

## ACHIEVEMENTS OF PLANNING STUDENTS IN THEIR INTERNSHIPS IN COMMUNITY AGENCIES & ENTITIES

### Academic Year 2022 – 2023

#### Samiris Suleimán Orozco – Sociedad Ambiente Marino (SAM) October 2022

- As part of the planning internship class, she has been working alongside the Marine Environment Society (SAM) work team. Their main job is to collaborate in the creation of the strategic guide to redirect and clearly state the mission and vision of the organization and give an overall direction to its path forward. As the SAM has been the pioneer in coral reef restoration in Puerto Rico for the past 20 years, a strategic guide will help rebuild the main initiative of this NGO adapted to current contexts.

#### Andrea O’neill Rivera – Puerto Rico Planning Board October 2022

- Evaluation of the Comprehensive Strategic Development Plan
- Published on August 16, 2010
- Preparation of a preliminary draft for the updating of the PIDES 2010
- Updated PIDES Draft Proposal, compared to 2010 PIDES Outline

#### Ishbel Cora Rodríguez – Estudios Técnicos, Inc. October 2022

- The student collaborated in teamwork in the elaboration of the Municipal Recovery Plans of the municipalities of Lajas, Aguada and Sabana Grande. Tasks included meetings with planners to learn about goals, strategies, and initiatives of interest to municipalities.
- Work on plan descriptions for Municipalities. This includes the sections on housing, environment, economy, plans, and socioeconomic description.





- Describe the impacts of Hurricanes Irma and Maria for the Municipalities of Lajas and Aguada.
- Drafted question guides to interview key informants such as community leaders, community organizations, residents, and a fisherman to learn about the impacts of Hurricanes Irma and Maria on their communities; with the aim of developing recovery strategies.

**Julianne Talavera – Department of Housing, CDBG-DR/MIT**  
November 2022

- Collaborated in the development of Municipal Recovery Plans.

**Ibia Rosa – San Juan Bay Estuary Program**  
February 2022

- The student helped in reaching agreements with the municipality of Bayamón for carrying out the citizen participation process to present the revision of the Multi-Risk Mitigation Plan of the San Juan Bay Estuary. The student collected information corresponding to the capacities of the assigned municipal plans. This information is important for the use and development of the Estuary Bay Multi-Risk Mitigation Plan. The student analyzed the Multi-Risk Mitigation plans of the Municipalities of Cataño, Guaynabo, Trujillo Alto, Bayamón and Toa Baja.

**Gabriela S. Torres López – Department of Housing, CDBG-DR**  
February 2023

- During the period from February to May 2023, the student worked at the Department of Housing, specifically in the area of CDBR-DR with projects such as (MRP) Municipal Recovery Planning, earthquakes, geographic information system area, among others, are developed.

**Augusto Miranda Acevedo – CAUCE**  
March 2022

- Worked on the Development Plan for the Río Piedras Merchants Association. The student participated in the work of the Interagency Group that coordinates the Implementation of the Plan for the Integral Development of Río Piedras.





**Alexandra P. Cancel Díaz – Center for the Reconstruction of Habitat**  
March 2023

- The Habitat Center's actions provide affordable housing for people in need. The student joined the team as a field technician taking inventory of abandoned properties. Once identified, they are declared as a public nuisance, then vacant and abandoned properties are managed as part of the recovery, resilience and revitalization strategy of the municipalities. These tasks allowed the student to see the importance of planning into perspective. By working with public nuisances, he gained knowledge of the needs of the communities.

**Moisés Abdel-Rahman López – Hispanic Federation**  
May 2022

- Digital short-term rental platforms: Collaborate in the development of the analysis to guide a public policy drafting process that will aim to recommend regulations in the short-term rental industry. This includes data collection and analysis, as well as follow-up meetings with collaborators.
- Maritime transport of the islands-municipalities: Participate in community outreach efforts through interviews and focus groups to auscultate the short, medium and long-term desires of the residents of the island municipalities in relation to the issue of maritime transport in order to nourish the subsequent efforts of a campaign to this effect.
- Analysis of the implementation and implementation of the "Opportunity Zones" Prepare an analysis of case studies on the implementation of policies related to Opportunity Zones by seeking and analyzing data to be obtained from the Department of Economic Development and Commerce, specifically in those projects evaluated by the Priority Projects Committee and those granted an Opportunity Zone decree.

**Nias Hernández Montcourt – Estudios Técnicos, Inc.**  
May 2022

- The student conducted analysis and summary of the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Municipality of Guayanilla. It included the risks and impacts of the hazards identified in the municipality of



Guayanilla. The student reviewed the plans and public policies of the municipality, and worked with tables related to demographics, housing and economy, as well as with the damage inventory of the municipality after the passage of the hurricane.

### **Alex Villegas – San Juan Estuary Program**

May 2023

- Preparation of a guide for the creation, management and maintenance of Community Resilience Centers.

### **Brittany M. Ubiñas Rivera – Puerto Rico Department of Health (DSPR)**

May 2023

- The student's job title was as a data and planning analyst for the Opioid Settlement Fund Support Team of the Opioid Program, known in this document as Team 793.
- Development of SWOT Guiding Questions for GIS/Statistics Meeting
- Participated in the team for the development and implementation of the work plan and annual budget in coordination with agencies and organizations and other stakeholders interested in opioid issues.
- Design and administration of instruments to collect and systematize statistical data in accordance with good practices.
- Prepare plans, proposals, databases and others.

## **Academic Year 2023 – 2024, First Semester**

### **Génesis A. Cordovés Vázquez – Autonomous Municipality of Caguas**

December 2023

- During the period of the semester August to December 2023, the student carried out various activities related to the mitigation of natural risks and collaboration with agencies such as FEMA and COR3.
- Participated in the projects of the Office of Planning and collaboration with the Municipal Office for the Recovery and Rebuilding of the City, to update information on agreements and projects of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.



ESCUELA GRADUADA  
PLANIFICACIÓN  
DR. SALVADOR M. PADILLA ESCABÍ

- Prepared findings' reports and mapped out potential courses of action to ensure they are associated with mitigation priorities.

**Kathleen Jiménez – Puerto Rico Planning Board**  
December 2023

- Revision and update of Planning Board's Mitigation brochure.
- Update of the Comprehensive Plan (PIDES).
- Participation in the new ResilienciaPR initiative. The student began the drafting of the Resilience PR proposal. The objective of these tasks was to acquire knowledge about the methodology used to develop the PIDES, to understand the relationship between the mechanisms used to mitigate natural hazards and how they contribute to the viability of effective economic and social development strategies.

