



AN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND REFUGEE AID ORGANIZATION

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A Concern America Training for Transformation Experience in San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico

Something to consider:

We at Concern America are exploring a new opportunity that would have a two-fold purpose:

- 1) Experiential learning on Global Justice Values in the surroundings of Chiapas, Mexico
- 2) Raising funds for the support of the mission of Concern America

Here's the idea:

The Education Team of Concern America (C/A) will host a five-day learning trip designed for the stimulation of one's mind, heart, and soul in Chiapas, Mexico, in June of 2009. This experience is being designed for participants from 16 years of age through adult (high school students must be accompanied by one or both parents). C/A Staff Members Catharine Quinn and John Straw will lead the experience.

The experience will include:

- ~ Local Art/Artesania
- ~ Music
- ~ Visits to indigenous Mayan communities where C/A works in education, health, and potable water
- ~ Educational experiences in the C/A "Training for Transformation" model, in the rich cultural environment of San Cristobal.

The goal of C/A's "Training for Transformation" program is to assist in the formation of community leaders from all segments of society with the values/principles of Global Justice. "Training for Transformation" is a model of formational education influenced by the Brazilian Educator Paolo Freire and based on the vision of a new, more just society.

The experience will also include the joy of knowing that in addition to your personal education, the material needs of impoverished communities with which C/A works will also be attended to by means of the funds raised through your participation.

Here is the plan:

It is estimated that airfare, room, breakfast and some dinners will cost \$1500.

We are asking that those who participate each raise an additional \$1500 (or more, if possible!) in support of C/A's mission. (For those of us who already have a lot of "stuff" in our lives, we could even ask family/friends to make a donation to C/A in lieu of Christmas gifts to help raise the \$1500 or more for C/A's mission.) C/A can assist with materials.

**For more information, Contact: Catharine Quinn, cquinn_concern@earthlink.net, or
John Straw, jstraw_concern@earthlink.net**

