



# CISPES Material Aid Projects

## Supporting Resistance and Alternatives to Corporate Globalization

The Salvadoran social movement and FMLN are leading the struggle to build an alternative to “free” trade and US domination, despite the increasing repression of organizers. CISPES is proud to be supporting the important work of our partners in El Salvador building a strong, national movement that is putting forward an alternative kind of development and people-centered power in El Salvador. Please join us in working toward our commitment to raise \$13,000 in support of women-led, worker-led, and community-based organizing.



### \$5,000 to FMLN Women’s Secretariat

Women constitute the majority of the population in El Salvador and live with the problems of marginalization, violence and socioeconomic exclusion. For this reason, it is of primary importance for the FMLN Women’s Secretariat to support and strengthen spaces, methods, policies and strategies that foment the leadership of women in the solving of their own problems. The main goals for the Women’s Secretariat are to promote the participation of women in defending their right and access to vote and to continue empowering women to assert their rights in the broader society. This work will be formulated in a series of leadership

trainings and local assemblies that will serve to build a class and gender consciousness based on analysis of women’s own experiences. These trainings will cover subjects like the state’s structural violence against women, political and ideological formation, alternative and popular communication, etc.

### \$4,000 to Union workers of ANDA (SETA)

The water worker’s union (SETA) is at the forefront of the fight against water privatization, which will determine whether water is regarded as a public, human right for Salvadorans or as a source of profit for corporations. SETA members plan to continue their organizing and mobilizing efforts to form a united bloc against water privatization. The current Salvadoran government is making normative and institutional changes in its administration of water that will affect the majority of Salvadorans who are poor and will not be able to afford water service provided by private companies. SETA’s struggle against the privatization of water involves Public Forums on the Defense of Water as well as the creation of permanent local committees in defense of water. The committees count on the participation of local authorities such as municipal governments, community organizations, and water boards. Their main goal is to permanently mobilize and denounce the steps taken to privatize the water of Salvadorans.



### \$3,000 to Municipal Youth Center of Mejicanos



The government of the city of Mejicanos has prioritized creating positive recreational spaces for youth in order to prevent and minimize the levels of violence in Salvadoran society. The majority of the youth in Mejicanos are under great risk given the context of poverty which generates frustration, violence and insecurity, aggravated by the anti-crime policies imposed by the central government that are repressive and mainly result in incarceration and further exclusion of youth. High levels of crime are intimately related to the lack of recreational and cultural spaces especially for youth. Therefore, as a concrete step towards benefiting the youth of Mejicanos, the municipal government built a Youth

Center. For 2008, Mejicanos has planned to strengthen this space by creating a cultural program for children and youth in the arts, sports, language and computers. The municipal council has prioritized the strengthening of the Youth Center by supplying it with the basic equipment to offer the planned artistic and sports activities for youth. In addition, providing technical training for youth is also important as it may result in better opportunities for youth and their families.



### \$1,000 to Strategic Organizing Fund

The Strategic Organizing Fund serves the important role of allowing CISPES to respond to the immediate needs that arise for the Salvadoran social movement. In the past this fund has been used to finance emergency mobilizations, strikes, protests, picket lines and other mobilizations that are not included in the rest of CISPES’s docket. With the increase in state repression, attacks on the FMLN, social movement leaders and activists, and the recently passed “Anti-terrorist Law”, government authoritarianism and human rights violations are expected to rise. This emergency fund will support mobilizations and resistance to these attacks. This fund will prioritize projects that are women-led or have an element of gender consciousness, and in cases where organizations are proposing actions that might not get funded by more mainstream sources.