

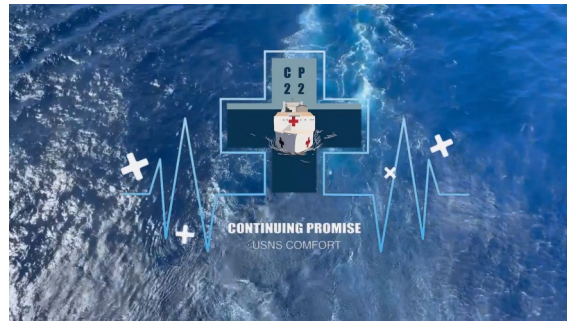
# Continuing Promise

**Mission** – The USNS COMFORT will deploy to the US SOUTHCOM AOR to provide hospital services, alleviate pressure on strategic Partner Nation medical systems, strengthen U.S. partnerships, and outcompete external actor's influence.

## The NAVSOUTH Approach:

- Build Our Team
- Strengthen Maritime Partnerships
- Enhance Maritime Posture
- Foster Innovation and Experimentation

- ◇ Presence
- ◇ SMEEs
- ◇ Exercises
- ◇ Engagements



Continuing Promise 2022 Intro Graphic

## **USNS Comfort to visit SOUTHCOM Region in support of Continuing Promise 2025**

Secretary Hegseth made the announcement during the Central America Security Conference, co-hosted by the United States and Panama, which took place in taking place in Panama City in early April.

USNS Comfort is scheduled to conduct a mission stop in Panama, along with mission stops in Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, and Ecuador. Commander, Destroyer Squadron 40, will serve as mission commander for Continuing Promise 2025.

"Continuing Promise 2025 reaffirms our commitment to strengthening relationships with our partner nations," said Rear Adm. Carlos Sardiello, Commander, USNAVSOUTH. "We are proud that the USNS Comfort will bring Sailors and civilians together to provide specialized care to those in need."

"Each mission stop is a unique opportunity to strengthen relationships and create a lasting impact within each partner nation," said Commander Julie Schaub, Health Security Cooperation Officer

for USNAVSOUTH. "We have had a great team of representatives from across the military and our partner nations during our detailed planning efforts, demonstrating the level of respect and importance we place on coordination in executing this mission successfully."

Since its inception in 2007, Continuing Promise has treated more than 605,000 patients and performed approximately 7,300 surgeries, leaving a lasting positive impact on partner nations.

## **Lines of Effort:**

LOE 1	<b>Medical Engagement</b> – Direct patient care and health security cooperation engagements. Support the delivery of partner-led medical care and subject matter expert exchanges, to include BMET and VET support.
LOE 2	<b>Humanitarian Assistance / Disaster Relief (HADR)</b> – Preparedness with partners for disaster response in the AOR.
LOE 3	<b>Women, Peace, and Security (WPS)</b> – Enabling women empowerment and integration of gender perspectives.
LOE 4	<b>Public Engagement</b> – Pierce the Information Space – amplify our story, shape perceptions (KLEs, PA, COMRELS, Band, SEABEEs, Surveys)

## **USNS Comfort**

**USNS Comfort** is a 1,000-bed Mercy-class hospital ship that provides afloat, mobile, acute surgical medical facilities and hospital services provided by U.S. military and partner agency personnel. This will be the Comfort's eighth iteration of Continuing Promise, more than half of the total Continuing Promise mission sets. Although CP is a fully planned mission, Comfort is capable of assembling and deploying for humanitarian aid and disaster relief missions whenever and wherever necessary!

## **CONTINUING THE PROMISE SINCE 2007**

Continuing Promise, executed by USNAVSOUTH/FOURTHFLT, is one of U.S. Southern Command's premier efforts to bring health care, humanitarian assistance and civic support to communities in Latin America and the Caribbean on behalf of the people of the United States.

Since its inception in 2007, mission teams have offered medical, dental and veterinary care to local communities throughout the region. Continuing Promise Teams have also provide small infrastructure and construction improvements, such as building schools, clinics and community centers, and repairing roads and water systems.

The mission also fosters goodwill, strengthens existing partnerships, and encourages the establishment of new partnerships among countries, non-government organizations, and international organizations.



## **U.S. NAVAL FORCES SOUTHERN COMMAND & U.S. 4<sup>TH</sup> FLEET**

USNAVSOUTH/FOURTHFLT supports USSOUTHCOM's joint and combined military operations by employing maritime forces in cooperative maritime security operations to maintain access, enhance interoperability, and build enduring partnerships in order to enhance regional security and promote peace, stability and prosperity in the Caribbean, Central and South American region.

It is our vision to be the trusted maritime partner for Caribbean, Central, and South American maritime forces, leading to improved unity, security, and stability.

Our mission is to enable and enhance control of the maritime domain and shape the environment, working with joint and naval partners in order to build a competitive advantage in the USSOUTHCOM Area of Responsibility and around the globe.

