

**PRAY** POSTED ON JANUARY 31, 2018

**Pray for Mayra Giovanetti and Carlos Bonilla, redirected to Columbia for ministry of discipleship formation and training of church leaders.**



BOB SANTILLI

**They write -**

- We have been redirected to service internationally in colOmbia (i.e. Colombia, not Columbia —that'd be South Carolina or Maryland, USA). Their born or naturalized citizens are Colombians (not Columbians).

- Colombia is a country known for tasty coffee, beautiful emeralds, and the impressive Sierra Nevada. We're not blind to Colombia's drug dealing, the FARC, and human trafficking—all of these challenges exist—but not all of Colombia/Colombians are about that.
- We have been invited by UNIBAUTISTA to continue our years of discipleship formation and training of church leaders, accompanying this Baptist University in their program of discipleship, especially in one of the most neglected areas of Colombia, among ethnic groups in the Guajira Northern Region. Once we are settled, you will be welcomed to join us on-site so that we can serve together!
- The Wayuu are one of more than 80 recognized ethnic groups and the Guajira is one of more than 30 departments in Colombia with a highly indigenous population of more than 60%.

We ***dream*** of serving in Colombia starting later this year. We have ***projects*** to share with many in Colombia very soon; with the Wayuu, and also in the rest of Iberoamerica and the Caribbean through the Bible study materials we have prepared. We are willing to support and accompany wherever God may lead us, especially if there is such a need among vulnerable indigenous groups in Colombia. If God wants us to serve our sisters and brothers there, we are trusting that He will open the door and provide for our needs as well. Hence, the ***challenge*** we face is to bounce back to 100% physically, spiritually, and financially before setting a departure date. The financial challenge is particularly great due to recent events in Puerto Rico.

God knew our sisters and brothers in Puerto Rico were going to be hit hard by Hurricane María; and not just them. All of the global servants supported by the Baptist Churches of Puerto Rico have been affected by the overall financial crisis in the island; it existed before the Hurricane and has only worsened after last September 20th. And yet, they continue to pray for us at 100%, and out of their sacrificial giving, continue to provide support to all of us, but not what they had provided in years past.

Therefore, we ***trust*** God is already nudging those He will call to support our being able to regain our 100%. This means learning ***patience*** to determine our departure date. Your financial support ***commitment*** to undergird our mission society's investment in our ministry to Colombia is appreciated. We trust, are patient, and committed... God bless you!!!