

# The Association of Mam Christian Women for Development

Empowering women and communities in Guatemala



Women participate in a workshop called *Resilience in the Face of Crisis*, which addresses preparing for natural disasters, coping with domestic and sexual abuse, and learning about women's rights under Guatemalan law.

# Offering a hand-up, not a hand-out

**Empowered women build strong families and communities.** For nearly two decades, the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development has been serving women of the Mam indigenous group in the Western Highlands of Guatemala. These women are among the most vulnerable and marginalized in Guatemalan society.

**Why? Because they are indigenous, poor, and female.**

**The Association's mission is to elevate these women through educational, agricultural, and business-related projects** so that they can, in turn, support the growth of their families and communities. Spirit-filled and fully engaged in their development, these women set their own priorities, hold leadership positions, and elect a Board of Directors in their 500-member Association. Rosario Diaz, a mid-wife and social worker, serves as their coordinator.

Development isn't just a name, it's a guiding principle that drives the group's daily work and vision for the future.

Through its holistic approach, the Association helps women develop in four major areas:

## Health

Clean water, improved sanitation, family gardens, health screenings, clinics

## Education

Schools, scholarships, leadership development

## Spiritual Ties

Prayer partnerships, Bible studies, emotional health training

## Income-Earning Power

Interest-free microloans to launch sustainable businesses

Each program is important, but alone, insufficient. **Together, these programs lead to true and invaluable development—the powerful realization of each woman's God-given gifts and potential.**

All projects are self-directed, self-sustaining, and designed to offer a hand-up, not a hand-out.

The Association is supported by many dedicated churches, organizations, and individuals in the United States, Canada, and Guatemala.

**Learn more about the Association and how you can become involved:**

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Tax-deductible contributions can be made via Westminster Presbyterian Church  
1502 West 13th Street, Wilmington, DE 19806 • (302) 654-5214 • [www.wpc.org](http://www.wpc.org)



Women receive interest-free microloans enabling them to launch sustainable businesses, often involving livestock.



This VIP Latrine reduces the spread of disease and provides increased security for women and girls.