



**Civil Air Patrol**  
U.S. Air Force Auxiliary

# PUERTO RICO WING

## Overcoming Challenges: A Journey to Success

The Puerto Rico Wing responded to new challenges in 2020 while providing a professional, safe and effective way to serve the commonwealth and its communities. Early in the year, members of the wing conducted damage assessment and worked with personnel from various agencies in responding to a series of earthquakes off the southern coast.

Wing ground teams provided photographs of damaged structures and facilities in the municipalities of Peñuelas, Yauco, Guanica and Guayanilla. The images helped officials shape rescue and recovery efforts. For the first time in Puerto Rico, trained wing crews used small Unmanned Aerial Systems to take photos and video and

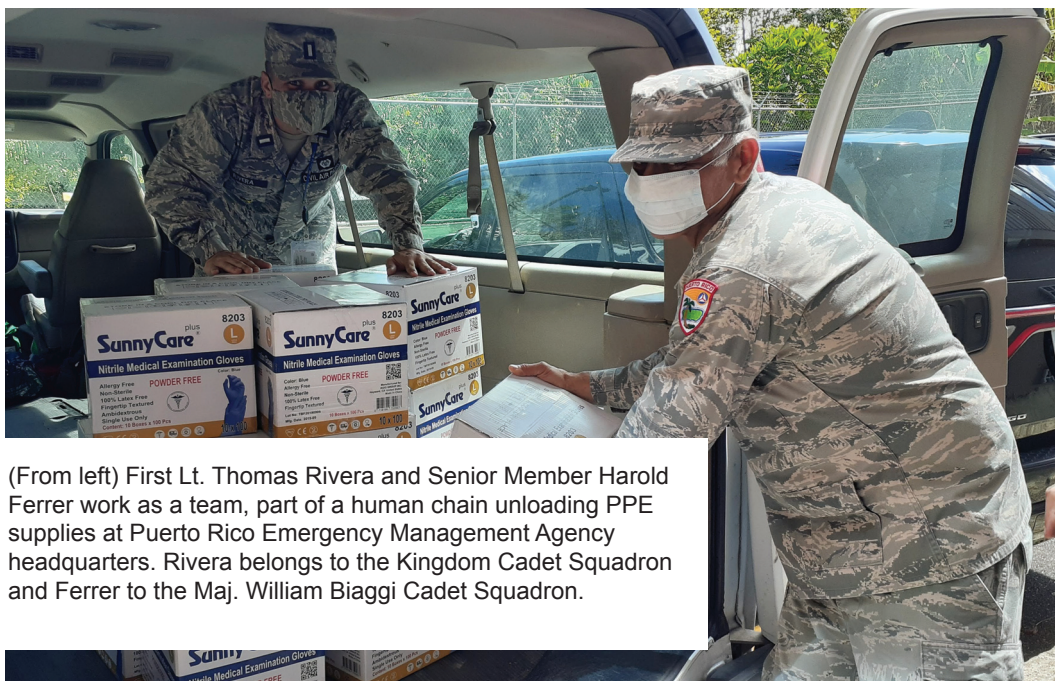
coordinated with search and rescue managers to provide overhead support for ground operations.

Members also provided post-quake community support by assisting local agencies in refugee shelters and supplying points of distribution.

During Puerto Rico's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the wing's primary role was transporting contact tracing teams, test kits and personal protective equipment (PPE) to remote locations. Members combined for more

than 2,000 volunteer hours in delivering 624,174 masks, 13,600 face shields, 450,300 gloves, 37,125 hand sanitizer bottles, 33,950 antibacterial gel bottles, 9,700 disinfectant wipes, 386 1-gallon bottles of liquid sanitizer, 145 test samples and 12,096 bottles of water.

Wing members also helped distribute 3,000 meal boxes in support of community organizations, assisting with food delivery to some communities after identifying bedridden and disabled people without transportation.



(From left) First Lt. Thomas Rivera and Senior Member Harold Ferrer work as a team, part of a human chain unloading PPE supplies at Puerto Rico Emergency Management Agency headquarters. Rivera belongs to the Kingdom Cadet Squadron and Ferrer to the Maj. William Biaggi Cadet Squadron.

# Puerto Rico Wing 2020 Statistics

## Volunteer Members

367 adult members  
547 cadets  
50 aircrew personnel  
522 emergency responders

## Squadrons

33 locations statewide

## Aircraft

13 single engine

## Vehicles

19 vehicles

## Interoperable Communications

7 VHF/FM repeaters  
85 VHF/FM stations  
9 HF stations

## Missions

Search and rescue missions

2 lives saved\*

2 finds\*

\* Includes lives saved and finds credited  
with national team support

3 disaster relief missions

3 CAP, AFROTC and AFJROTC cadet  
orientation flight missions

1 other Air Force support mission

9 training missions

1 other state support mission

1 other mission in support of partner  
agencies and organizations or local  
municipalities

## Significant Events Supported in Fiscal Year 2020

Earthquake support; Hurricane Laura  
support

## COVID-19 Mission Support

Distributing test kits and PPE; transporting  
completed test kits; transporting personnel

## Cadet Flying

582 CAP, AFROTC and AFJROTC  
cadet orientation flights

## Total Hours Flown

459

## Financial

\$4,332 in state funding  
\$1,465,735 value of wing's volunteer  
hours

## National Commander

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## Region Commander

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## Wing Commander

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## Website

[www.prwg.cap.gov](http://www.prwg.cap.gov)

## DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ Dr. Cesareo Rosa Nieves Cadet Squadron is the only Puerto Rico Wing unit that has won both CAP's National Drill Team (in 2004, 2007 and 2011) and National Color Guard (2012) championships.
- ✓ Cadet Col. Ian J. Gonzalez of the Aguadilla Cadet Squadron was the first cadet in Puerto Rico Wing to achieve his private pilot certificate through CAP's Cadet Wings program.
- ✓ Puerto Rico's governor proclaimed Nov. 22, 2019, Civil Air Patrol Day.

