



2021 UPDATE

CUBA 



**Elio Martiz**  
Country Leader

# Communities still pursuing God...

Every country around the world has been affected by the pandemic throughout 2021, including our Reach Out communities.

Yet, Reach Out's global leaders reported again and again ways that God continued to move through their countries despite the challenges from the ensuing pandemic, newly implemented country regulations and restrictions, and some countries directly facing conflicts of war.

But God showed himself faithful through it all, with new JFYM certifications, thousands of newly trained JFYM youth leaders, opened up new countries, and hundreds of newly saved believers.

Many pictures provided to us revealed God's mercy and greatness throughout our nation and those we serve in other countries around the globe.

Thank you for your continued financial partnership and dedication to help us in preparing these leaders to be more ready than ever in 2022, and bring even more of Generation Alpha to Jesus in this coming year!

Once the country opened up for pockets of time during waves of the pandemic, our team held trainings as soon as they were able---->





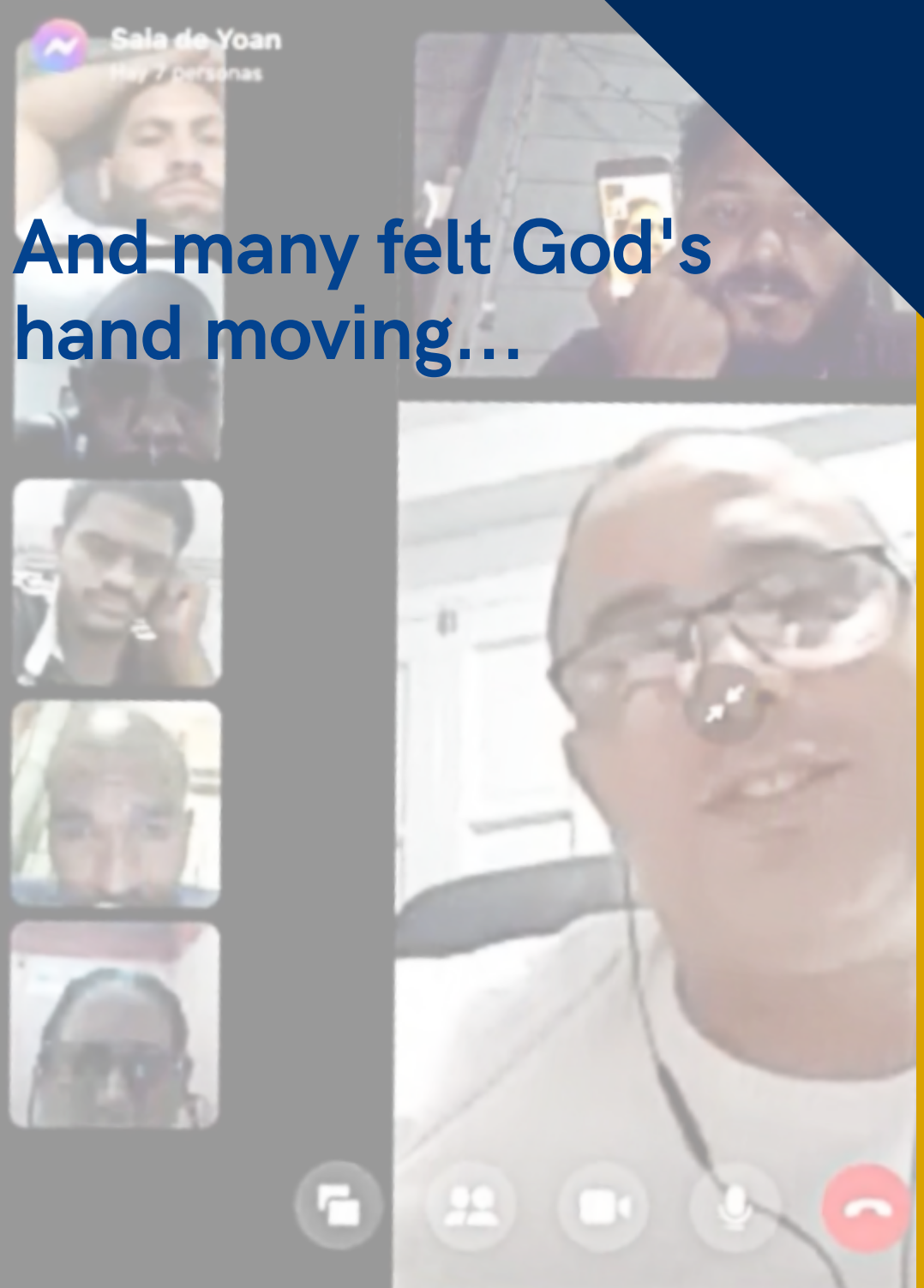
JFYM Forum



JFYM Forum



EL Leadership Meeting



And many felt God's hand moving...

