala, with a special focus on Mexico City and San Salvador with the goal to expand to other key cities in the future. We also work with the Latino immigrant community in Huntsville, AL, the headquarters of Camino Alliance USA.





# WHAT WE DO

We partner with urban leaders, ministries, and organizations to enhance their capacity for driving lasting change within their communities and cities. We provide training, coaching, support and networking opportunities to leaders, fostering a variety of holistic initiatives. Additionally, we create clusters for urban transformation that leverage local resources, develop collaborative strategies and generate sustainable impact in fragile urban areas.



# OUR STRATEGY

We concentrate on six key tasks to foster a collaborative approach aimed at creating the conditions to transform fragile cities into SHALOM CITIES.

**Identify and Invest in Local Leaders, Ministries and Organizations**

**Advance the Missio Dei and the Camino Azul, and Encourage Relationship Building**

**Strengthen the Capacity of our Partners to Incubate and Grow Successful Initiatives**

**Cultivate Collaboration Among our Partners**

**Multiply Successful Interventions**

**Conduct Research to Better Understand Fragile Communities and Cities**



# THE CAUSES WE SUPPORT

We are dedicated to making a lasting impact in Latin America and among Latino immigrants in the U.S. by focusing on long-term strategies rather than short-term fixes.

Recognizing that this requires a holistic approach, we support a variety of causes that align with our mission and make a positive impact on children & youth, urban poor residents, women, families, vulnerable populations, migrants, leaders and entrepreneurs.

Through our strategic partnerships and thoughtful grants and financial investments, we strive to address key issues that help communities to thrive.



Spiritual Transformation

Community Development

Leadership Development

People & Family-Centered Change

Economic Development

Systemic Change

Creation Care

Innovative Urban Development Approaches



# OUR PARTNERS

We believe that sustainable transformation must be led through local initiatives. That's why we support and collaborate with local ministries and organizations that share our fundamental commitments:

- **Proclaim** and demonstrate the Good News of God's Kingdom.
- **Address** the holistic needs of children, women, and families.
- **Develop** sustainable solutions for urban poverty and violence.
- **Cultivate** local leaders equipped to improve their communities.
- **Provide** support to vulnerable groups.
- **Work** to prevent migration and/or assist migrants in challenging situations.

VISIT OUR PARTNERS HERE





# WHAT WE VALUE

Our core values, deeply rooted in our Christian faith and the rich and diverse heritage of Latin America, guide our commitment to uplifting individuals, families, and communities.

## **FAITH: WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT THE RENEWAL OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES**

We are passionate about following Jesus, convinced that lasting transformation in the world originates from a profound change in hearts. Driven by our deep faith, this conviction inspires us to support local leaders, ministries, and organizations in fostering renewal within individuals and communities.

## **COLLABORATION: WE CAN ACHIEVE INFINITELY MORE TOGETHER THAN SEPARATELY**

We believe in the power of collaboration, understanding that uniting our efforts allows us to achieve significantly more than we could alone. By cultivating strong partnerships, setting aside personal egos, and enabling others to succeed, we lay the foundation for turning fragile cities into thriving Shalom communities.

## **CHANGE BEYOND CHARITY: WE GO BEYOND MERE AID**

We focus on holistic transformation rather than traditional charity, acting as catalysts for innovative and sustainable solutions that enhance self-agency and lasting impact.





# GET INVOLVED



Donate to support the Camino Azul City Initiative in our key cities or give to one of our partners



Join us on this mission by becoming part of a Giving Circle or participating in a crowdfunding campaign



Participate in a Camino Pathways trip.

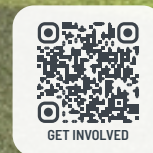


Subscribe to the Camino Alliance Newsletter to receive regular updates on our work.



Sign up to receive the Camino Briefings

# YOUR INVOLVEMENT PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN CREATING A BETTER FUTURE FOR LATIN AMERICANS







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