

Partners for Women's Equality has partnered with Asociacion Pop No'j in Guatemala to develop training for Community Advocates in Mayan communities, helping to end the cycle of violence against women.

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## Community Advocates in Guatemala are relying on your support...

### A Violent Legacy of Colonization

Mayan communities within Guatemala are deeply and detrimentally impacted by violence against women. The continuing cycle dates back to systematic rape and abuse of women when the indigenous people of the region were colonized and continued through the civil war (1960 - 1996) when rape of Mayan women was a strategy of war. This problem exists in the context of a society (civil, governmental, and military) that has normalized, is tolerant of and even complicit in the violence.

Traditionally, Mayan culture revered, protected, and valued women. Currently, a significant portion of the population of women and children are traumatized by abuse and violence. If this trend is not reversed, children will continue to grow up traumatized and will normalize and repeat the patterns of violence.

### Creating Community Advocates to Break the Cycle of Violence

[Partners for Women's Equality](#) Wisdom Exchange program has partnered with [Asociacion Pop No'j](#) to develop training to create a corps of "community advocates" to work toward the elimination of violence against Mayan women and children. These advocates will assist both the women experiencing violence in their homes and communities AND organize those women to bring change to their communities. Changes in the communities will help in eliminating violence and better responding to violence when it does occur.

Programs like the Wisdom Exchange are made possible by generous donors like you. [Please consider a donation to our Annual Campaign.](#)



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August 13th  
Workshop**

**"Exploring            Mayan  
Worldview, Culture and  
Values through the Mayan  
Calendar"**

**2012 Wisdom  
Exchange in  
Brazil is Now  
Enrolling!**

***"Holistic            Healing  
Approach to Life" with  
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