Reach Out team meets with leaders online to encourage and equip them



# Whenever they could meet...

Our Cuba team was there to meet with leaders, youth, disciples, and communities to train, equip, pray, worship, and guide anyone and everyone in need that they could



## Cuba 2021 Statistics

Youth Leaders Trained	575
Eagle Leaders Certified	12
Students Saved	218
Students Baptized	71
New Churches Implemented JFYM	9

# JFYM Leadership Testimonials

Even in the midst of the pandemic, and many times lacking basic needs and resources, our Cuban team continued to meet, plan, pray, mentor, and work through all of the national challenges they faced during this time of the pandemic. They made a 2021 year-end video to commemorate some of the things God did during this time.



**Elio Mártiz**  
National Director  
Reach Out - Cuba

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ from the unique country of Cuba



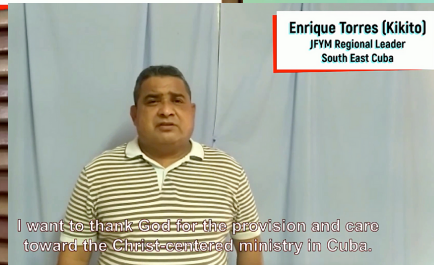
**Luis Miguel Rodríguez**  
JFYM Regional Leader  
North East Cuba

My name is Luis Miguel Rodríguez and I'm one of the Regional Leaders of JFYM in Cuba.



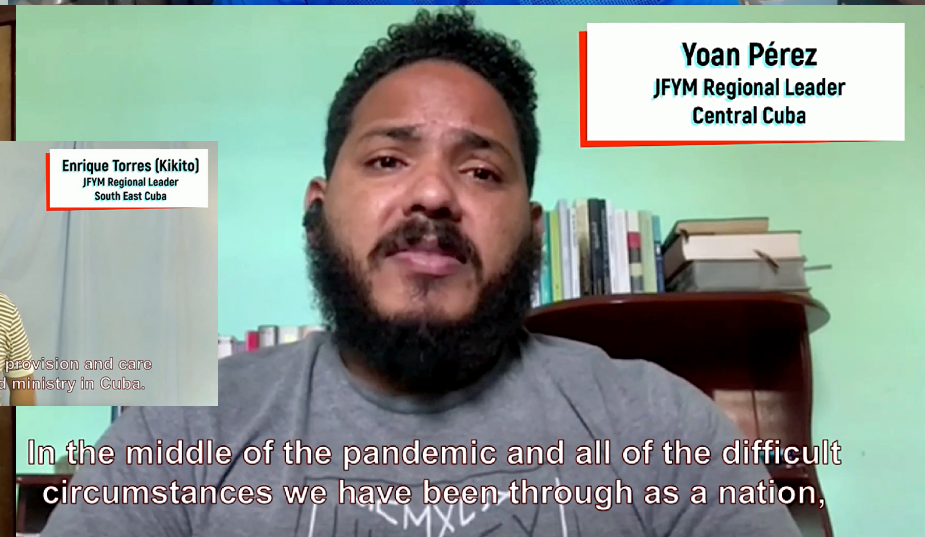
**José Carlos Hernández**  
JFYM Regional Leader  
West Cuba

and one of the regional leaders of Jesus Focused Youth Ministry (JFYM) in Western Cuba.




