

June 25, 2020

Queridas hermanas, os

We pray you are doing well and are healthy and in great spirits.

We want to share with you the Roses in December 40th Anniversary Celebration Meeting Notes, June 15, 2020

Meeting of the SHARE/LCWR Committee working on the Roses in December 40 Anniversary celebration

We met today to bring us up to date on the situation in Honduras and El Salvador. Both countries have been under a heavy stay home government policy. At times the governments have taken advantage of Covid 19 to repress its citizens. In Honduras, over 11,000 have been arrested for violating stay at home orders; and there has been an increased crackdown on the media. So far, the number of deaths is relatively low perhaps due to not counting all the cases. Efforts continue on behalf of the Guapinol prisoners in Honduras to get them out of the prison system due to high risk of being exposed to COVID 19.

El Salvador suffered the recent Tropical Storms Amanda and Cristobal that killed 30 people and left some 30,000 victims from the destruction.

In both countries, hunger is a major issue. With your support, SHARE has delivered emergency aid through Paso a Paso, Sisters of Mercy and Notre Dame, Foro de Mujeres por la Vida, The Committee in Defense of the Common Good of Tocoa and Radio Progreso in Honduras and CRIPDES and PROVIDA in El Salvador.

Lyn Kirkconnell, Jean Stokan, and Ann Scholtz have been working on a beautiful resource kit to help organize the local events for the 40th anniversary. Sisters, and others, and choose a portion of the packet to use for their events—to be scheduled before, on December 2, or after in early 2021. We encourage each of you to consider organizing a local event. Ideally we would have 40—for the 40 years.

We had a long conversation studying the different options for the trip to El Salvador and Honduras. Here is what we are recommending:

- 1. Postpone the delegation from this December to December 2021. There are so many unknowns about the Covid developments and we want to guarantee the health of our delegates and those we would be visiting.*
- 2. There will be a delegation to Honduras for March 2021 for the 5th anniversary of the martyrdom and life of Berta Caceres, and all would be invited.*
- 3. We will explore organizing a webinar in November 2020, perhaps in conjunction with the start of Advent on November 29 th , to gather the voices of women from*

Honduras and El Salvador and the US to celebrate the lives of Ita, Maura, Dorothy and Jean. We wish to place the celebration in the context of the current issues including immigration and Black Lives Matter.

4. We will continue with the plan to bring 4 women leaders from El Salvador and Honduras on a speaking tour in late April early May 2021 to visit 7 to 10 cities.

5. A subcommittee is working with our friends in Honduras and El Salvador (Radio Progreso, CRIPDES) to organize a “seeds of hope” Campaign to address hunger due to Covid 19 and the Tropical Storms.

6. Another subcommittee was formed to help with a media packet/strategy. This might include working on national media, but possibly a sample news release for local event organizers.

Please contact Jose Jose@share-elsalvador.org or Ann ascholz@lcwr.org with any questions or ideas

Bendiciones and stay well,

*Jose Artiga
Executive Director*