

November 12, 2022

Dear Friends and Relatives,

2022 has been a year of amazing, unprecedented growth for **Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim** and equally impactful service to local, national, and global Maya peoples. While *over 10 to 15 million Maya people* are living in Maya Territories: Guatemala, southern Mexico, Belize, El Salvador, and western Honduras — and millions displaced elsewhere, including the United States — we are still invisible to many.

Yet, we are still here.

Maya people are *alive and thriving!* Our ancient and living Maya wisdom is still held by our people and contributes to our resilience and the survival of our shared planet and humanity. Maya knowledge and Maya sciences are critical to addressing the most pressing issues facing Mother Earth today: Environmental Justice, Food and Housing Security, Climate Change, and Human Rights.

Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim exists to serve Maya people through traditional Indigenous collective consultation models that address the needs and issues of our collective members. Our Maya approaches are informed by the science and spirit of the Maya cosmovision and promote healthy life-ways and cultural preservation. Additionally, our collective and consensual models provide Maya peoples with opportunities for civic engagement and to serve as leaders at all levels. Maya leadership and the development of Maya leadership in our youth strengthens our ability to navigate the systems of power and opportunity in the non-Indigenous world.

Every day, our organization helps Maya people access their basic human rights through our own legal services providers, social workers, health care providers, educational programming, cultural and artistic projects, and a place to practice our regenerative agricultural sciences, social organization, cultural events, and ceremonies. We believe in these approaches and systems and seek to share our knowledge with the world for the benefit of all humanity and all relatives in our global community.

We are so grateful to the friends and relatives who have believed in us and supported us. We could not have realized the meaningful programming and successes without your support. As we work to "right"



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relationships and develop harmony in our relationships, we hope that you will continue to be in relationship with us and share in the fruits of our future harvests. With the hope that **you** will want to continue investing in our mission with a <u>charitable financial donation today</u>, we share some highlights of what we have been working on this year:



CMPI is the **only organization in the United States** providing
Indigenous culturally
appropriate resources to
families healing from the
trauma of separation.

Maya & Indigenous Peoples Human Rights Program (MIHRP): CMPI Co-Executive Director Carolina Martin Ramos, Esq. and the CMPI MIHRP team continue to work with Maya migrants fleeing dispossession, forced displacement, gender violence, genocide, and other persecution and torture in Maya Territory. CMPI Maya and Indigenous legal advocates and social workers support Maya and Indigenous peoples forced to seek humanitarian protections in the U.S. including, the families separated at the border; who were about 95% Maya. CMPI continues to participate in the Biden-Harris Family Reunification Task Force and is an active subgrantee of a federal grant supporting the legal reunification efforts, as well as socio-emotional needs of families suffering trauma after being separated at the border. Additionally, the CMPI continues work to promote civic engagement in Nebraska and advance human rights in Maya Territories. In Maya Territory, CMPI Maya women leaders continue to lead struggles as water protectors and land defenders at great risk to themselves and their families. We continue to need funding to support these fearless Maya women leaders.



Regenerative agricultural models are critical to saving our planet.

Maya Regeneration Project: In addition to launching the Land Acquisition and Startup phase of the Maya Regeneration Project (MRP) campaign, members of the Maya community are planting and harvesting sacred seeds in four locations: (1) our Maya Community Garden at the Maya Community Center, (2) the Sacred Seed Pop-Up community green space in Downtown Omaha, and (3) 1/4 acre of farming near Lyons, Nebraska in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy, Green Cover, and the Latino Center of the Midlands, and (4) supporting urban agriculture efforts at No More Empty Pots. Maya regenerative agricultural models are critical to saving our planet and protecting a future for all of us by co-stewarding all forms of life.



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We are striving to promote health and prevent illness for Maya people.

Maya Health Initiative: Building upon many years of work with Creighton University, CMPI has secured significant ARPA funding to launch a targeted effort to serve survivors of domestic abuse in the Maya Community. This effort is informed by the Gathering of Native Americans (GONA) Model, an almost four-decade-old evidence-based framework designed to assist communities to heal from the lasting impacts of colonization. This funding has also allowed Q'anjob'al Political and Spiritual leader, Chicay Lola Marina Juan to relocate from Pennsylvania and join the CMPI team and Q'anjob'al community in Omaha, Nebraska. Chicay Lola's leadership brings great strength to this project and other organizational priorities.



The mission of this program is to heal historical trauma and revive Maya culture through the arts.

Maya Arts and Culture: In addition to ongoing traditional dance classes at the Maya Community Center and performances at local and statewide festivals, the CMPI-led South Omaha Mural Project has attracted the attention of Smithsonian Institute's Center of Restorative History. We are in the early stages of a partnership with them to capture and promote stories of the Q'anjob'al Maya experience in Omaha, Nebraska. Additionally, we continue community education and implementation of the Maya Calendar and its associated cultural celebrations and ceremonies. Looking forward, we are working on securing funding to provide English language classes to Maya peoples that support citizenship campaigns and civic engagement.



2022 Indigenous Peoples Summit

New Programming: On August 9 (International Day of the World's Indigenous People), CMPI convened an unforgettable, dynamic three-day Indigenous People's Summit featuring the world's preeminent voices in Native Nation Sovereignty, Environmental Justice, Food Sovereignty, and Indigenous/Non-Indigenous Strategic Partnerships. It was attended by over 200 people from across the country and a Belizean delegation of Maya and Garifuna leaders and experts in Maya Agriculture and Agroforestry Systems that regenerate water, soil and human health.



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Friends and relatives, as we continue this necessary and urgent work of reinforcing our roots and living our Maya heritage as mandated by Maya collective leadership in our Ancestral Maya Territory, in Omaha, Nebraska, and the United States, we ask for your support. Please support our work and mission through a financial donation today. Would you consider a gift of \$1,000; \$500; \$250; \$150; or an amount that is meaningful to you? You may give online to ensure that your gift is received by <u>December 31, 2022</u> or mail a check to 4913 S 25th St Ste 1 Omaha, NE 68107. Your donation today is immeasurably valuable and profoundly appreciated.

YUJ WAL TIOX, WADO, THANK YOU!!!

Carolina Martin Ramos

Carolina Martin Ramos

Co-Executive Director

Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim

Luis Marcos

Co-Executive Director

Luis Marca

Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim

P.S. What does "Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim" mean? Pixan = Spirit and Ixim = Corn "Spirit of Corn" The four words may be translated from Q'anjob'al Maya language to mean The Maya Community: Spirit of the Corn." As we are people of the corn then this can also be understood to mean "Spirit of the People."

GIVE NOW