

## 2023 Goals

The home water filtration project will be expanded into two new communities: San Sebastián Coatán and San Juan Ixcóy.

There will be a regular schedule for our United in Prayer events with Huehuetenango. The Huehuetenango team will also participate in our Lenten program this year.

We will hold a retreat for those interested in learning more about the work of Ixim who might not be able to travel on the mission trip. The retreat is scheduled for April 28-30 at the Creighton Retreat Center in Griswold, IA.

We will hold our eighteenth mission trip to Huehuetenango. The trip will be from June 15- June 25, 2023. One goal for this trip is to increase participation from Hispanic communities and rural communities in the Archdiocese of Omaha.

Ixim will join the archdiocesan mission co-op program in 2023.

## Twenty Years of Solidarity

From January 2-10, 2003, Fr. Damian Zuerlein, Sergio Sosa, Craig McVea and David Bacon met with Bishop Bobadilla, diocesan clergy, diocesan officials, and parish lay leaders to discuss the idea of a relationship between the Archdiocese of Omaha and the Diocese of Huehuetenango. This visit was the beginning of a year of work that led to Ixim's first core mission trip in January of 2004.

In 2023, we will recognize and celebrate the time, talent, and treasure put into Ixim by those in the United States and Guatemala over the past 20 years. If you have a story you'd like to make part of this celebration, please take the time to send it to Charlie at the email or the address below. We'd like to compile these memories into a remembrance of the past twenty years of solidarity between our two communities.

Thank you for twenty years of a spirit of solidarity with our neighbors in Huehuetenango and Omaha. We look forward to deepening our unique relationship for another twenty years.



Ixim: Spirit of Solidarity is an archdiocesan ministry cultivating relationships of friendship, faith, and solidarity between the Archdiocese of Omaha and the Diocese of Huehuetenango, Guatemala.

Visit us at [ixim.org](http://ixim.org).

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## SIGNS OF HOPE

# Ixim: Spirit of Solidarity 2022 Annual Report

# Huehuetenango Programs

## Return to Mission

For the first time since the pandemic began, Iximeros returned to Huehuetenango for our core mission trip. Fifteen people representing 11 different parishes travelled to our host community of San Sebastián Coatán on Ixim's seventeenth mission trip.

Fr. Jairo Congote from Divine Mercy Parish in Schuyler, Nebraska accompanied us. His parish has a large population originally from Huehuetenango.

The highlight of our trip was celebrating the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ in the small Christian communities in the villages around Coatán. As our archdiocese is on its Journey of Fatih, we were reminded of the many ways we can be Church.

## Water Projects

Our home water filtration systems are now present in nearly 7,000 homes. We estimate that this ministry provides clean water to well over 35,000 people now.

Monitoring and maintenance of these systems is performed by trained volunteers in each of the communities. Replacement parts are sold by the Disciples of the Good Shepherd.

In 2022, supply chain issues hindered the expansion of the home filtration project into two other communities. We hope to complete this expansion in 2023.

Parishes across the diocese continue to operate and maintain five water plants built by Ixim. These plants purify and distribute over 400,000 gallons of water per year.

## Disciples of the Good Shepherd

Four women took their perpetual vows during their consecration ceremonies this fall:

Deici Lopez Lopez  
Ana Nohemi Rodriguez  
Abelina Lopez Lopez  
Gregoria Rosenda Vicente Velasquez.

There are now 22 consecrated sisters and 16 women in formation.

The Disciples opened up two new ministry sites—one in San Pedro Soloma and another at the St. Joseph project site in Huehuetenango. This means they have seven active communities across the diocese.

## Living Stones

Our Living Stones campaign raised \$25,000 to help build a community house and workspace for a new Disciples ministry at the St. Joseph Project in the city of Huehuetenango.

The St. Joseph Project is a pastoral training and retreat center for laity as well as a meeting space for clergy and laity from all the Diocese of Huehuetenango. The Disciples will be administrators for the site and also provide pastoral training for those attending classes and staying at the campus.

Three sisters are assigned to work at the St. Joseph Project and now living on the campus thanks to your generosity over the past twelve months.

# Omaha Programs

## Huehuetenango in Omaha

Cardinal Ramazzini, Bishop of Huehuetenango, visited Omaha for the National Mayan Pastoral conference hosted by the Santa Eulalia faith community at St. Francis of Assisi Parish. The cardinal met with Archbishop Lucas during his trip while speaking and celebrating mass for the conference.

This Thanksgiving also saw a return to our annual Intercultural Thanksgiving Dinner with the local Mayan community.

## Cup of Solidarity

Iximero Dan Hamik has led the effort to expand our coffee program, supported by Iximero John Larsen of Pear's Gourmet (Marathon Ventures), into parishes across the archdiocese. Our coffee sales grew from \$1,134 in FY2021 to \$18,918 in FY2022! Thanks to a great deal with Marathon Ventures, half of all our coffee sales go to support Ixim's mission. We are very grateful for Dan's work and John's generosity. We look forward to growing even more in FY2023.

## Ixim: Spirit of Solidarity Fiscal Year 2022

Income	
One-Time Contributions	\$84,358
Pledges	\$40,587
Operations Grants	\$22,500
Coffee Sales	\$18,918
Mission Trip Payments	\$13,763
Interest and Dividends	\$6
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$180,131</b>

Expenses	
Disciples of the Good Shepherd	\$52,078
Social Pastoral and Health Projects	\$13,164
Omaha Community Projects and Events	\$11,353
Mission Trip Expenses	\$20,522
Education Projects	\$6,250
Program Support	\$65,538
Fundraising Costs (Coffee)	\$9,800
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$178,704</b>

Net Income	
Income minus expenses	\$1,427