**Enrique Torres (Kikito)**  
JFYM Regional Leader  
South East Cuba

I want to thank God for the provision and care toward the Christ-centered ministry in Cuba.



**Yoan Pérez**  
JFYM Regional Leader  
Central Cuba

In the middle of the pandemic and all of the difficult circumstances we have been through as a nation,



Luis Miguel, Regional Leader, NE Cuba, reported that many on-site trainings were cancelled due to Covid-19, and their teams could not meet. They decided to search for another way to meet with their teams to communicate, and still effectively minister to people. They implemented new methods and platforms, disciplined many leaders and youth online, and connected with each other to strengthen and encourage one another.

Jose Carlos, Regional Leader, West Cuba, advised us that the last two years has been extremely difficult because their biggest loss during this time has been JFYM losing the visibility that allows us to reach new churches in their communities. It caused them to struggle being united with the Eagle Leaders and their teams so they could maintain a focused vision together. Many leaders they were training needed to become more familiar with biblical teachings, as well as had their own economic setbacks. Despite these challenges, God continued to grow the JFYM community. He expressed gratefulness for Reach Out's help both in economical and ministerial crises during this time. It has helped them to build new relationships, and establish new leaders.

Enrique (Kikito), Regional Leader, SE Cuba, shared how thankful he was for Reach Out in supporting the leadership and leaders' families there in Cuba during the pandemic. He shared that God has been opening up new denominations and cities they have not been able to reach before in his region.

Yoan, Regional Leader, Central Cuba, he said they focused on caring for peoples' hearts so they felt accompanied and prepared to take care of the youth in their churches. He was so grateful that he and his team felt prepared to meet people during this season in their nation. Most of their meetings were virtual, so they were able to encourage, dream, and plan together. They felt very blessed to be a part of Reach Out all this time by being cared for integrally and not just being trained and being viewed as "simple students." Though many JFYM leadership don't know the Reach Out team or who is really supporting them, they were alleviated by many of their needs and received help during this time. This helped them to feel part of a church and/or family.

Thank you for being a part of this journey and your contributions to what God is doing in Cuba! Reach Out and our country team are very grateful for your dedication and service in making these things and more happen in this nation!

