

# Welcome Environment

# x Stewards of the Earth

Stewardship of our Environment, Indigenous People and our Collective History

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### **ABOUT US**

#### **Environment Stewards**

Stewards of the Earth (Stewards), formerly known as Protecting our Environment, was organized in 2006 by Lupe Anguiano, who had been working for several years as a community volunteer on various environmental issues.

In 2007 Lupe received an Individual Consultant Grant from the *Women's Foundation* in San Francisco – advocated by Luz Vega-Marquis, President of the Marguerite Casey Foundation. The grant helped Lupe work with several State and National environmental organizations in California, Oregon and Washington State. The goal was to defeat installation of BHP Billiton's "Cabrillo Port LNG" (Liquefied Natural Gas) facility off the Oxnard, Malibu, Ventura County California coast. The project was finally defeated because it violated Ventura County's air pollution and health standards.

In 2008 Stewards of the Earth (subtitled as "Protecting our Environment") received a grant from the California Wellness Foundation, recommended by Luz Vega-Marquis. Other funds came from Marcia Burnam, Board of Directors member and from the Sanchez family (former students of Lupe Anguiano). All funds were received via the umbrella non-profit, 501-(c)-(3) IRS Tax Exempt status of CAUSE (Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy).

Funds from the *California Wellness Foundation* and individual contributions were used to continue protecting the Tri-County (Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo) area and Los Angeles County from several LNG projects including one in the Oxnard, Ventura County and Santa Barbara County – Houston based "Northern Star Natural Gas" LNG Project known as "Clearwater Port LNG." The Northern Star Natural Gas LNG project proposed importing LNG from overseas, continuing the United States' dependence on foreign sources of energy. The project would also contribute to green gas emissions, one of the contributors to global warming.

### Non-Profit Status

In 2008, Stewards of the Earth selected its Board of Directors, filed and received approval from the California Secretary of State as a non-profit "Public Benefit Corporation." Stewards is currently filing for tax exemption from the California Franchise Tax Board.

## Stewards of Indigenous - Low Income Peoples

The Stewards' Indigenous People project began in 2005. Lupe Anguiano served as a volunteer on the St. Rose of Lima Committee at Sacred Heart Church in Ventura, CA. The committee was a faith-based group that focused on global outreach to the poor. It provided small financial contributions to projects serving the poor in Latin America and Africa. It also assisted programs in the United States -principally in the deep South and communities in and near Ventura County. This church-based program, headed by Father Daniel O'Sullivan, set aside 10% of the Sunday collection as a contribution to poor people in the US and the world. When Father O'Sullivan retired from his pastorate in 2008, the church-based program ended. Stewards of the Earth is now continuing work formerly done by Sacred Heart Church.

One of the many projects of the former St Rose of Lima committee was support of a training and

employment program managed by the Poor Clare Catholic Sisters (Nuns) of Divine Mercy, from Chalco, Mexico (60 miles south of Mexico City). The Sisters live and work among indigenous people in the State of Chiapas, Mexico. They recruit, train and provide various employment skills to Indigenous women and their families. The program promotes family unity by opening opportunities for jobs in Mexico. It helps program participants avoid the dangers and abuses faced by people crossing the Border to seek employment in the United States.

On April 17 to 25, 2008; Lupe Anguiano visited the Sisters in Chalco, Mexico. She also traveled to San Miguel La Sardina in the State of Chiapas to view the work of the Sisters and to explore how *Stewards of the Earth* might partner with them in expanding their skills training program. (Individual funds for this travel were provided by Marcia Burnam, Sanchez family members, Sacred Heart Church and Lupe Anguiano).

Both the Sisters in Chalco, Mexico and village people in San Miguel la Sardina welcomed Lupe's visit with open arms and enthusiasm. In a message to *Stewards of the Earth's* Board of Directors, the Poor Clare Sisters and San Miguel la Sardina village people thanked us for our interest in working with them. They asked the Board to consider was the following:

- Developing two computer laboratories, one in the Training Classroom in Chalco and the other in the
  public school in San Miguel la Sardina in the State of Chiapas, Mexico.
- The computer laboratories would be used to provide computer skills, enabling the Sisters and Indigenous women, families and children to gain skills in modern technology. By building a strong training base that would last for years, the community could eventually operate on its own.
   Technological skills would service the growing number of Chiapas-based companies in the geothermal industry, and attract other business to the area.

Indigenous People projects will focus in developing sustainable education, computer and language literacy skills training, and economic model self-support projects that can be duplicated. In particular, it will focus on programs that help low income and minority women and their families become self-supporting, while remaining in their own nation/country. Indigenous cultures and languages will be respected.

### **Our Collective History**

Stewards of the Earth's Collective History Program started March 12, 2006. On that date the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center celebrated of the opening of the Lupe Anguiano Archives. It was a new initiative, dedicated to collecting and maintaining Latina Archives at the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center.

In 2009, UCLA obtained funding from the Ford Foundation to begin extensive Latina history research and archival activity.

Stewards of the Earth plans to approach UCLA's Chicano Studies program and request that they conduct the assessment and evaluation of all Steward's projects.



