FUTURE USE

Future expansion of the centre would focus on more classrooms and accommodation in the women’s shelter. Additional space would be allocated to therapy and meeting rooms for special needs children and adults as well as a daycare for the small children of personnel.

VOLUNTEER QUARTERS

International and Mexican volunteers in Tlamanacapala are provided with their own space and support. Their accommodation in the centre provides a comfortable space in an unfamiliar setting, allowing volunteers to rest as well as regulate their food sources and preparation of their meals.

PEACE GARDEN

The centre is a place of rejuvenation from the harshness of local living conditions. Containing flowers, medicinal herbs, and a restful atmosphere, the Peace Garden allows for moments of contemplation and seclusion from the outside world.

LEARNING CIRCLES

The formation of learning circles allows women to learn new information and skills in a safe environment. Women can congregate for meetings, classes, and friendship in the centre’s large outdoor shaded area.

KITCHEN AND NUTRITION EDUCATION

Most villagers cook with firewood over a “three stone” fire, with the smoke causing considerable lung damage for families, especially for the women. The centre will use vented adobe stoves and gas stoves, greatly increasing fuel efficiency and decreasing kitchen smoke. Classes in the preparation of low cost and nourishing foods will provide fun and skills.

MIDWIFE TRAINING CENTRE

Midwifery students from Tlamanacapala and elsewhere will come to learn hands-on techniques from experienced midwives and teachers. On-site classrooms and accommodations will attract students and aid in promoting the centre as an important and prominent teaching facility.

BIRTHING CENTRE

Women in Tlamanacapala are in poverty and environmental degradation. They suffer increased risks of complications during pregnancy and delivery, especially when giving birth at home in poorly lit and unhygienic conditions. Local women will have easy access to a clean and well-equipped facility with a full range of safe medical services (general care, prenatal care, pain relief, delivery, emergency transfer to hospital if necessary, postnatal and newborn follow-up). Two trained local midwives currently provide these services, using a small rented room as their base. The centre’s birthing rooms, patting room and consultation will give midwives and women adequate space to work, to meet and to welcome newborns into this world.

CRISIS CENTRE

The women’s shelter will provide short term accommodation for women and their children who need to leave a dangerous or abusive living situation. It will provide a safe space for women to recover and to make plans for their future. The centre will be the only facility of its kind in northern Guerrero, and one of two in the state.