



Madison Arcatao Sister City Project

Summer 2017

Dear Friends of MASCP,

MASCP and its parent organization, US El Salvador Sister Cities started 31 years ago during the Salvadoran civil war. MASCP and USESSC came to life then to protest the US government's support of vicious repression in El Salvador and to be in solidarity with the people in our 17 sister cities—Arcatao being one of them.

Today, solidarity continues to go both ways. In March of this year, El Salvador became the first country in the world to ban gold and metal mining, declaring it too destructive to their fragile environment and critical water resources. In so doing, they became worldwide environmental and organizational super stars. Meanwhile, MASCP continues to support community and regional organization in our sister city and to encourage them in their many visionary projects. As Bernardo Osorio, the president of CRIPDES, said, *"We all need to celebrate...these victories are your victories also...greetings to all the compas of Madison...I love and respect you."*



El Salvador: First country in the world to ban mining.

To continue this journey of mutual solidarity into our fourth decade, we are encouraging you to do two things:

1- JOIN US for a Celebratory Reception on October 2, 6:00-7:30 PM, at the Downtown Library. Two delegates to the 2017 USESSC National Gathering in Chicago, Zulma Tobar and Cintia Gonzalez, will be in Madison to greet the community and celebrate the recent national prohibition of metallic mining in El Salvador. Refreshments, music, socializing, and an inspiring story of resistance and organizing!

2- Please fill out the enclosed yellow form and send it in! This is our last hard copy newsletter, so **we need your email address!** From now on, all MASCP news will come by email. We hope that you will also donate to MASCP at the same time. As well as supporting on-going organizing, your donation will help build a long awaited respite and hospice home for the elderly in Arcatao. If you would rather, you can sign up for our digital newsletter and securely donate through our new website, www.mascp.org.



Arcatao plans and begins work on a Home for the Elderly.

Please join with our sisters and brothers in Arcatao on this **ROAD** together:

Resist, Organize, Act and Donate

La lucha sigue. Thank you.



Save the Dates

October 2, 2017

El Salvador Metallic Mining Prohibition Celebration: Refreshments, music and a truly inspiring story from two visiting Salvadorans, Zulma Tobar and Cintia Gonzalez. Downtown Library, 6-7:30 PM.

Brown bag Lunch presentation – LACIS on UW campus, Noon. Check the LACIS website for more information.

October 3, 2017

Community Organizing Workshop — Cintia and Zulma will lead this interactive workshop on the powerful role of community organizing in national movements. Village Co-Housing, dinner from 5-6 PM and workshop 6-9 PM. No charge. Register at www.mascp.org for upcoming events. Encourage a local community organizer to attend!

December 2, 2017

International Fair Trade Festival – Monona Terrace, 9 AM-4 PM.

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Sister City Project**

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