

CAP MEXICO PROTEJA – TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (TIP) SHELTER PROJECT

Project Overview: Funded by USAID/Mexico under the President's Initiative to Combat Trafficking in Persons, CAP Mexico (2006-2009, \$3 million), the CAP Mexico TIP Shelter Project (PROTEJA) is improving legal protection and access to and quality of services available to victims of trafficking. The project promotes a holistic approach encompassing medical, legal, psychosocial and vocational services.

From **May 2006 to September 2008**, PROTEJA:

- Assisted Mexico's federal government in enacting national anti-TIP legislation;
- Assisted five of Mexico's nine state legislatures in enacting anti-TIP reforms, and the rest now are considering reforms;
- Empowered shelters to work together to bring specialized care to TIP victims;
- Educated vulnerable populations on trafficking and how to detect predators by using materials that have already been adopted by national institutions; and
- Formed numerous networks and task forces at local, state and national levels that either work to prevent TIP, detect TIP or assist its victims.

Mexico Context: Mexico is considered a country of origin of trafficking victims, as well as a country of transit and destination. Mexico also experiences a significant amount of internal and international migration to the United States, and this migratory flow is correlated with the incidence of trafficking victims in Mexico.

The **major components of the program** include:

- **Raising public awareness** and promoting community-based strategies to address human trafficking at local and national levels;
- **Providing technical assistance to federal and state congresses** to support the categorization of human trafficking as a crime;
- **Providing technical and financial support to shelters** to develop integrated service models that address the specific needs of TIP victims; and
- **Providing technical assistance to networks and task forces** to coordinate efforts to combat human trafficking and to establish or improve the provision of restorative care to trafficking victims.

Number of individuals trained: 7,093

Number of TIP beneficiaries who received services: 7,657

Number of organizations worked with: 117 CSOs, 94 government departments and agencies

Number of grants to shelters executed and total value: 4 grants totaling \$303,887

Number of technical assistance episodes and monitoring visits: 84

"Thanks to PROTEJA's technical assistance we have improved the quality of our services to trafficking victims, as well as our capacity to detect this crime. The capacity building has been fundamental to our launch of a strategy for political engagement and legislative proposals."

--Alternativas Pacificas, CAP Mexico Grantee

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