Queridos amigos y amigas,

Historical Victory Against Metallic Mining
You have a lot to be proud of — We thank you for being part of the decade long advocacy and struggle that ended in an unprecedented historical victory. As of March 2017, El Salvador is the first country in the world to ban metallic mining.

We remember how communities in Chalatenango organized to be vigilant of the engineers and remove the markings used to map out mining zones. It took seven years to rule in favor of El Salvador in its arbitration dispute with OceanaGold, where the Canadian-Australian gold and copper mining company had been seeking $US250 million in compensation for loss in potential profits.

Women in Leadership
For decades—with your support—SHARE has promoted the leadership of women. By sponsoring motivational and character-building seminars, we have improved women’s skill sets and their confidence to take on positions as Executive Directors, Program Directors, City Council Members, Mayors, and Congress Members.

Many women that have received scholarships through SHARE are now Principals of schools, Program Directors at Ciudad Mujer, City Council Members in Tecoluca, Suchitoto and Colon — to mention just a few. We want to continue this systemic approach in giving women the ability to choose a better life for themselves and for their families.

We will have a number of women on tour in the U.S. this fall and hope you can meet them and support them. Another fantastic way to get involved this upcoming year is to join us March 1st-6th, 2018 for the Election Observer Mission.

Human Rights: The Cases of Saint Romero and El Mozote
With the removal of the Amnesty Law, our friends of Tutela Legal: Dra. Maria Julia Hernandez have reopened the case of the assassination of Saint Romero. Before the judge begins investigating, they are requesting the U.S. to pressure the Attorney General to support the case.

We are asking for your support in accompanying this case to ensure that it is resolved. If we cannot resolve the case of Saint Romero, it will be nearly impossible to resolve any other case in relation to human rights violations.

We thank you for your support to the people of El Salvador. We thank you for your faithful support for over ten years to pass legislation against mining, supporting women to become leaders and supporting human rights in getting the truth, justice and reparations.

DACA and TPS Threat of Suspension
President Trump is threatening to suspend the protection of 800,000 youth under DACA and 300,000 Central Americans and Haitians under Temporary Protective Status (TPS.) Deportation of over one million people will divide families and create a major humanitarian crisis in our countries. We invite you to join national and local efforts to stop this deportation.

We thank you for your support to the people of El Salvador. We invite your generous donation to continue in struggle resisting and advancing La Lucha.

Un abrazo y bendiciones,

Jose Artiga, Executive Director
Locke Schultz Jaeger, Board President
Isabel Hernández, El Salvador Office Director
Women’s Empowerment

SHARE’s strategic plan of systemic change has used our projects as a catalyst for empowering women.

Las Melidas:
“Strengthening Political and Civic Participation of Women”
Objective: Contribute to the empowerment and autonomy of women, supporting processes of citizen participation in the defense and exercise of their rights.

Results:
♦ Promoted the processes of empowerment of women in public positions, through formative processes in Political leadership.
♦ Developed the 5th National Congress of Rural Women.

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Objective: Contribute to the empowerment and autonomy of women, supporting processes of citizen participation in the defense and exercise of their rights.

Results:
♦ Promoted the processes of empowerment of women in public positions, through formative processes in Political leadership.
♦ Developed the 5th National Congress of Rural Women.

CRIPDES’ Scholarships 2016 Highlights

High school scholarships awarded to 15 youth from 9 communities
Leadership workshops and economic, social and political education
Bimonthly youth assemblies to encourage academic performance

San Vicente
High school scholarships awarded to 10 youth
4 leadership workshops on social issues
Annual motivational gathering for confidence building in youth

UCRES
High school scholarships awarded to 20 youth
Training workshops for youth to facilitate literacy circles
Monthly leadership workshops
Fulfilled 9 community plans, created by scholarship students
Annual motivational gathering for confidence building in youth

SUR
High school scholarships awarded to 5 youth
Leadership workshops and economic, social and political education
Bimonthly youth assemblies to encourage academic performance
In the spring of 2017, a strong-willed delegation formed on the premise of women’s empowerment. 50 members strong, women and men:

- Attended President Salvador Sanchez Ceren’s State of The Nation Address
- Learned about successful government projects like Ciudad Mujer
- Met with women leaders of the administration and the candidates to be elected on March 4th, 2018 as Mayors and Congress
- Hosted the Latin American Women Congress with over 200 women

This Delegation brought citizens from all over The Americas together to celebrate diversity and persevere beyond adversity.

The Amnesty Law that has kept many human rights’ cases from being carried out was overturned in July 2016. Tutela Legal; Dra. MJH advanced several cases this year to seek justice for crimes committed during the civil war. TL continued to meet with members of the Massacre of Sumpul River Victim’s Committee to continue documenting their cases and TL recorded 6 victim testimonies in the community of San Jose las Flores in the Department of Chalatenango in March and April of 2016. Regarding the El Mozote Massacre, TL has presented the “documentation to reopen the case and the judge has called the high command of the military during the 1980s to read the charges. This is a difficult case and TL is doing their best to bring justice to the victims.

Major Delegations Spotlight: Women Leaders Across Borders

In September 2016, after 35 years of relentless struggle, human rights defenders in El Salvador seized a new hope for truth and justice with the reopening of the El Mozote case; one of the largest massacres of the continent.

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Along with CONFRAS, SHARE has partnered with The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation to continue in reaching an overall goal of 100,000 fruit trees planted in public spaces to increase food sovereignty across the nation. At the conclusion of the 2017 Fruit Tree Planting Delegation, 30,000 trees were cultivated and planted.

The Grass(roots) is Always Greener: The Northwest School

In the spring of 2017, The Northwest School renewed its grassroots partnership with SHARE by sending 15 students on a delegation, where they were able to participate in a march for women’s rights, visited Huisisilapa for their homestay, and made an incredible video summarizing their time in El Salvador (see below).

Interested in becoming a Grassroots Partner or know a group that might be? Contact our Grassroots Program Coordinator, Claudia Martinez, at grassroots@share-elsalvador.org
Thank you to our generous donors!

**Foundations, Religious Orders, and Other Entities**

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Benet Hill Monastery  
Black Rock Matching Gift Program  
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Calvert Foundation Giving Fund  
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Dominican Sisters of San Rafael  
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Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration  
Fruit Tree Planting Foundation  
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Global Hunger Foundation  
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Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis  
Society of Holy Child Jesus  
St. Catherine’s Convent- Siena Center  
St. Louis Community  
The Sinsinawa Dominicans  
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St. Sabina Church  
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Tides Foundation  
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Unitehere!  
United Methodist Church  
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Week of Compassion  
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Wilmington University Institute For Continued Learning  
The Worker Institute, Cornell University  

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Good Shepherd Parish, WI  
Greater Milwaukee Synod  
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St. John Fisher Chapel  
St. John Francis Regis  
St. Patrick’s Church  
St. Sebastian Church  
St. Thomas More Newman Center  
University Lutheran Chapel  

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Alicia Mendoza receives a lifetime achievement award for her solidarity with El Salvador at the Latin American Women Congress
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<th>Category</th>
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<td>Individuals</td>
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<td>Foundations and Religious</td>
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