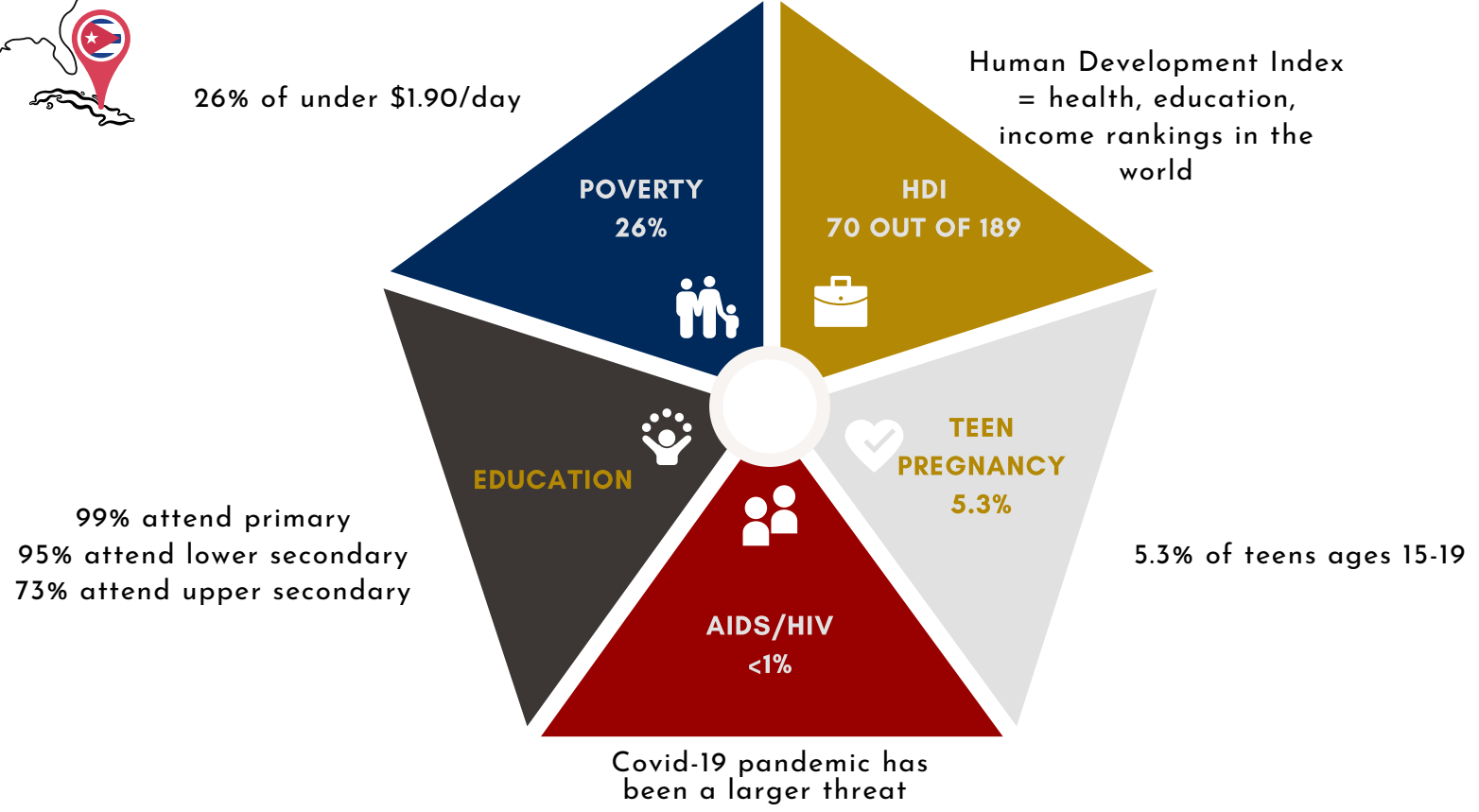
We look forward to providing you more of these stories and photos in 2022!



# COUNTRY STATISTICS

## CUBA

POPULATION = 11.3 million



### Challenges

- Covid pandemic recirculating around the island
- Inflation went to 500% and can rise as high as 900%
- Embargo in place exacerbated during pandemic, causing less and less food, medicine, supplies, and equipment to get there
- Droughts, lack of safe water due to oil spills, subsequent damage to fishing industry
- Protests met with resistance from government, internet shut-downs, arrests, restricted travel to/from island, harassment
- Cuba's relations already limited with communist countries before pandemic and now new challenges due to Ukraine conflict
- 37% have access to safe sanitation, 55% have access to basic sanitation, 97% have access to basic drinking water services

### Reach Out

- A gift of \$1,000 helps indigenous leaders train 50 youth pastors through an "in-person" forum in their country.
- A gift of \$500 helps provide scholarships to train and mentor 20 youth pastors online.
- A gift of \$200 (\$3.85 per week) helps us equip 1 leader for 1 year, with the goal of that leader moving from being introduced to JFYM to implementing and multiplying JFYM. As a result, that new leader will begin training 3 additional leaders, so that from those 4 new leaders, there are a total of 12 young people discipled and praying for opportunities to influence 36 of their friends to follow Jesus.
- A monthly gift of \$100 helps us continue current ministry to leaders around the world who are trained and resourced through Reach Out.

Sources:  
Borgen Project at <https://borgenproject.org/poverty-in-cuba/> ---text=Approximately%2026%20percent%20of%20Cuba.equivalent%20of%2011.2%20million%20people  
Human Development Index at <https://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/CUB> and <https://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/Country-Profiles/CUB.pdf>  
Reuters at <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/soaring-inflation-compounds-cubans-economic-woes-2021-06-16/>  
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UNICEF at <https://data.unicef.org/country/cub/> and  
World Bank at <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.ADO.TERT>