

Dear Pastors and Leaders,

Brotherly greetings in Christ from the EFCA National Hispanic Leadership Team and the EFCA "All People Initiative" ministries.

As most of you know, Venezuela has been in a severe spiritual, humanitarian, economic and migratory crisis. The current repression and lack of basic living essentials such as food and medicine has contributed to the desperation that has forced thousands to emigrate abroad in all directions. Our brothers and sisters, families, and pastors of EFC Venezuela need all the help we can offer as one in Christ and as sister churches of the EFCA movement.

The Word of God (2 Cor. 8, Ro 15:26) compels us, as a family of the EFCA, to unite in interceding for our brothers and sisters. Let us rejoice in this opportunity to participate in the privilege of giving in response to this unprecedented need of the saints in the Evangelical Free Church of Venezuela.

TO MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION, PLEASE VISIT [EFC Venezuela Humanitarian Relief](#) and take a few moments to fill in the required information.

The Apostle Paul celebrated the disposition of the churches in Macedonia to give to the brothers in need in the Church in Jerusalem. ³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴ they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people." (2 Cor. 8: 3,4). Your donation is much needed and appreciated.

Pastor Abdy Pereira, president of the Association of EFC Venezuela, released the following statement reporting on the crisis they face and the specific help they are requesting:

"Dear brothers, it is of great consolation to us to know that our brothers and sisters throughout the world are praying for us, and their desire to help us fills us with joy and generates in us an act of thanksgiving to our God. We are sure that God is in control of this brief affliction through which we Venezuelans are passing, confident that those who love God will come to our aid. I consider it a great blessing that you can participate in our difficulties.

Our nation's crisis has several critical areas of concern:

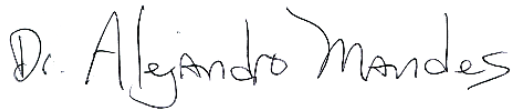
1. **Spiritual:** *Our nation's people have deliberately desecrated the names of God and encouraged idolatry, sorcery, and Islam. In the midst of this, a part of the Venezuelan Church has been contaminated with a syncretism of beliefs and has participated openly in politics. **Our petition is that you support us in prayer so that we can stand firm in the mission that God has given us here on earth.***
2. **Humanitarian:** *With each passing day, Venezuela's environment becomes more hostile to its inhabitants. Medications are very difficult to obtain and when they are available, they are at prices that are too exorbitant to afford. The salary of the Venezuelan has fallen drastically, to such an extent that any food is practically unattainable, which has*

*led to widespread famine. **Our petition is for economic aid while the situation in our nation stabilizes. I suggest an approximate amount of \$50 per month for each congregation. Additionally, some congregations would greatly benefit from packages with medicines and products that are no longer available in their areas.***

3. **Exit of Venezuelans abroad:** *The current situation has fostered an exodus never before seen in our nation. This effect has been felt very strongly in the Venezuelan Evangelical Church. Up to 80% of members have left some churches, resulting in their closing or merging with other churches. Many pastors have left to look for sustenance for their families, leaving their churches without prepared leadership. **Our petition is for monthly financial aid of approximately \$20 for each pastor while the country's economy stabilizes."***

If you have any questions about how to donate, do not hesitate to contact the Hispanic Ministries of the EFCA, at hispanicministries@efca.org

In His service,



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EFCA Hispanic Ministries Coordinator



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