# Stewards of the Earth

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# WELCOME

Stewardship means responsible governance and care for the sustainability of the physical and cultural environment that will be passed on to future generations.

Stewardship is a civic, corporate and individual responsibility. Business and civic actions taken without regard to the life and environment of future generations are unacceptable in a civilized society.

The original stewards of the earth were the indigenous peoples who learned to live in balance with the world that surrounded them. Today the responsibility is global. We reach out to these people to teach and to learn, to protect our collective history and our environment, together.

#### **Mission Statement**

Stewards of the Earth provides educational, social and economic services to low-income and Indigenous people in the United States, Mexico and Latin America; through advocacy and Model Programs, with a focus in a healthy environment, renewable energy, and sustainable physical and cultural values which will be passed on to future generations.

### **Goals and Objectives**

Stewards of the Earth are advocates and community leaders whose primary objectives are threefold:

# 1. Stewardship of Our Environment:

Protect West Pacific Coast communities and environment with continued emphasis on programs, projects, education and interventions on behalf of regional sustainable energy solutions over petrochemical or global energy consortiums.

# 2. Stewardship of Indigenous Peoples:

Maintain continuity in cross-border cultural heritage and relations by working with indigenous people in the United States, Mexico and Latin America and by supporting projects that provide sustainable economics thru education, employment and a clean healthy environment.

### 3. Stewardship of Our Collective History:

Foster and encourage archival collections that will protect the rich history and culture of indigenous people and reveal to future generations the forces that disrupt and preserve sustainable communities and economies.



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### STEWARDSHIP OF OUR ENVIRONMENT

Protect West Coast communities and environment with continued emphasis on programs, projects, education and interventions on behalf of regional sustainable clean energy solutions over petrochemical or global energy consortiums.

#### **Belief:**

Energy needs should be gradually satisfied by localized technologies involving solar, wind and wave power, as well as, conservation and voluntary collectivism.

Powerful international industrial organizations, cartels and infrastructure dependent upon massive pipeline redistribution technologies are dangerous and uneconomical when holistically assessed for long-term economic and human impact.

### **Action:**

Stewards will actively and responsibly intervene with studies, recommended alternatives and collective voice to inform and advise when irresponsible solutions are being 'sold' to the public and civic leaders. This includes, reviewing, providing expert testimony and bringing public attention to projects and proposals that have significant impact in areas of air quality, health, safety, ocean, marine, animal and plant life.

Stewards will proactively encourage, communicate, foster and contribute to the development of solar, wind, hydropower and wave power clean energy alternatives as well as, conservation and voluntary cooperation.

#### **Current projects include:**

- Continue working as a steering committee member with the "No LNG Community Alliance" (collection of
  community groups) keeping track of the "Clearwater Port LNG" proposal, including future LNG and other energy
  projects; continuing to help develop a community approach and winning strategy. Involvement of Latino leaders
  and organizations are focused primarily because Latino leaders and organizations have not in the past been
  involved in environmental issues.
- Participate as an advisor and activist for the restoration of the Ormond Beach Wetlands and clean-up of the Halaco hazardous plant waste in Oxnard, CA..
- Participating and helping organize clean energy discussions, meetings, and symposiums with businesses, consumers, public agencies and elected officials in the State of California, the Pacific Rim, the United States and Mexico.



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# STEWARDSHIP OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Maintain continuity in cross-border cultural heritage and relations by working with indigenous people in the United States, Mexico and Latin American and by supporting projects that provide sustainable economics thru education and employment.

#### **Belief:**

The original stewards of the earth were the indigenous peoples who learned to live in balance with the world that surrounded them. Today we reach out to these people to teach and to learn, to protect our collective history and our environment, together.

### **Actions:**

Working with indigenous people includes continuing and enhancing the employment training and economic projects in the Chalco, Mexico community, San Miguel la Sardina Village in the State of Chiapas and Tijuana Mexico. These projects were developed by Lupe Anguiano as a volunteer advisory committee member of St. Rose of Lima Outreach to the Poor, sponsored by Sacred Heart Church in Ventura. CA and her work as a former member of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters and Divine Mercy Lay Order in Woodland Hills, CA.

#### Project highlights include:

- · The specific project targeted for action is to support the Poor Clare Sisters in Chalco, Mexico to add lodging & classrooms as well as a 'Computer Technology Training Project' to be used in training young women from the Village of San Miguel la Sardina in Chiapas, Mexico.
- Separately the 'Computer Technology Training Project' will be introduced to the local elementary school in from the village of San Miguel la Sardina in Chiapas, Mexico.
- Work to make this a Model that can be duplicated and implemented in other parts of Mexico and Latin America for skills training that will help find employment opportunities in Mexico and other Latin American Countries so they won't be forced to immigrate to the US where violence against immigrant women is becoming a very serious problem.
- Continue working in the Tijuana, Baja CA Community Center, Education and Child Care in Colonia Lomas Taurinas - Directed by Antonia Martinez Meza community worker who is helping to build the Community Center that is used for community meetings, education and child care for mothers who work in US Factories.