

CANCÚN SHELTER REOPENS AFTER HURRICANE WILMA AND NEEDS SUPPORT!

November 1, 2005

Dear Friends:

Eight days after the story of terror from Wilma began, calm is gradually returning to Cancún. Although there is looting and great property damage, groups of people are rising up ready to help and to begin to reconstruct our beloved city.

The Centro Integral de Atención a las Mujeres, CIAM CANCÚN, A.C., reopened its doors yesterday, Tuesday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (for the curfew). We don't have lights, but do have a telephone that began to ring early with requests for help. We have armed ourselves as the storage centers do, because we are in a strategic zone of the poorest districts, and have implemented the program "Rebuilding Hope" that consists of group crisis interventions for people who lost everything, for those who help others, and for those who work in organizations of the civil society, to strengthen the spirit and move forward. Join us in this from October 31, friends specializing in crisis intervention from Mexico and from the United States! We are providing services to people who cannot pay for them, but we must provide them with accommodations and food, and this is going to cost us. We are already receiving support in the cost from a little hotel.

As far as the shelter is concerned, all our users with their sons and daughters are doing fine, as well as their companions who were with them during the hurricane.

The team of CIAM CANCÚN will not be defeated, not by violence, nor by impunity, nor by natural phenomena, thus we will move forward with "Operation Phoenix: Rising from the Ashes."

We have at the moment some urgent needs for continuing to give support to the women. It is urgent for us to reconstruct the security system of the shelter, including the closed-circuit system and some doors. We lost our water. We need \$360,000 pesos (\$36,000 US dollars) to fully repair the damage, including repairing our security system, indispensable in our work.

If you want to help us or know someone who wants to support us, you can deposit any amount from 100 pesos up into the following account: Banco HSBC 04023382039 Sucursal 0378 CANCÚN CENTRO. In the name of: Centro Integral de Atención a las Mujeres, CIAM CANCÚN, A.C. We have tax-deductible receipts; if you deposit a donation, please let us know how much it was so that we can send you a receipt.

If you would like to know more about us, visit the web page www.ciamcancun.org or email us at ciamcancun@prodigy.net.mx

A thousand thanks, affectionate greetings,
Lydia Cacho Ribeiro, Directora CIAM CANCÚN A.C.
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