

CENACED: A SAFETY NET



The COVID-19 crisis is unprecedented. There are millions of confirmed cases worldwide and thousands of deaths. The global economic impact will be devastating. In the most optimistic scenario, according to some studies, Mexico's GDP will fall at least 11% in the second quarter. According to the Confederation of Industrial Chambers, in April alone, 600,000 jobs will be lost. Therefore, we have to work hand in hand with all sectors and union efforts. An organization that meets these characteristics is the National Support Center for Epidemiological Contingencies and Disasters (CENACED, its Spanish acronym), of which I was a founding partner and now a board member.

Given the imminent effects of the pandemic, CENACED has launched a series of strategies and initiatives. First, a system of Medical and Psychological TeleAssistance. It is a three-way platform (telephone, web, and mobile application), backed by almost 60 UNIREM universities. It includes doctors and psychologists, from the aforementioned academic institutions, who service and follow up on patients who show symptoms of COVID-19, or psychological consequences derived from confinement.



Additionally, CENACED has installed a food and goods collection center for vulnerable people. It also offers training and information courses on topics related to the prevention of COVID-19. Finally, emerging health units have been set up to detect, serve, and provide attention to patients at risk of contagion or showing symptoms of coronavirus.

CENACED is a great example of how much can be done when combining efforts. Fortunately, this organization has included members from the private and social sectors, as well as international organizations. CENACED members represent different areas and spheres, but they all converge on one objective: to join efforts to contribute to measures of prevention, confinement, and response to this pandemic that is affecting everybody.



For more information on CENACED and how to contribute please visit www.cenaced.org.mx