

# THE CRAFT PROGRAM OF CONCERN AMERICA

## "GROW A GLOBAL HEART"



For years and years, Concern America has promoted products from cooperative groups in countries where the organization has worked. These products have been marketed using the values of "Fair Trade." Fair Trade means that trading partnerships are based on reciprocal benefits and mutual respect; that prices paid to producers reflect the work they do; that national health, safety, and wage laws are enforced; and that products are environmentally sustainable and conserve natural resources.

One of the best ways of assisting people to struggle against material poverty is to support them in developing their skills and talents so that they can participate in gainful employment or organized income-generating projects in their own communities. Purchasing fairly traded handcrafted items from community-based producers in "developing" countries affirms this process.

C/A continues to operate a craft program for the following reasons:

- (1) to assist women who live in material poverty find a reliable source of income, since they are often single heads of households and can usually work from the home while taking care of their children;
- (2) to provide education and training for cooperative members engaged in this activity; and (3) to encourage the preservation of

traditional art forms within various cultures. Every year C/A supports cooperatives in Bangladesh, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico by purchasing their beautiful, handcrafted art pieces at fair trade prices, set by those who make them. C/A then makes these items available through "craft sales" hosted in homes, churches, businesses, schools, and civic events. Funds generated by these sales are used to support the C/A field projects in these same countries.

### CONCERN AMERICA WILL HOST A CRAFT SALE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATION:

#### ST. BERNADINE OF SIENA CHURCH

24410 Calvert Street  
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

**DATES:** December 12th and 13th

**TIMES:** Sat., Dec. 12th at 5 p.m. Mass  
Sun., Dec. 13th at 7, 8:30,  
10 a.m. & 12 p.m. Masses



AN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
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