

## Vanda Ortega Witoto's Testimony

"My name is Vanda Ortega and I am indigenous from the Witoto Tribe. I currently live in Manaus, in the Tribe Park community that is the first recognized indigenous neighborhood in Manaus. Here, in this territory of resistance, during the pandemic, we employed very important initiatives for facing COVID-19. We began by providing guidance to WhatsApp groups on wearing masks and social distancing. After that, our initiatives were going from house to house monitoring the relatives who showed symptoms.

In the second wave of COVID-19 in 2021, our community was impacted again, and it was necessary to go to the social networks to ask for support from society to build a space where people could care for our relatives. We set up a health-care unit for the indigenous people in Manaus and it was possible to place them in networks and supply oxygen to care for our relatives.

Here, in the year 2020, we had a victim, our chief, Chief Messias. We also lost a relative in our community in 2021. During the entire pandemic, we only suffered two deaths. If we had not been here, if my work had not been performed for the community, the tragedy in our community would have been much greater."

*This testimony is part of the "Coronacene Exhibit – Reflections in Times of Pandemic" exhibit held by the Museum of Tomorrow.*



Museu do **Amanhã**

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